



**Belize Fund For A Sustainable Future (Belize Fund) Grant Award Program**  
**Proposal Template**

**A. FRONT PAGE (max 1 page)**

**1. Lead Organization**

<b>Project Title:</b>	<i>Foster coastal resilience through enhanced actions on mangrove protection, restoration and nature-based approach to development</i>
<b>Organization name:</b>	<i>World Wildlife Fund Mesoamerica</i>
<b>Organization Address:</b>	<i>1154 Sunrise Avenue, Unit 101-102, Belize City, Belize</i>
<b>Type of Organization:</b>	<i>NGO</i>
<b>Date of incorporation of Organization:</b>	<i>08/01/2005</i>

**2. Main Contact**

Contact Name: Nadia Bood

Position: Senior Program Officer

Contact info (email and telephone): [nbood@wwfca.org](mailto:nbood@wwfca.org); (501) 223-7680; (501) 602-6015

**3. Project Duration: 36 Months**

***Proposed Start Date:*** (06/01/2025)    ***Expected end date:*** (31/12/2027)

**4. Project location**

*The Belize Fund can fund projects in any part of Belize (coastal, marine, and terrestrial) provided that there is a direct link to and impact on the Belize Fund Thematic Areas and/or key priorities.*

The project will be implemented within Belize's coastal-marine zone, including coastal communities, marine protected areas and mangrove landscape (*See attached map*). The project's beneficiaries will include at least 16 coastal communities spanning north to south of Belize.

**5. Project budget summary**

*Please provide a list of partner organizations and the total contribution towards the project. Refer to the Belize Fund Award Category of the [Call for Proposals](#) for guidance on budget and co-financing. Include all cash and in-kind contributions made by the organization(s).*

Contributing Organizations		Total Contribution (BZD)	Percentage
Funds requested from Belize Fund		\$ 397,375.00	59.79%
Contribution from Applicant:		\$ 167,596.85	25.22%
Contributions from Partner Organizations (co-financing)	LSD & FD	\$ 22,000.00	3.31%
	CZMAI	\$ 77,607.26	11.68%
Total Project Estimated Cost		\$ 664,579.11	100%

## B. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### 1. SUMMARY (max-500 words)

The summary should briefly describe:

- The Goal of the proposed project
- Rationale/Justification for the project approach
- Purpose of the project
- Contribution towards the Belize Fund **Thematic Area (TA)**. Focus on the targeted TA only!
- Contribution towards national/local management plans and strategies (if any)
- The issue to be addressed (the problem/threat) and proposed approach/solution (the solution)
- Site description (if relevant)
- Beneficiaries, including the participation of women, men and indigenous people, if any.

Mangroves are powerful ecosystems that serve as critical habitats for multiple species, protect shorelines, provide livelihoods for coastal communities, filter runoffs, and sequester carbon at higher levels than other tropical forests. Belize's mangroves are estimated to cover around 72,000ha and offer considerable coastal blue carbon potential. It is also estimated that mangroves provide around US\$200M/yr through tourism, fisheries, and coastal protection in Belize. Their recognized role as a nature-based solution to climate change, providing critically important ecosystem services that include buffering impacts of erosion and tropical storms and important nurseries for commercial fish species that support fisher livelihoods are unparalleled. Despite their recognized importance, mangroves have also been one of the least represented ecosystems in Belize's National Protected Areas System. In 2019, approximately 12,800 ha of mangrove were under protection – only 16.6% of the total mangrove coverage in Belize. Considering the high value and importance placed on this ecosystem, and the increasing threats and pressures, and loss of coverage from development, proactive actions are needed to improve management, protection and restoration of mangroves.

The goal of this project is to effectively contribute to reducing vulnerability along the most at-risk segments of Belize's coastal zone while increasing resilience for coastal communities and mangroves, and the services they provide. It will contribute to the Belize Fund *Climate Resilience Thematic Area's Outcome 4: Resilient coastal and marine ecosystems by helping to increase the hectares of healthy/resilient coastal marine ecosystems*. Additionally, will contribute to *Climate Resilience Thematic Area Output 4.2: Restoration programs build coastal and marine ecosystems resilience* as it relates to:

- Number of hectares of restored coastal and marine ecosystems
- Number of coastal communities engaged in restoration programs

By protecting and restoring mangroves, the project will increase resilience and contribute to reducing climate risk from storm generated wind and wave surges, coastal erosion, and flooding. It will also help to support mitigating the effects of climate through supporting blue carbon sinks and reducing impact on the health of coral reefs through increase filtering effect of mangroves. Most importantly, outreach initiatives and capacity sharing opportunities embedded in the project will raise awareness of

climate change, its impacts, and local actions and decision-making for local communities so that they can make informed decisions on how to build a climate resilient future.

