



PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

for the project:

CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY IN PRIORITY LANDSCAPES OF OAXACA AND CHIAPAS

FY21

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Executing Partners



Project Title:	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity in Priority Landscapes of Oaxaca and Chiapas		
Country(ies):	Mexico	GEF ID:	9445
GEF Agency(ies):	Conservation International	Duration In Months:	60
Executing Agency(ies):	National Protected Areas Commission (CONANP) and Conservation International Mexico, A.C. (CI Mexico)	Actual Implementation Start Date:	02/15/2018
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity	Expected Project Completion Date:	02/14/2023
GEF Grant Amount:	USD 7,219,450	Expected Financial Closure Date:	08/14/2023
Expected Co-financing:	USD 47,456,966	Date of Last Steering Committee Meeting:	02/14/2021
Co-financing Realized as of June 30, 2021:	USD 9,568,805	Mid-Term Review-Planned Date:	08/1/2020
Date of First Disbursement:	02/15/2018	Mid-Term Review-Actual Date:	07/26/2021
Cumulative Disbursement as of June 30, 2021:	USD 2,424,669	Terminal Evaluation-Planned Date:	10/31/2022
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The CI-GEF Project Agency Project Implementation Report (PIR) is composed of six sections:

- Section I: Project Implementation Progress Status Summary:** provides a brief summary of the project as well as the implementation status and rating of the previous and current fiscal years;
- Section II: Project Results Implementation Progress Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards achieving the project objective and outcomes, the implementation rating of the project, as well as recommendations to improve the project performance, when needed;
- Section III: Project Risks Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards managing and mitigating project risks, the project risks mitigation rating reassessment as needed, as well as recommendations to improve the management of project risks;
- Section IV: Project Environmental and Social Safeguards Implementation Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards complying with the Environmental & Social Safeguards and the Plans prepared during the PPG phase, the safeguard plans implementation rating, as well as recommendations to improve the project safeguards;
- Section V: Project Implementation Experiences and Lessons Learned:** describes the experiences learned by the project managers and the lessons learned through the process of implementing the project; and

SECTION I: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS SUMMARY

PROJECT SUMMARY

This project aims to strengthen the conservation of globally significant biodiversity in the National System of Protected Areas and corridors, through integrated management of culturally diverse coastal and terrestrial landscapes of Oaxaca and Chiapas, Mexico.

The proposed project intends to establish a difference with what has been done until now in terms of globally significant or threatened biodiversity conservation in Mexico, by integrating the economic perspective into landscape management.

Complementing conventional PAs management, a focus will be laid on production landscapes and their market associations particularly in the corridors linking PAs.

This way, the integrated landscape management approach involves collaboration among multiple stakeholders with the purpose of achieving sustainable landscapes in which biodiversity is protected, sustainable land-use practices are promoted, and social and economic conditions of local communities are enhanced.

The overall objective of the project will be achieved through three components that only have a meaning as part of an integrated landscape management approach where components are run simultaneously and in an articulated manner:

- i. **Component 1:** Integrated management of three priority landscapes for strengthening biodiversity conservation through land-use planning and the expansion and management of protected areas.
- ii. **Component 2:** Mainstreaming models of sustainable production with a market-driven value chain approach in agriculture, fishing, aquaculture, forest, and tourism activities, as a pillar of integrated management of the three priority landscapes.
- iii. **Component 3:** Increasing financial sustainability in the integrated management of the three priority landscapes.

PRIOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

As the project is almost half-way in the implementation phase, one of its main achievements has been the collective efforts of the PMU, CONANP, and CIMEX to create synergies and effective communication between communities, technicians, PA directors, regional and central government offices. As a result, the region's stakeholders are much more interconnected, boosting the project's ability to meet its targets. These efforts have also led to vulnerable and underrepresented groups from the landscapes (e.g., indigenous peoples, afro-descendants, women, and landless workers) being integrated into the governance system of the region. Furthermore, the PMU's integration of multidisciplinary staff in the team has ensured an effective approach including cross-cutting work such as project monitoring and safeguards.

In **component 1**, the project achieved the establishment of a joint Technical Committee for the Chiapas Land Use Planning Program. This committee is comprised of representatives from State governments, CONANP, CI, producer organizations, and private sector organizations, which allow it to integrate different visions to implement sound activities in the field. Furthermore, 15 monitoring protocols for the project's globally significant species have been established, and community monitoring brigades are ready to operate in FY21.

Despite multiple government policy shifts, the objective of reaching 102,000 ha of new protected areas is appropriately advancing. The project has identified 57,000 ha that will be certified as Areas Voluntarily Designated to Conservation (ADVC in Spanish), accomplishing 50% of the end-of-project target. These processes have ensured the integration of PA and ADVC's Advisory Councils (Redes de Consejos Asesores) into integrated governance mechanisms (i.e. the Land Use Planning Committees of Oaxaca and Chiapas). The project has applied its developed FPIC strategy – sensitive to Indigenous people – during the Land Use Planning process, where it has played a significant role.

In **component 2**, the FPIC strategy is being adapted to be used by the newly created Markets Team to standardize a market-focused value chain model for the project. Additionally, the project organized a forum in November 2019, where the financing sector, buyers, restaurant franchises, retailers, and niche markets engaged producer organizations in one-on-one meetings. This forum highlighted the requirements that buyers and financing stakeholders expected from producer organizations. A concrete outcome of this forum was a major organic retailer (GreenCorner) purchasing from a fishing cooperative that is a beneficiary of the project. GreenCorner also showed further interest in purchasing cashew and dairy products produced by producer organizations from the Costa landscape. This forum was a milestone for the project since it helped in the development of an intervention model to help producer organizations establish formal commercial relationships by matching the producer capabilities with buyer requirements.