The project will also contribute to achieving national commitments such as:

- Robust targets for mangrove protection (by 12,000ha by 2030) and restoration (4,000ha by 2030) within the country's Nationally Determined Contribution to the UNFCCC; helping to expand mangrove habitats' restoration and protection through development and on-the-ground implementation of action plans, frameworks and tools as well as upscaling community and stakeholders' participation.
- Belize Bonn Challenge pledge to restore 130,000 ha of degraded or deforested land by 2030.
- Delivery on National Climate Change Policy, Strategy and Action Plan to Address Climate Change in Belize by helping to target the tourism and fisheries sectors in coastal communities, reduce coastal erosion, and improve local adaptive capacity.

The project beneficiaries will include women, men and youths from coastal communities.

## **2. ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND AND CAPACITY (max-500 words)**

This section should provide information on the profile of the lead applicant (organization) and main partners (implementing). Furthermore, it should clearly demonstrate that the applicant (supported by partners if appropriate) has the capacity, commitment and experience to successfully implement the proposed project. This section must include:

- *Organization Mission and Vision (attach supporting document).*
- *The purpose and day-to-day core activities being carried out by the applying organization.*
- *Organizational legal status, date of registration and governance structure.*
- *Existing capacity and skills to effectively implement and manage the proposed project (including the project implementation team).*
- *Description of past or current experience(s) and partnership(s), relevant to the present proposal. Provide examples of relevant projects executed to date, giving a brief description including: project title, period of implementation, project leader, partners, budget, and donor/agency.*
- *Include CV (if applicable) as supporting documents for the Project Manager/project implementation team.*

WWF-Mesoamerica will be implementing this project in collaboration with Belize Forest Department (FD), Lands and Surveys Department (LSD) and Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute – CZMAI (via its Reef Resilience Initiative).

WWF's mission is to conserve nature and reduce the most pressing threats to diversity of life on Earth. WWF has conservation investment in Belize since the 1980s. World Wildlife Fund, Inc. is legally constituted as a limited liability international NGO under the laws of the State of Delaware, United States. WWF's regional office for Mesoamerica is legally represented by Mr. Andreas Lehnhoff and registered in Guatemala as a representation of World Wildlife Fund, Inc. In Belize, it's legally registered as an organization since August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005.

WWF's programmatic work evolved from addressing land-based sources of pollution to integrating sustainable development, natural resource management, conservation, and climate adaptation across a spectrum of sectors from local to national and from ridge to reef. It has included approaches such as natural capital accounting to value ecosystem services, combining this with vulnerability assessments and scenario planning to develop cost effective biodiversity protection, ecosystem management and adaptation responses. WWF currently co-leads a national mangrove land tenure assessment in collaboration with LSD, CZMAI and FD (project duration July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 – August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025; budget BZD 353,549; donor Great Barrier Reef Foundation). Additionally, WWF initiated the development of a national mangrove restoration plan in collaboration with the FD (project duration September 1<sup>st</sup>,

2023, and ongoing; project budget BZD 70,000; donor agency WWF Germany). These efforts have been effectively linked to local and national planning and policy opportunities.

FD oversees sustainable management of Belize's forest resources, including mangroves while the LSD is responsible for managing one of its most valuable natural resources “Land” including maintaining land inventory. CZMAI's function includes marine research and monitoring, coastal planning and maintaining a data center.

WWF and partners have the existing capacity and skills to effectively implement and manage the proposed project. The project's implementation team includes:

#### **WWF:**

- Nadia Bood - Project Manager. She has expertise in ecosystem-based climate adaptation, mangrove ecology, marine science, coastal ecosystem restoration, and 18 years project management experience.
- Juliet Neal - Stakeholder Coordination Officer supporting mangrove research and restoration efforts, and function as focal point for environmental and social management systems (ESMS), stakeholder engagements, including aligning efforts with the national mangrove restoration plan and Belize Mangrove Alliance.
- Lilian Maquez - Monitoring and Evaluation Officer contributing to impact monitoring needs for the project as well as ensuring effective capturing of learning and communication of results to key audience and support safeguards implementation.
- Rosario Calderon -Communication Officer who will lead overall communication for the project, including the design of communication plan, communication and outreach products and dissemination of project outputs

#### **FD, LSD and CZMAI:**

- Minerva Gonzalez, Restoration Programme Manager, will function as the project's Focal Point for the FD
- Stacey Cayetano, Principal Land Information Officer, will function as the project's Focal Point for the LSD
- Tara Scarborough, Resilience Officer, will function as the project's Focal Point for CZMAI