To date, the project has identified 2,600 producers, from which the most suitable candidates will be selected to develop sustainable practices in Y3. Moreover, a partnership is in development with the Sembrando Vida government program to align budgets as well as efforts during the conversion of 4,650 ha into sustainable practices.

In **component 3**, different networks have been established with potential financing organizations, including Paralelo 28, Co Capital, Grupo Paisano, FINDECA, Root Capital, and ADOBE Capital. As a result of these meetings, a proposal is being developed with USAID to create a blended finance mechanism to benefit the Sierra Madre and Sierra Sur landscape. The project was also successful in establishing a USD 10 million co-financing agreement with the Secretariat of Agriculture (SADER by its Spanish acronym). The project is also exploring financial agreements with FCCF and Fondo Oaxaqueño. Additionally, the team is detailing a funding proposal for USAID as an opportunity to attain blended financing that will represent co-financing to this project and align with the efforts to scale up the work in sustainable practices in the two landscapes.

Lastly, COVID 19 has affected project activities in the field. Adaptive management measures have been implemented, proving valuable during the unanticipated challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, it is not expected to be an impediment to carry out the project as planned. Several rural and indigenous communities have closed access for fear of the virus spreading. Therefore, the project has developed protocols to ensure it has the consent of these communities before arriving. The project has developed and implemented a protocol to carry out COVID19 contingency measures in the field, such as acquiring protective gear, wearing face shields and masks, using antibacterial gel, monitoring of symptoms through thermometers and oximeters, and social distancing in the office and work events. Henceforth, the project will prioritize developing strategies for accelerating, the co-finance agreements with other private and government institutions; new conservation areas; and, capacity building in local populations.

CURRENT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS (FY21)

During FY21 the project has achieved progress in all three components. For component 1, the local government (State of Oaxaca-Chiapas), worked in a coordinated manner to have a shared vision of the landscape between states, and are ready to start the territorial planning process at a State level. This coordination has allowed the project team to integrate the connectivity of the landscapes in the elaboration of the Territorial Planning, integrating 3.7 million hectares, instead of the 2.6 million initially established in the ProDoc. Thus, the project has been able to engage stakeholders beyond the environmental field, including the productive, service and development sectors, which will ensure a smooth adoption of the Land Use Planning Tool (POERT) while strengthening the governance and institutional processes in the region. Parallely, a baseline was established to understand how the coastal vision is structured socially, economically, and environmentally. Both processes, the Land Use Plans and the Coastal Management, will allow the country to manage the territory in an integral way.

Also, the project has coordinated the certification of 35,794 hectares as Areas Designated Voluntarily to Conservation (ADVC), and 31,241 hectares are on the process to be certified as ADVCS or other conservation mechanisms, including 2,041 hectares of Fishing Refuge Zones. Furthermore, approximately 35,000 hectares have been identified to certify as a state-level PA. In total, the area under active conservation has increased by 35,794 ha ADVCS as a result of the project interventions, and the project is working on the certification of an additional 66,241 ha under several conservation mechanisms.

COVID has been a challenge in the implementation of the project. For example, not being able to hold face-to-face meetings caused the reduction of processes to strengthen governance. Even so, the project has followed up on the strengthening of the executive bodies of Territorial Planning in both states and has hired a consultancy that will help strengthen and develop a training model for the Technical Committees of Chiapas and Oaxaca, which involve different sectors in the landscape.

Another significant challenge was the training of the biological monitoring brigades. Although 16 new brigades were established, in addition to the existing 10, the training has been canceled various times due to the states' COVID risk status. Regardless, all the necessary monitoring equipment was delivered to CONANP, which in turn has begun the official delivery to the corresponding brigades. Moreover, an app was developed to collect and store the information generated by the brigades.

Eight firefighting brigades have been strengthened and, for the first time in Mexico, an alliance was achieved between the Ministry of Agriculture (SADER), the National Forestry Commission (CONAFOR), and the National Commission of Protected Natural Areas

(CONANP), with coordination of CI Mexico. Within the framework of the project, forest fire-prevention agreements were defined, which has led to the development of an app and signage, for early warning to reduce the fire risk in the region.

Under component 2, the project has initiated work with selected Productive Organizations (POs) in the fishing, shrimping, cacao, coffee, resin, dairy (livestock), and tourism value chains to undergo the process of adopting sustainable production practices and strengthening of the chains. At the same time, nurseries for fine aroma cacao have been established to improve quality and find specialized markets. Production models have been designed, focusing on managing the agroforestry system of cacao and coffee in communities of the Sierra Madre and Sierra Sur. At the same time, 11 fishing POs are currently working on the fisheries improvement framework. Furthermore, the project held a course in alliance with the Ministry of Economy and Televisa Foundation to strengthen the skills of 5 POs in marketing, sales, computing, business plans, financial plans, cooperation, and technology to sell sustainable items online. This year all the environmental, social and financial information has been generated to develop the fishing management plans in Chiapas and Oaxaca, to explore market opportunities based on that information.

Another key milestone was establishing a trusted relationship between the POs and the project. With the FPIC processes, the necessary confidence existed to link POs with the market. It is crucial for this type of work that both parties are confident and willing to collaborate, especially due to the political conditions that prevail in Mexico, where monetary subsidies are ubiquitous. Cheese, fish, and cashews, which are part of the agroforestry system, had their first sales in sustainable markets.

Local agreements have been generated with entities such as SADER, Social Welfare (Bienestar Social), CONAFOR and CONANP, for the alignment of programs and investments in the field. High-level formalization has been delayed due to COVID, but efforts have resumed in recent months.

This year, it was possible to participate in the construction of a project to align investment funds in the Sierra Madre and Sierra Sur landscapes, through USAID and partners such as Mexico CO2, Root Capital, SVX, and others. We are developing intervention plans to invest USD 10 million in business and entrepreneurial development in sustainable landscapes. At the same time, we are building the necessary infrastructure to establish the Huatulco Fund and ADVC Fund, which will develop investment programs for conservation with donations from hoteliers and the Huatulco airport. This process is carried out with the El Triunfo Conservation Fund (FONCET), which, through its platform, experience, and reputation, will contribute to the development of such financial mechanisms.

The project staff and its partners have been trained to integrate the gender approach in project activities, and gender-sensitive workplans for 9 entities have been developed. Moreover, the Project engaged federal and state institutions that coordinate the approaches of indigenous groups in the Land Use Plan. Moreover, members of different indigenous groups are participating in the Land Use Planning work groups for the landscapes.

PROJECT PART	PRIOR FY20 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	CURRENT FY21 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING ¹	RATING TREND ²
OBJECTIVE	MS	MS	Unchanged
COMPONENTS AND OUTCOMES	MS	MU	Decreasing
ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS	HS	HS	Unchanged

PROJECT RISK RATING³

RISKS	M	M	Unchanged
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¹ **Implementation Progress (IP) Rating:** Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Moderately Satisfactory (MS), Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). For more details about IP rating, please see the Appendix I of this report

² **Rating trend:** Improving, Unchanged, or Decreasing

³ **Risk Rating:** Low (L), Moderate (M), Substantial (S), High (H)

SECTION II: PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS AND RATING

This section describes the progress made towards achieving the project objective and outcomes, the implementation progress rating of the project, as well as recommendations to improve the project performance. This section is composed four parts:

- Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective: this section measures the likelihood of achieving the objective of the project
- Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Outcomes (by project component)
- Overall Project Results Progress Rating, and
- Recommendations for improvement

a. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective:

This section of the report assesses the progress in achieving the objective of the project.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:	Strengthen the conservation of globally significant biodiversity in the National System of Protected Areas and corridors, through integrated management of culturally diverse coastal and terrestrial landscapes of Oaxaca and Chiapas, Mexico.		
OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator a. 15 globally significant species effectively conserved. Target: 15 species	None for now. However, the project achieved the following in FY21: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fifteen monitoring plans completedPlatform for data collection designed and operational.Brigadiers were selected in all Primary Intervention Sites (PIS).Monitoring equipment was delivered to corresponding PAs.The brigades' monitoring routes were identified.	IS	The project planned to monitor and train community monitoring brigades as early as Q1, but due to the COVID-19 contingency, biological monitoring training was paused, due to the contagion risk it implied for the communities. Visits to the communities to establish and train the brigades were resumed in March (Q3). Additional to the achievements indicated in the End of Year Status, the project achieved the following milestones: <ul style="list-style-type: none">15 monitoring plans have been developed for 15 species of global importance.Consultants are in the process of training the monitoring brigades.
Indicator b: 2,618,250 hectares with sustainable land use plans promoting biodiversity conservation	Zero hectares. This is a State coordinated process.	IS	Both land-use plans (Oaxaca and Chiapas) are in process. It is a State coordinated process that has taken longer than expected to start given the

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OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Target: 2,618,250 hectares	The Chiapas Land Use Plan's consultant was hired, and the Oaxaca Land Use Plan's consultant is in the hiring process.		government procedures the project needs to follow and COVID restrictions. They will cover 3.7 million ha.
Indicator c: 4,650 hectares under sustainable productive practices to support biodiversity conservation. Target: 4,650 hectares	Zero hectares under sustainable productive practices. But areas were identified in each landscape, and draft intervention plans were developed for 4 value chains.	IS	18 POs were selected working in 6.702 ha in the PIS (1,891 ha of landscapes and 4,811 ha of seascapes) for the adoption of best practices. The project has also developed initial draft intervention plans for cacao, fishing, livestock, and tourism that covers 6,043 hectares.

OBJECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION
MS	A Moderately Satisfactory rating has been given to the objective implementation progress. The project has progressed towards the objective targets. However, significant delays are seen for all three indicators. COVID restrictions have impacted the project progress, especially for indicators b and c. The project is in its third year of implementation now and adaptive measures are needed to advance towards the targets more consistently. Together with CI-GEF the project team has analyzed the adaptive measures needed to advance in the project targets and after the MTR is completed, this plan should be presented to the PSC for approval and consequent implementation by PMU.

b. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Outcomes (by project component).

This part of the report assesses the progress towards achieving the outcomes of the project.

COMPONENT 1	Integrated management of three priority landscape for strengthening biodiversity conservation through land-use planning and the expansion and management of protected areas
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Outcome 1:	Outcome 1.1: Integrated management of three priority landscapes for biodiversity conservation is substantially strengthened through land-use planning and the expansion and management of protected areas.
Outcome 2:	Outcome 1.2: Expansion of protected areas with globally significant biodiversity.
Outcome 3:	Outcome 1.3: Governance in the three priority landscapes with multi-stakeholder and multi-sector participation improved.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome 1.1 Indicator 1: Number of ha with sustainable land use plans and other land use tools promoting biodiversity conservation.	Indicator 1 target: 2.6 million ha (PA and corridors) with sustainable land use plans and other tools for land use (scale 1: 50,000). (806,753 hectares in the Sierra Madre of Chiapas; 953,972 hectares in the Sierra Sur of Oaxaca; 857,525 hectares in the South Pacific Coast of Oaxaca and Chiapas)	0 hectares	IS	The State process to start the land use plans was completed successfully. The project launched two processes of Land Use Plans, covering 3.7 million hectares between the states of Oaxaca and Chiapas. The consulting firm to conduct the process in each State has been hired, and the process is in its initial phase.