### **C. PROJECT LAYOUT**

#### **1. PROJECT GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS (max-500 words)**

This section should contain a clear and specific statement of what the proposed project will accomplish. This section should include:

- A detailed presentation and analysis of the problem/threats or issue to be addressed (**problem statement**)
- The **rationale** of the project. *This should explain the reasoning behind the need for the project. Demonstrate the relevance of the project to the threats identified. It should also explain the reasons and interest of developing a partnership with other organizations such as government agencies, NGO's, or community organizations for the project implementation.*
- The **Goal** - *The desired state the project is aiming to achieve.*
- The **Impact** of the project – *What will be the long-term and overarching benefits of your project?*
- The **Objectives** - *What do you plan to achieve by the end of your project?*
- The **Outcomes** of the project - *What are the intended short and medium-term changes that can be directly attributed to the project and result from the achievement of the planned outputs?*
- The **Outputs** - *What are specific products, goods, and services created through the implementation of several project activities?*
- The **Activities** that the project will conduct. *How will the activities provide the desired solutions?*

This project aims to increase the resilience of the Belize's coastal landscape and communities by improving mangrove function and monitoring; thereby increasing adaptive capacity, knowledge transfer and actions for change. The project is designed to implement "climate-smart" actions to reduce current and future impacts of climate change and human actions on mangrove ecosystems while helping to maximize partnerships on sustainable land development practices. It will identify critical areas for mangrove protection and restoration on public and private lands as well as contribute to achieving national restoration and protection targets. Belize is considered one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change which requires proactive climate-smart integrated actions.

The project will achieve the above by addressing the following challenges:

- *Mangrove degradation due to climate change:* In Belize, climate change and human activities are severely impacting coastal and marine habitats, such as mangroves. The accelerated degradation of these crucial ecosystems threatens biodiversity, risk reduction, and resilience, affecting local economies and communities.
- *Chronic undervaluation of mangrove ecosystems:* This has led to overexploitation and damage from unsustainable development and poor land use practices, resulting in the loss of essential services like coastal protection, food, recreation, and carbon sequestration. Coastal communities are also experiencing increased erosion, worsened by human activities and climatic changes, leading to shoreline retreat.
- *Loss of mangroves:* In addition to climate change impacts mentioned above, mangroves are threatened by housing, urban expansion, transportation, and recreational infrastructure that are being built along the coast and on the coastal plains, making these vulnerable to storms, hurricanes, and floods. Mangroves and coastal lagoons reduce negative climate change impacts, thereby providing a key vulnerability reduction service.

To address the challenges, there is a need to work across sectors and institutions, including government management and permitting agencies, tourism and fisheries private sector groups, and local communities that, together, all have some level of impact and stake on the coast. In the project, we will be particularly partnering with the Belize Forest Department, the Lands and Surveys Department, Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute, and the National Biodiversity Office to ensure impact on the ground. We will also ensure participation of local communities in activities' execution. By involving government agencies (incl. coastal resource managers), local NGOs and CBOs, the fisheries and tourism industries, private landowners and realtors, and local communities, the project will build capacity and networks to enhance the protection and restoration of mangroves, ultimately increasing resilience and adaptive capacity for coastal communities.

Project activities, described in the Implementation Plan, are designed to deliver on the mentioned Objectives, Outcomes and Outputs.

The project's goal is to effectively contribute to reducing vulnerability along the most at-risk segments of Belize's coastal zone while increasing resilience for coastal communities and mangroves, and the services they provide. The project has three specific objectives that are mentioned within the below logical framework. Within the framework table also, are the Outcomes and Outputs for the project.

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK			
<b>Goal:</b> Effectively contribute to reducing vulnerability along the most at-risk segments of Belize's coastal zone while increasing resilience for coastal communities and mangroves, and the services they provide			
Intervention Logic	Indicators (SMART)	Means of Verification	Assumptions