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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome 1.1 Indicator 2: Number of globally significant species under conservation and monitoring plans.	Indicator 2 target: Conservation and monitoring plans for 15 globally significant species developed and implemented.	Conservation and monitoring plans for 15 globally significant species developed, but not implemented	IS	The project's plan for this year entailed selecting, equipping, strengthening and training the brigades, with the final objective of having a landscapes-wide baseline of the project's 15 globally significant species. Despite the disruption caused by COVID-19, the project managed to establish or integrate 26 monitoring brigades (including the 10 PA's brigades), launch and implement a multi-year consultancy in charge of training and following up on biological monitoring. Additionally, the app and the platform to collect the monitoring information is up and running. It is also worth mentioning that the project successfully provided all monitoring gear to all participating brigades.
Outcome 1.1 Indicator 3: Increase in the average management effectiveness of the landscapes including Protected Areas over the baseline, according to Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) baseline score (14 PAs).	Indicator 3 target: 14 PAs (with a coverage of 662,417 ha) have together an average management effectiveness score of at least 60 out of 100 (according to METT).	In the previous year, 10 PAs reached 60.3/100 during the midterm METT evaluation, reaching the final target.	IS	10 PAs (totalling 581,632.23 hectares) were evaluated with an average score of 60.3/100 in FY20. The project had planned for this year to work with State governments to integrate the 4 State PAs present in the region. COVID-19 caused the closing down of State offices, but the project was successful in contacting State PAs after their reopening.
Outcome 1.2 Indicator 1: Increase in number of hectares of protected areas.	Indicator 1 target: 102,403 ha of land cover increase of PAs within the three priority landscapes, reaching a new cover of 812,262 ha.	35,794 ha	IS	The project was able to certify the following hectares (35,794 ha) in the following communities in the Sierra Sur landscape: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santa María Guienagati (29,794 ha) • Santo Domingo Petapa (6,000 ha). It is also worth mentioning that the project has entered the following hectares (31,241 ha) in the following communities into the certification process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santo Domingo Petapa (4,000 ha) // Sierra Sur Landscape • Guevea de Humboldt* (21,000 ha) // Sierra Sur Landscape • Copalita, Oax. (2,041 ha) // Costa Landscape (Fishing Refuge Zone) • Nuevo Guerrero (600 ha) // Sierra Madre Landscape • Rizo de Oro (800 ha) // Sierra Madre Landscape • Ovando la Piñuela (2,800 ha) // Sierra Madre Landscape

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
				These hectares were projected to be certified during this year, but the National Agrarian Registry closed its offices due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the ADVK certification process requires the approval of the Agrarian Registry, the project has not been able to complete the certification process of these areas, and will be certified in FY22.
Outcome 1.3 Indicator 1: A multi-stakeholder coordination body for each priority landscape is established and functional	Indicator 1 target: Multi-stakeholder coordination body for each priority landscape is established and functional.	Multi-stakeholder coordination body for each priority landscape is identified	IS	<p>In this fiscal year, the project planned to strengthen the multistakeholder coordination bodies present in the region, which also required the identification, integration, (in some cases) creation and strengthening of already-present local governance bodies.</p> <p>The project was able to identify the region's existing governance mechanisms; however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the other activities were paused. Nevertheless, the project was able to advance on the creation of an ADVK governance body and establishing a governance and leadership training program for governance body members.</p>

COMPONENT 1 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
MU	A moderately unsatisfactory rating has been given to component 1. Significant delays are seen in the territorial planning process of the two States. The governance platforms and monitoring of species have been slowly progressing due to COVID restrictions in the country. Monitoring protocols were developed but have not been implemented. The area under conservation is advancing but also due to COVID restrictions, the process has slowed down. It is expected that the project team continues to advance in all the outcomes during FY22, but delays may continue to happen given the restrictions the project faces to go to the field.	Decreasing

COMPONENT 2	Mainstreaming models of sustainable production with a market-driven value chain approach in agriculture, fishing, aquaculture, forest and tourism activities, as a pillar of integrated management of the three priority landscapes.
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Outcome 2.1:	The area of sustainable agricultural, fishery, aquaculture, forestry and tourism production is substantially increased through best practices and a market-driven value chain approach for biodiversity conservation.
Outcome 2.2:	Increased income of members of Producer Organizations (PO) that have adopted sustainable production practices with a market-driven value chain approach

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome 2.1: The area of sustainable agricultural, fishery, aquaculture, forestry and tourism production are substantially increased through best practices and a market-driven value chain approach for biodiversity conservation	Indicator target: On at least 4,650 hectares in the PIS sustainable practices have been adopted, as indicated by reaching the highest scores (6-10 points) for CONANP's Index of sustainable projects (ISP)	0 hectares under sustainable practices. But, 6,702 ha identified and agreements signed to start the interventions.	IS	<p>The project has selected 18 POs with 6,702 ha in the PIS (1,891 ha in landscapes and 4,811 ha in seascapes) for adoption of best practices.</p> <p>It was planned by the project to launch the adoption of best practices in the 18 POs; however, due to COVID-19, this was not possible due to the risk of contagion posed to communities. This is also the case with ToT and training modules, which will have to be implemented in the following year. The project achieved the drafting of intervention plans for cocoa, fishing, livestock, and tourism.</p> <p>Moreover, the project successfully started training POs in the fishing, cocoa, and livestock value chains to set up infrastructure and develop capacities to improve their production mechanisms.</p> <p>It is worth noting that 4,461 hectares were georeferenced, which will serve as a baseline to gauge the progress on best practices adoption. The adoption of practices will start in FY22.</p>
Outcome 2.2: Increased income of members of Producer Organizations (PO) that have adopted sustainable production practices with a market-driven value chain approach	Indicator 1 target: An average 15% of income increase of members of Producer Organizations (PO) that have adopted sustainable production practices with a market-driven	0% of income increase. Baselines completed for 3 and ongoing for 8 POs .	D	<p>In order to measure the final increase in income from producers, the project has developed 3 baselines of producers' current net income for the POs El Pelicano (Costa, cashews), Luchadores del Castaño (Costa, fishing), and Los Ángeles (SMCh, livestock).</p> <p>The project has also developed the ToR for a consultancy to establish a net income baseline for the following POs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corazón del Valle (pine resin), SMCh - Capitán Luis Vidal (coffee), SMCh - Productores Orgánicos Tacaná (coffee), SMCh - Cacao Constitución (cacao), SMCh - Cacao Costa Rica (cacao), SMCh

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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
	value chain approach.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CUCOS (cacao, tropical fruits), SSIO - UCIRI (cacao, tropical fruits), SSIO <p>The project, based on the intervention plans developed to increase 15% of the producers' income, has supported the following POs to reach national markets through the buyer The Green Corner (supermarket):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Los Ángeles PO (Sierra Madre, cattle ranch) - El Pelicano PO (Costa, cashew) <p>The project is also currently supporting 6 POs in the linking process to the following national partners in the private sector:</p> <p>Mercado Libre: Volcán Tacaná (SMCh, coffee) Captain Luis Vidal (SMCh, coffee) UCIRI (SSIO, coffee / cocoa) CUCOS (cocoa, SSIO)</p> <p>Green Corner: Luchadores del Castaño (scale, PSCOCh)</p> <p>SmartFish: Agostaderos de Topón (shrimp, PSCOCh)</p>

COMPONENT 2 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
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MS	A moderately satisfactory rating has been given to component 2. The project has identified 6.072 hectares of land to implement sustainable productive practices in some of the project value chains. Agreements have been made to start the implementation of productive practices. However, this has not started, and delays have been caused by COVID restrictions. The project needs to speed up field interventions to ensure the sustainable production models are implemented and show results during the project lifetime.	Increasing
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COMPONENT 3	Increasing financial sustainability in the integrated management of the three priority landscapes
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Outcome 3. 1:	Access to investments from public and private programs oriented towards ILM and SPP* substantially increased. *SPP: Sustainable Production Projects with market-driven value-chain approach
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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁷	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome 3.1 Indicator 1: Increase in public-private co-funding aligned for integrated landscape management and sustainable production with market-orientation and value-chain approach	Indicator 1 target: At least USD 21 Million of the ongoing investments from public and private institutions in the three landscapes, will be aligned with this project to support integrated landscape management and sustainable production in the last project year (2022) (alignment will be determined by an alignment criteria catalog to be	\$0	D	<p>Despite delays due to COVID-19, the project is in the process of drafting a counterpart letter with the Secretariat of Agriculture (SADER, in Spanish) for the government agency to contribute USD 10 million through their public programs that aligned with the project intervention sites. To expedite the process, the Steering Committee came to the resolution that they would include a representative from SADER to the Committee to help improve communication. This institution closed during the pandemic, hampering the counterpart process; however, contact was re-established in June and the process is starting again.</p> <p>The project has also established the foundations for work with the government initiative Sembrando Vida, of the Secretariat of Wellness. This is a government initiative to enhance reforestation in agricultural plots through financial incentives and training on agroforestry systems, which could be channeled into activities in Components 2 and 3. The estimated co-financing that this alliance would bring is still to be defined.</p>

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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁷	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
	developed by the project).			
Outcome 3.1 Indicator 2: Increase in public-private funding for ILM and SPP* through <i>new (innovative) financial mechanisms</i> (e.g. green bonds, risk capital investments, carbon marketing, and others) or the expansion of existing ones in the country to cover these three landscapes.	Indicator 2 target: At least US\$500,000 will be funded for ILM and SPP* through additional and diversified sources of funding (did not exist before project start) in the 16 PIS.	\$10,000,000 mobilized from USAID, but with no letters of commitment as materialized co-financing secured yet and thus exact contribution to project TBC.	IS	<p>In 2020, CI secured a project with USAID for USD 10 Million that is aligned with the objectives of the GEF 6 project. The project worked with the SLV-USAID project to design a roadmap to obtain financing from a blended finance platform. As a part of this road map, it was planned that the first step of this roadmap is to select the most matured producer organizations to be investable and credit ready.</p> <p>The Huatulco Fund and the ADVC Fund was agreed and has begun development with FONCET to receive funds through hotel groups and the Huatulco AZUR airport, who are interested in donating and establishing a collection strategy for tourists to maintain the Fund. It is expected that at least 250,000 USD will be mobilized to the landscapes from these funds.</p> <p>Agreements with FCCF to create a forest management financing mechanism in the PIS La Sepultura have yet to be finalized. Due to COVID-19, international flights were not permitted, which barred access from Luxembourg consultants to carry out a pre-feasibility study in the field.</p>