<b>Objective 1:</b> Conduct a land tenure analysis within mangrove landscape along Belize's central and southern coastal-marine areas to understand ownership, identify viable areas for mangrove restoration, management, and protection, inclusive of a blue carbon framework, and engage landowners on greener development options.			
<b>Outcome:</b> Updated land inventory available for decision-making around mangroves	One mangrove land tenure inventory database and tenure map, differentiated by ownership type, with property boundaries is being utilized by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ministry of Sustainable Development for decision-making within the 3 years of project	Final database will include land tenure information for entire mangrove landscape and will have been endorsed and will be in use by the government of Belize.	Required information and analytical skills needed to complete the analysis and prepare the database are readily available. Relevant agencies and stakeholders are willing to offer the required information.
Output 1.1: Mangrove land tenure inventory database and tenure map, differentiated by ownership type, with property boundaries	Mangrove land tenure database and tenure map are available within the first 6 months of year 1 to inform understanding of land tenure ship	Mangrove land tenure database and tenure map	Weather or time constraint do not affect completion of project activities
Output 1.2: Land tenure case study and tailor-made package that describes the process, findings, and recommendations from the tenure analysis for stakeholder engagement	Land tenure case study and tailor-made package are available by end of yr 1 for dissemination	Land tenure case study and tailor-made package	Weather or time constraint do not affect completion of project activities
Output 1.3: Synopsis from focus group meetings/workshops with government entities and private sector groups, including key agreed upon actions for mangrove management, protection, and restoration	Meeting synopsis recorded for distribution for every meeting/workshop held with private sector groups and government entities during year 1 of the project's implementation.	Meeting synopsis	There is effective participation of government entities and private sector groups in meetings/works hops
Output 1.4: Communication products			

<b>Objective 2:</b> Upscale mangrove protection through provision of an enabling environment, and frameworks and tools for private and public mangrove reserves creation			
<b>Outcome:</b> Tangible protection of mangrove underway, thereby contribution to Belize's Nationally Determine Contribution target for mangrove protection	Number of frameworks, tools, policy instruments, and case studies designed and adopted for mangrove restoration	Project and government records as relevant	Government and other stakeholders are willing to consider developing and adopting additional frameworks, tools, instruments for mangrove protection
Output 2.1: Proposed framework/tools to guide mangrove reserve designation	Draft proposed framework/tools available by mid-yr 2 to help guide mangrove reservation designation	Draft version of framework/tools	Option for frameworks/tools can be effectively identified
Output 2.2: List of and copy of frameworks/tools adopted by the Belize Government and others to guide designation of private mangrove reserves	Final listing of frameworks/tools adopted by mid-yr 3	Final listing of frameworks/tools	Option for frameworks/tools can be effectively identified
Output 2.3: Case study on success factor	Case study available by mid of yr 3 for sharing	Case study	Option for frameworks/tools can be effectively identified
Output 2.4: Case study on Green Mangrove Landscape Development Challenge winners			
<b>Objective 3:</b> Contribute to the implementation of Belize's national mangrove restoration target through capacity building, field-based restoration actions, and multi-stakeholder engagements.			
<b>Outcome:</b> Mangrove replanting underway, thereby contribution to Belize's Nationally Determine Contribution target for mangrove restoration	Number of hectares of restored of mangrove ecosystems (reported for Belize Fund Output 4.2)	No. of hectares of mangroves recorded in mangrove restoration database  Mangrove restoration dashboard	Public and private land prioritized for restoration is available for carrying out restoration actions
	Number of trainings	Project records on trainings	People are willing to be

			trained in restoration methods
	Number of people reached through communication campaign and communication products (including case studies)	Project records on outreach activities, and other engagements	People access the media channels used by the project to broadcast the different communication products generated by the project
Output 3.1: Mangrove restoration plan	Mangrove restoration plan is available by mid-yr 1 to help guide restoration efforts	Mangrove restoration plan	Stakeholders' willingness to contribute input into the plan's development; lack of staff constraints
Output 3.2: Case study that details engagements and success stories	Case study on engagements carried out as part of the plan's development process is available mid-yr2	Case study	Stakeholders' willingness to contribute input into the plan's development; lack of staff constraints
Output 3.5: Communication material disseminated	2 sets of communication material produced per year for dissemination	Communication material	Project staff and consultant(s) able to develop effective communication pieces

*Note: The table can be adapted to correspond to the number of objectives and outputs based on the project design.*

## **2. PROJECT INDICATORS ALIGNMENT TO THE BELIZE FUND OUTPUTS/ OUTCOMES.**

*In this section, using Section I., list the appropriate Belize Fund Indicators which help capture the achievements of the project. Include the selected indicators in the M&E Plan (Section E).*

*Carefully review the "Belize Fund Outcomes/ Outputs" table and identify those that closely align with the specific outcomes and outputs of your project. Please provide a detailed description and justification explaining its relevance to your project's goals, project outcomes and outputs.*

The project will contribute to the Belize Fund Climate Resilience Thematic Area 3 Climate Resilience and its Outcome 4: Resilient coastal and marine ecosystems by helping to increase the hectares of healthy/resilient coastal marine ecosystems (see below table). The project's direct contribution is to the Climate Resilience Thematic Area Output 4.2 shown in the table below. Key indicators that the project will contribute to include:

- Number of hectares of restored coastal and marine ecosystems
- Number of coastal communities engaged in restoration programs



Thematic Areas (TA)	Outcome / Output	Indicators
TA: Climate Resilience	Output 4.2: Restoration programs build coastal and marine ecosystem resilience	Number of hectares of restored coastal and marine ecosystems
		Number of coastal communities engaged in restoration programs

### 3. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Using the following table, describe the project implementation plan to indicate the sequence of all major activities and implementation milestones, including targeted beginning and ending dates of the project for each step. A monitoring plan should be included within the project to ensure the collection and archiving of relevant data or information necessary for evaluating the progress and impacts of the project.

<b>Project title:</b> Foster coastal resilience through enhanced actions on mangrove protection, restoration and nature-based approach to development						<b>Project Duration:</b> 36 months							
<b>Project Goal:</b> Effectively contribute to reducing vulnerability along the most at-risk segments of Belize’s coastal zone while increasing resilience for coastal communities and mangroves, and the services they provide	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Timeline of activity</b>											
		<b>First Project Year</b>				<b>Second Project Year</b>				<b>Third Project Year</b>			
		<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>Q5</b>	<b>Q6</b>	<b>Q7</b>	<b>Q8</b>	<b>Q9</b>	<b>Q10</b>	<b>Q11</b>	<b>Q12</b>
<b>OBJECTIVE 1:</b> Conduct a land tenure analysis within mangrove landscape along Belize’s southern coastal-marine areas to understand ownership, identify viable areas for mangrove restoration, management, and protection, inclusive of a blue carbon framework, and engage landowners on greener development options													
<b>Output 1.1:</b> Mangrove land tenure inventory database and tenure map, differentiated by ownership type, with property boundaries													
<b>Activity 1.1.1:</b> Coordinate land tenure analysis	Project Manager with technical team	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.1.2:</b> Carry out ‘in house’ verification of mangrove land tenure information for Southern Belize in collaboration with the Lands and Surveys Department (LSD), Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute (CZMAI) and Forest Department (FD)	Project Manager with technical team and consultant(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.1.3:</b> Carry out field verification of mangrove land tenure information in collaboration with the Lands and Surveys Department (field expenses)	Project Manager with technical team and consultant(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.1.4:</b> Assess scale and type of development on properties (i.e., development footprint and risks) and opportunity for protection/restoration, etc. in collaboration with the Lands and Surveys Department, Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute and Forest Department	Project Manager with technical team and consultant(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.1.5:</b> Create georeferenced inventory, database, and land tenure shapefile and map, inclusive of property habitat type, ownership type and boundary, georeferenced location,	Project Manager with technical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

owner name and contact information (where possible), size of land holding, condition of land, etc. in collaboration with the Lands and Surveys Department, Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute and Forest Department	team and consultant(s)												
<b>Output 1.2:</b> Land tenure case study and tailor-made package that describes the process, findings, and recommendations from the tenure analysis for stakeholder engagement													
<b>Activity 1.2.1:</b> Develop descriptive information from the land tenure process and findings, including recommendations in collaboration with the Lands and Surveys Department, Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute and Forest Department	Project Manager with technical team and consultant(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.2.2:</b> Design case study and package for distribution to government stakeholders		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.2.3:</b> Prepare tailor-made information package for private landowners' engagement		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.2.4:</b> Prepare private landowner engagement strategy		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.2.5:</b> Employ private landowner engagement strategy		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Output 1.3:</b> Synopsis from focus group meetings/workshops with government entities and private sector groups, including key agreed upon actions for mangrove management, protection, and restoration													
<b>Activity 1.3.1:</b> Coordinate mangrove management, protection and restoration initiatives		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.3.2:</b> Carry out 2 engagement meetings with public stakeholders (i.e. relevant government agencies) to share findings and recommendations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.3.3:</b> Carry out 3 workshops with private stakeholders (e.g., landowners and realtors) to share findings and recommendations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.3.4:</b> Compile feedback and recommendations from meetings and workshops, with a focus on proposed actions for management, protection and restoration of mangroves		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.3.5:</b> Prepare synopsis of the meetings/workshops for distribution		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.3.6:</b> Distribute synopsis		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Output 1.4:</b> Communication products													