COMPONENT 3 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
MU	A Moderately Unsatisfactory Rating has been given to component 3. Although the project has been working to leverage additional funding to the project areas, it has not been able to secure co-financing letters and alignment to USAID project is yet to be seen in practice. As per the government programs, no progress has been made with SADER and Sembrando Vida programs.	Decreasing

c. Overall Project Results Rating

OVERALL PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION RATING

OVERALL RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND ⁸
MU	A moderately unsatisfactory rating has been given to overall project results. The project has been impacted by COVID-19 and most of the field work has been affected. In Component 1, significant delays are seen in the territorial planning processes, the implementation of the monitoring protocols for key species and the governance platforms for each landscape. In Component 2, progress has been made in identifying new areas and signing agreements with beneficiaries. However, transformation activities have not started. In Component 3, the project has failed to coordinate with government programs and materialized the co-financing. Efforts to leverage more funding are made but it is not clear how this supports the project objectives. No progress is seen in outcome 3.1.	Decreasing

d. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
<p>Project team has analyzed the adaptive measures needed to advance in the project targets. After the MTR is completed, this plan should be presented to the PSC for approval and consequent implementation by PMU.</p> <p>Finding alternatives to advance in each of these outcomes as well as new ways to meet key stakeholders is key to advance in component 1 in particular for the POET and governance platforms. The project needs to start as soon as possible applying the monitoring protocols for the 15 species and report initial results.</p> <p>Also, for component 1 the PMU should start the development of land use plans in both States, adjusting as needed the work due to COVID restrictions.</p> <p>For component 2, activities with identified producers should start as soon as possible to be on track with the project target. Progress reports per value chain and landscape should be shared with the agency twice a year.</p> <p>For component 3, written commitments to mobilize both the existing resources and new investments in the landscapes activities should be accomplished for at least 50% of the outcome targets. Materialized co-financing should be reported to the Agency in Q1 FY22.</p>	PMU team, CI Mexico and CONANP	December 2021

⁸ **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

SECTION III: PROJECT RISKS STATUS AND RATING

a. Progress towards Implementing the Project Risk Mitigation Plan

This section describes the activities implemented to manage and reduce high, substantial, modest, and low risks of the project. This section has three parts:

- a. Ratings for the progress towards implementing measures to mitigate project risks and a project risks annual reassessment
- b. Recommendations for improving project risks management

a. Progress towards Implementing the Project Risk Mitigation and Plan Project Risks Annual Reassessment

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
Risk 1: Impacts of global climate change	The Integrated Landscape Management approach of the project, including ecosystem restoration measures, will serve to stop and revert the habitat degradation that is being exacerbated by climate change. Restoration activities will be designed to take into consideration current conditions and conditions under a changing climate scenario. Land use planning that will be introduced by the	A climate change adaptation strategy was integrated into the Oaxaca Land Use Plan. Staff from the project coordinated the creation of a Monitoring and Evaluation protocol to measure Climate Change Adaptation of communities in the Sierra Madre and Sierra Sur landscapes, which is set to be disseminated with the team in July.	IS	This strategy will be key when developing intervention plans on the adoption of best practices in the value chains.	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

⁹ **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

¹⁰ **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	project at the landscape level will help improve the capacity of local stakeholders in having more effective responses to short term climate related risks (e.g. increase in the incidence of forest fires) or mid-term risks (e.g. changes in external threats and the capacity of ecosystems to respond to them).						
Risk 2: Forest Fires	Most forest fires in the region are generated from slash and burn agriculture and cattle ranching practices. Through the land-use planning process and the introduction of best practices for sustainable production, the project will reduce the incidence of forest fires in the project sites. Project	<p>Firefighting equipment was delivered to 8 NPAs and 2 PIS for distribution to communities. 8 forest fire management brigades have been trained.</p> <p>Furthermore, activities were implemented to support CONANP and SADER to develop a fire prevention strategy.</p> <p>The project delivered firefighting uniforms and equipment to 5 communities.</p>	IS	<p>Efforts will continue to be centered on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aiding CONANP, SADER, and community organizations in the strengthening of their firefighting capabilities in the three landscapes. • Best practices that lower the forest fire risk of the region. • Completing and implementing a fire communication strategy as part of the greater communication strategy of the project. <p>With this, there is hope that forest fire risk will decrease in the future years and ensure better preparedness</p>	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	stakeholders will be able to better respond to the early warning systems developed by the government and the GEF Resilience Project (GEFID: 4763) and the existing forest brigades in the project sites will be strengthened and supported to access existing forest fires financing for equipment.	Furthermore, 12 CONANP and project staff members were trained in handling drones as a tool for biological monitoring, fire management and surveillance.		from the government agencies and communities. However, this will depend on governmental budgetary decisions.			
Risk 3: Extreme weather phenomena	The focus on Integrated Landscape Approach will mitigate the impacts of global climate change and extreme weather phenomena, specifically through the increase and improvement of the green infrastructure needed to build resilience. Improving green	<p>The project developed a digital early warning system for extreme weather phenomena.</p> <p>Internet antennas were installed with the SCT in 8 communities in the PIS, which will facilitate early warning during extreme weather.</p> <p>The ToT programs will train producers in best practices to adapt to extreme weather events and impact.</p>	IS	The reason behind these actions was to strengthen adaptation and mitigation of climate change and extreme weather events by improving communication channels for the communities.	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	infrastructure and strengthening the local capacities of key stakeholders will help increase resilience, not only since it builds and stabilizes soils, provides protection with forest coverage, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions, but it supports the sustainable use of ecosystem services, reduces vulnerability of communities and provides the necessary conditions for adaptation processes. The project will also reduce the price-shock vulnerability of producers that sometimes is linked to climate change and extreme weather-related losses, by reducing the dependency on one crop. By						