<b>Activity 1.4.1:</b> Prepare public facing communications products to share findings of the land tenure analysis		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 1.4.2:</b> Disseminate products		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>OBJECTIVE 2:</b> Upscale mangrove protection through provision of an enabling environment, and frameworks and tools for private and public mangrove reserves creation													
<b>Output 2.1:</b> Proposed framework/tools to guide mangrove reserve designation													
<b>Activity 2.1.1:</b> Coordinate process for identification of frameworks/tools		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Activity 2.1.2: Research potential frameworks for mangrove reserves designation		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 2.1.3:</b> Collaborate with the Belize government, including the National Biodiversity Office (NBIO) and Forest Department to validate potential frameworks		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 2.1.4:</b> Create tools to help guide the designation process for mangrove reserves (private and public) in collaboration with the National Biodiversity Office (NBIO) and Forest Department		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Output 2.2:</b> List of and copy of frameworks/tools adopted by the Belize Government and others to guide designation of private mangrove reserves													
<b>Activity 2.2.1:</b> Collaborate with the Belize government, including the National Biodiversity Office (NBIO) and Forest Department to seek formal adoption of frameworks and tools		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 2.2.2:</b> Develop policy paper to seek adoption of frameworks/tools from Government Cabinet		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 2.2.3:</b> Package tools/frameworks to accompany policy paper		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 2.2.4:</b> Government Cabinet communication on tools/frameworks adoption		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Output 2.3:</b> Case study on success factor													
<b>Activity 2.3.1:</b> Socialize frameworks and tools to foster uptake in collaboration with the National Biodiversity Office (NBIO) and Forest Department		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity 2.3.2:</b> Track progress of adoption/usage via a monitoring and evaluation matrix in collaboration with the National Biodiversity Office (NBIO) and Forest Department		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

[illegible]

[illegible]

## **D. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISK SCREENING AND MITIGATION**

*As a part of this section, please complete the Belize Fund Environmental and Social Risk Screening Tool (ESRST), the Environmental and Social Risk Management Plan (ESRMP), the Gender Action Plan (GAP) and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) included in the application package which are to be submitted as part of the application.*

WWF completed Belize Fund instruments ESRST and ESRMP and submitted previously developed Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Gender Action Plan documents that were prepared for the Resilient Bold Belize initiative that is part of the Project Finance for Permanence initiative.

Proposed project activities coincide with Resilient Bold Belize components: 1 – Enabling Environment for Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Conservation and 2: Scaling Up Nature Based Solutions (NbS) in Marine and Coastal PAs and in Key Ecosystems Outside of the PA system, thus the Stakeholder and Gender Plans developed for Resilient Bold Belize will also guide mitigation actions for this project.

### **Other risks to project implementation**

*Identify and list the major risk factors that could result in the project not producing the expected outputs. These should include both internal factors (for example, the technology involved fails to work as projected) and external factors (for example, changes to laws or regulations).*

<b>Risk/Factors</b>	<b>Risk category (e.g. political, economic, technological, legal)</b>	<b>Potential level of impact (e.g. low, medium, high)</b>	<b>Risk mitigation measures</b>
Insufficient public land available for mangrove restoration and protection	political	medium	WWF is currently working with the government to revise the National Protected Areas (NPA) framework for the creation of updated mechanisms for integrating private and public protected areas inclusive of mangroves.
Resistance from private landowners to include mangrove protection and restoration measures on their properties	political	medium	Private sector engagement strategies will be developed and implemented to allow for increased participation in community mangrove restoration and protection activities.
Community members resist or undermine mangrove restoration efforts within their respective communities	social	low	Inclusive stakeholder engagement and participatory approach to capacity building for mangrove monitoring and

			restoration will be undertaken to ensure collective efforts are integrated into local and national mangrove restoration priorities.
Land tenure disputes	political	medium	To avoid possible conflicts, project will not consider areas under tenure disputes for either restoration or protection activities. National land tenure analysis ongoing to ascertain land tenure status and implications for mangrove restoration.
Insufficient enforcement of mangrove regulations	political	high	The Forest Department staff will be trained in case preparation and prosecution to increase capacity to address mangrove regulation infractions.  A community watchdog system will be established to work alongside the Forest Department for better responsiveness to monitoring and enforcement of mangrove regulations.
Intense weather events	environmental	high	Mangrove restoration and protection activities will be designed to minimize possible impacts of unpredictable weather events.

#### **E. MONITORING AND EVALUATION (max 500 words)**

*This section should explain how the project team will track its progress. It is expected that the project indicators will be monitored regularly to enable the project team to evaluate its progress. Among the key issues to be addressed in this section are:*

- *How and at what frequency will the performance of the project will be monitored; and*
- *How the impact of the project will be assessed in terms of achieving the project's desired outcome, objective(s) and activities and alignment with the Belize Fund's programmatic metrics.*



*\*\*Please include the indicators listed in the Logical Framework (Section C-1) and the selected indicators from the Belize Fund Outputs/Outcomes (Section I) to complete this section. Ensure that they are both aligned\*\*.*

Throughout the project implementation, monitoring mechanisms will be put in place to track progress towards outcomes, including success in engagement factors, capacity building, and achievement efforts on mangrove protection and restoration. This will also involve ensuring disaggregated registration of project beneficiaries and not only help track project progress but will increase insights into gender and social dynamics within the different communities. It will also allow for adaptive management in case the data shows that some parts of communities are inadvertently excluded from the project

WWF Mesoamerica's Monitoring and Evaluation Officer will work with the Project Manager and project team members and partners to collect, analyze, and report outcomes and outputs. The project's monitoring system requires monitoring tools such as GIS analysis, database design and development, as well as more simple tools such as sign-in sheets, anonymous surveys, etc. Relevant documents and data collection tools will be made available to the project team via a shared online drive where the project monitoring matrix and files to assess means of verification will be kept up to date. All data will be disaggregated by the most relevant factors (gender, property regime, location, for example). Proposed indicators will track and measure the project's progress toward expected outcomes and targets.

Where possible and appropriate, the team will engage stakeholders in the review and interpretation of data to ensure project decision-making is sensitive to each perspective and risks no harm. Biannually, project progress will be monitored with specific sessions designed to identify lessons learned and opportunities for adaptive management.

Donor reports, lessons learned, case studies, and other communications products will include data and analyses carried out as part of the project monitoring.

Project Monitoring & Evaluation Plan						
<b>Recipient Organization</b>	World Wildlife Fund Mesoamerica					
<b>Project Goal</b>	Effectively contribute to reducing vulnerability along the most at-risk segments of Belize's coastal zone while increasing resilience for coastal communities and mangroves, and the services they provide					
<b>Project Objective(s)</b>	1. Conduct a land tenure analysis within mangrove landscape along Belize's central and southern coastal-marine areas to understand ownership, identify viable areas for mangrove restoration, management, and protection, inclusive of a blue carbon framework, and engage landowners on greener development options. 2. Upscale mangrove protection through provision of an enabling environment, and frameworks and tools for private and public mangrove reserves creation 3. Contribute to the implementation of Belize's national mangrove restoration target through capacity building, field-based restoration actions, and multi-stakeholder engagements.					
<b>Outcome/Outputs</b>	<b>Indicators<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Baseline<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Means of Verification<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Monitoring Frequency<sup>4</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup> What is the targeted value? i.e., the indicators must be aligned to the Belize Fund indicators.

<sup>2</sup> Each indicator must quantitative, and where qualitative -must be simple and concise.

<sup>3</sup> Provide a means of verification that will confirm the targeted result.

<sup>4</sup> Where and how often will it be reported?

Outcome 4: Resilient coastal and marine ecosystems						
Output 4.2: Restoration programs build coastal and marine ecosystem resilience	Number of hectares of restored coastal and marine ecosystems	0	To be determined during project inception phase	WWF Forest Dept (FD)  Belize Mangrove Alliance (BMA)	No. of Hectare of mangroves recorded in mangrove restoration database  Mangrove restoration dashboard	BMA members will do quarterly, and WWF and FD will do semi-annually
	Number of coastal communities engaged in restoration programs	8	16 (including communities from baseline)	WWF Forest Dept  BMA	Restoration site maps and reports  Mangrove restoration dashboard	BMA will do quarterly; WWF and FD will do semi-annually
1 Conduct a land tenure analysis within mangrove landscape along Belize's southern coastal-marine areas to understand ownership, identify viable areas for mangrove restoration, management, and protection, inclusive of a blue carbon framework, and engage landowners on greener development options	One mangrove land tenure inventory database and tenure map, differentiated by ownership type, with property boundaries is being utilized by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ministry of Sustainable Development for decision-making within the 3 years of project	Database includes land tenure information for the northern, central mainland and outer cays and Turneffe Atoll	Integration of land tenure information for southern coastal mainland and southern outer cays	WWF, Lands and Survey Dept., Forest Dept, and CZMAI	Final database will include land tenure information for entire mangrove landscape and will have been endorsed and will be in use by the government of Belize.	Tracked and updated monthly until completed (during year 1)
2: Upscale mangrove protection through provision of an enabling environment, and	Number of frameworks, tools, policy instruments, and case studies designed and adopted for	0	4	WWF, Forest Dept., National Biodiversity Office	Project and government records as relevant	As needed within the first 2 years of the project

frameworks and tools for private and public mangrove reserves creation	mangrove restoration					
<b>3:</b> Contribute to the implementation of Belize's national mangrove restoration target through capacity building, field-based restoration actions, and multi-stakeholder engagements	Number of trainings	3	6	WWF, Forest Dept, and Belize Mangrove Alliance	Project records on trainings	Bi-annually within the first 2 years of project
	Number of people reached through communication campaign and communication products (including case studies)	0	10,000	WWF, Forest Dept, and Belize Mangrove Alliance	Project records on outreach activities, and other engagements	BMA will do quarterly; WWF and FD will do semi-annually