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	strengthening the governance mechanisms in these landscapes and the organizational capacity of Producers Organizations, small-scale producers in rural areas will be able to recover faster from these losses.						
Risk 4: Social and Political Problems	This risk will be mitigated through capacity-building and effective participatory processes, and good communication at the various scales between stakeholders of the project (national, state, and local). The improvement of governance mechanisms is also elementary to identify, address, and mitigate the impact that social and political challenges could	Efforts have centered on the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing a close working relationship with local communities to ensure that their expectations are within project boundaries. Implementing an effective FPIC strategy adapted to indigenous peoples. 	IS	These efforts are directed towards building and strengthening trust in the communities; however, due to COVID-19, our efforts were limited, since the prolongation of the pandemic beyond original projections led to lower presence of the project in the field.	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	have on the project execution. CI's guidelines for FPIC, gender inclusion, and other safeguards pertaining to social and political problems will also be an important aspect for mitigating or managing conflict resolution successfully. A Grievance Mechanism will be implemented to address social problems within the project boundaries (See Annex VI. Grievance mechanism).						
Risk 5: Illicit Activities	The ILM approach with land-use plans and better governance at the local level, improved coordination among the government institutions at the landscape level, the sustainable production	Efforts have centered on the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening sustainable production activities (improved productivity, secured markets, and access to financing). • 6 Conservation Agreements with 9 Producer Orgs. 	IS	<p>The project is mitigating this risk by implementing sustainable production activities, training monitoring brigades, establishing governance bodies that will strengthen governance at the local level, and improving the coordination among the government institutions.</p> <p>These activities were accomplished despite COVID-19, with certain</p>	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	activities (improved productivity, secured markets, access to financing and increased income), and the additional capacities CONANP will have, will bring new economic opportunities to the region. Therefore a decline in illicit activities may occur, but also, this process will allow to improve the monitoring and management of illicit activities in the area of the project. CONANP has strengthened local groups who will be key in the monitoring and reporting process. The PMU will maintain a direct and systemic cooperation with state and local governments who are partners of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological monitoring workshops in which brigades from 7 PIS and 3 PAs participated. • Training of PMU and CONANP staff in the use of drones for biological monitoring, fire management and surveillance. 		limitations caused by the government's contingency measures.			

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	the project implementation.						
Risk 6: Changes in local, state and federal government institutions	During the life of the project, the country will go through Presidential, state, and municipal elections and changes in leadership will occur at various scales. The way CI CONANP have addressed similar changes in previous GEF projects (i.e. ECOSECHAS) was by guaranteeing a constant communication and coordination with the three levels of government (national, state and municipal) by the project staff. This will help maintain the project appropriation and coordination.	Efforts were centered on strengthening relations with the three levels of government (federal, state, and municipalities) to make them co-responsible for the implementation of the project.	IS	<p>Despite most government agencies closing during COVID-19, and the governmental transitions that took place in June, the project established mitigation measures to the current challenges present in the three levels of government.</p> <p>It is expected that these efforts will lead to the appropriation of the project among the three levels of the government independently of the changes in leadership.</p>	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged
Risk 7: Weak institutional	The project will hire 14 project-	The 14 staff members that were hired are helping to	IS	Despite COVID-19, the project managed to strengthen CONANP and	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
capacities for planning, management and governance in targeted areas	staff that will help build planning, management, and governance capacities on the ground. Not only will they be trained on these subjects, but the project will also identify gaps and help build those institutional capacities in the target areas from the bottom up. For example, during the land-use planning process, local institutional capacities will be strengthened through trainings, technical assistance, and learning by doing approaches.	<p>build planning, management, and governance capabilities on the ground from the bottom up. In addition, these staff members collaborate closely with government officials and key stakeholders to synergize efforts on the ground.</p> <p>It is worth mentioning that 26 CONANP staff members, including PA directors and technicians, are actively involved in the project.</p>		local government agencies. Continued efforts will be necessary to maintain progress and strengthen inter-institutional relations in the landscapes.			
Risk 8: Limited capacity commitment and/or governance among local people in targeted areas	One of the main assumptions of the project is that the capacity of local people will be strengthened through trainings, e.g. in decision-making, learning by doing	Efforts were centered on providing training to local people—e.g., in decision-making, governance, organization, best production practices, and market-driven value chain integration. This was done by establishing a close collaboration with	IS	COVID-19 posed an obstacle to this risk's reduction efforts. Access to local communities was obstructed, which meant lower project presence in the field. However, the project has developed robust ToR for consultancies to train local communities with the intention of improving local capabilities to	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	<p>approaches, and by market-driven value chain development that will result in more productivity and increased income. Also, the new knowledge, the motivation generated by team-building approaches in Producer Organizations and the strategic alliances that will be created, will be key to increase the commitment of local people. The project has a strong emphasis in improving governance among local people that will be built starting with the land use planning process. In the early stages of implementation, the project will work in a participatory manner with local communities to discuss and</p>	<p>government officials (of the three levels of government) and key stakeholders to synergize efforts with the local communities.</p>		<p>strengthen governance and understanding of project concepts.</p>			

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	define the strategies to be implemented in the forested areas, to maximize the likelihood of ownership and uptake.						
Risk 9: Changes in some institutions providing co-financing could lead to their inability to do so	In the past, during a GEF project implementation by CONANP, CI experienced this situation and solved it by talking to the new institution's leader that took over the activities and approaching other possible co-financiers to fill in the gap that the other institutions left.	Efforts centered on diversifying the sources of co-financing. For instance, meetings were carried out with different government agencies and organizations of civil society (e.g., SADER, Secretaría de Bienestar, Fondo Oaxaqueño de Conservación, and FONCET) to promote formal alliances to align mutual objectives.	IS	This search for alternative funding will continue throughout the life of the project.	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged
Risk 10: CONANP's budget continues to decline prohibiting the institution's full participation in this project	In order to address the risk of a reducing CONANP budget, the proposal has been designed so that the PAs can be strengthened with the support from key stakeholders from various sectors that	Efforts centered on diversifying the sources of co-financing. Even though the COVID-19 contingency did not allow for face-to-face meetings, the project was able to carry out virtual meetings with different government agencies, civil society,	IS	This search for alternative funding will continue throughout the life of the project. Even though these efforts will continue throughout the life of the project, they were noticeably challenged by COVID-19 measures, since non-essential government offices and private agencies closed, and travel from Oaxaca and Chiapas	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	depend on these landscapes (not only CONANP) including: other government institutions, communities, producers, the financial sector and the private sector. Component 3 “Increasing financial sustainability and stakeholder participation in the integrated management of the three priority landscapes” is addressing how to engage key stakeholders to develop the financial mechanisms that will provide sustainability and decrease the dependency on CONANP’s budget to manage these landscapes sustainably. CONANP is developing strategies to address recent	other projects in the area (namely, SLV-USAID), and the private sector.		to Mexico City was reduced to a minimum.			