#### **F. SUSTAINABILITY & REPLICATION (max 300 words)**

*In designing your project, sustainability is an important concept to understand. If your project design is unsustainable, chances are it will not be approved.*

*This section should explain clearly how the project activities will be sustained beyond the lifetime of the project. Detail how you intend to go about transferring knowledge and learning to other stakeholders, such as training events, social media, etc. The potential for scaling up or replication should also be explained.*

*A legitimate question for your organization to consider is, "What type of sustainability does the Belize Fund want projects to promote and achieve?" Belize Fund supports projects that ensure the resulting situation produced by the project can carry on without follow-on or additional funding from Belize Fund.*

*In summary, sustainability is not something you could address in one paragraph of the project. Your project's activities and outputs should be designed to be sustainable. Sustainability should be "built-in" to the design of the project itself.*

WWF, FD and partners have been working to proactively protect mangrove ecosystems and associated habitats for many years. WWF helps build awareness of socio-economic and ecological benefits of mangroves and works collaboratively with government agencies, civil society groups, and communities to prioritize mangrove conservation in coastal development. WWF is also working closely with the private sector, on mangrove-friendly development and the establishment of private reserves. This project will build on existing work and partnerships and will enable continuation of efforts.

Project sustainability will be ensured through the following measures:

- A national mangrove restoration action plan is being developed to guide restoration and protection efforts. The implementation activities will be funded and sustained by various financial contributions from public and private sector, project-based funding and community ownership and stewardship.

- WWF will work with the Forest Department, communities and partners to co-develop and institutionalize a watch dog system for a community-based approach to supporting local enforcement and monitoring. Additionally, the Forest Department staff will increase capacity to detect and prepare cases of mangrove infractions resulting in more effective prosecution.
- Capacity building of community members and students from tertiary institutions in mangrove restoration and monitoring will build skills and upscale on-the-ground beyond the project's timeframe via the training to trainers' program. Capacity through the increase opportunities to generate income in the future, especially outside of fishing and tourist seasons when their incomes tend to be limited will also support sustainability.
- With the increase of skilled community members, WWF and partners will be better able to implement ongoing conservation work on mangroves. The land tenure analysis will provide information for 1) Mangrove target setting within the Resilient Bold Belize Project Finance for Permanence's Conservation Plan and 2) Support the Government's Lands and Surveys Department with updated information on mangrove land tenure for improved decision-making.

#### **G. BUDGET (max 1 page)**

Provide a breakdown of the funds being requested from Belize Fund. *Use the Excel spreadsheet template provided to complete this section. Please use the budget notes section to provide a well-detailed description for each line-item cost. Note that once a project has been approved for funding, the budget information becomes part of the binding contract between the Belize Fund and the Recipient Organization. In addition, note that the applicant can be requested to provide a bank account exclusively for the Belize Fund funds based on the results of the Organizational Assessment.*

See the Annex budget table (Excel file)

#### **H. ATTACHMENTS**

The following documents are included as part of the project proposal package.

- Commitment support letter from Forest Department
- Letter of collaboration support from Ministry of Natural Resources
- Signed MOU for land tenure analysis between Ministry of Natural Resources, CZMAI and WWF
- Key Project implementation personnel CVs

#### **Environmental and Social Documents:**

- Environmental and Social Risk Screening Tool ESRST Results
- Environmental and Social Risk Management Plan ESRMP
- WWF's Gender Action Plan GAP.
- WWF's Stakeholder Engagement Plan SEP.

Please use the following checklist to ensure your application is complete.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Title	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Organizational background
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Summary of the project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annexed budget (Excel sheet)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project location description	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Logical framework
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Name and Address of Organization	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> List of previous projects
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Main contact information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ESS Plans
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duration of Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required supporting documents
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete budget summary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M&E Plan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contribution to Belize Fund Thematic Area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation Plan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contribution to Belize Fund's Indicators	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Signed</b> proposal template

I hereby declare that all the above information is correct and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Signature of Legal Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date