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	budget problems and reduction in personnel. Within the first three years of the project CONANP will (i) establish an institutional policy to efficiently address expenses, (ii) work with other public programs to invest in PA and landscape management, (iii) determine new financial mechanisms (public trust fund, return of the fees for visiting PA, etc.), and (iv) develop a landscape management model.						
Risk 11: COVID-19 pandemic	NA	The project developed and implemented a COVID-19 mitigation and adaptation strategy to reduce the impact that COVID-19 would have on the project and its activities, including annual budget modification. As a consequence, activities	IS	As the Mexican population increasingly becomes vaccinated and the pandemic becomes more manageable, the COVID-19 contagion risk becomes less pressing. This has permitted the project to carry out many paused activities, especially as the country opened up during Q4.	Substantial	High	Increased

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
		<p>were successfully carried out to mitigate COVID-19's impact.</p> <p>The project continued the safety protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect the staff and rural communities.</p>		The COVID-19 protocols will remain in effect until the end of the pandemic.			

OVERALL RATING OF PROJECT RISKS	JUSTIFICATION	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
M	A moderate rating has been given to project risks. The project has been implementing the mitigation measures and risks are being managed. However, COVID-19 is a key risk to consider and that has delayed most of the programmatic and safeguards work in FY21. For this, considering project adaptive measures is key to face COVID-19 restrictions and implications in the project.	Unchanged.

Recommendations

MITIGATION AND CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Find alternatives to field work were it is still not possible to travel due to COVID.	PMU	December 2021

¹¹ **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

SECTION IV: PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS IMPLEMENTATION STATUS AND RATING

This section of the PIR describes the progress made towards complying with the approved Environmental and Social Safeguard plans, as well as recommendations to improve the implementation of the safeguard plans, when needed. This section is divided in three parts:

- a. Progress towards Complying with the CI-GEF Project Agency's Environmental & Social Safeguards
- b. Overall Project Safeguard Implementation Rating
- c. Recommendations

a. Progress towards Complying with the CI-GEF Project Agency's Environmental & Social Safeguards

MINIMUM SAFEGUARD INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹²	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
ACCOUNTABILITY AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM				
1. Number of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	0	1 comment received on the Oaxaca POER process (not a complaint)	IS	One comment from a producer was received, inquiring at what hour a field manager would arrive to their community. It was not a grievance, but it was answered.
2. Percentage of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism that have been resolved		100% of cases received and resolved.	IS	The comment received was documented and resolved.
GENDER MAINSTREAMING				
1. Number of men and women that participated in project activities (e.g. meetings, workshops, consultations)	..	776 men and 248 women	IS	A total of 1,024 men and women participated in the project, distributed in the following manner: Sierra Madre: 215 M and 101 W Sierra Sur: 222 M and 69 W

¹² O= Overdue; D= Delayed; NS= Not started on schedule; IS= Under implementation on schedule; and CA= Completed/Achieved

				Costa: 339 M and 78 W
2. Number of men and women that received benefits (e.g. employment, income generating activities, training, access to natural resources, land tenure or resource rights, equipment, leadership roles) from the project	..	472 men and 124 women	IS	The activities with the most beneficiaries were: PO training workshops (159M, 63W) Equipment for fire brigades (98M, 14W)
3. Number of strategies, plans (e.g. management plans and land use plans) and policies derived from the project that include gender considerations (this indicator applies to relevant projects)	..	20 strategies / plans / policies that integrate gender	IS	Gender approach integrated in the following: POA 2021 Conanp with gender mainstreaming Oaxaca Land Use Plan (1) Biological monitoring protocols (11) Presentation of Responsible Fishing with cooperatives (1) Project training on jaguar attacks with livestock POs (1) Strategic Planning Process Using the Open Standards methodology (2) Training in forest fire control and management. (1) ADVC work plans (2) Cocoa intervention plan with OP with a market focus. (1)
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT				

1. Number of government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, indigenous peoples and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in the project implementation phase on an annual basis	60	106 stakeholder groups	IS	<p>The stakeholder groups are distributed in the following manner:</p> <p>Producer organizations 40</p> <p>Government agencies 22</p> <p>Civil society 16</p> <p>Academia: 4</p> <p>Private sector: 22</p> <p>Financing institutions: 2</p> <p>A total of 1,024 men and women participated in the project, distributed in the following manner:</p> <p>Sierra Madre: 215 M and 101 W</p> <p>Sierra Sur: 222 M and 69 W</p> <p>Costa: 339 M and 78 W</p> <p>There were no fairs or exchanges of experiences due to the contagion risk they implied.</p>
2. Number persons (sex disaggregated) that have been involved in project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	300	776 men and 248 women	IS	
3. Number of engagement (e.g. meeting, workshops, consultations) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	30	76 meetings 34 workshops	IS	
4. Percentage of stakeholders who rate as satisfactory the level at which their views and concerns are taken into account by the project <i>(responsible party for measuring this indicator is CI-GEF Agency and this will be undertaken by the consultant hired by the CI-GEF Agency to conduct the MTR and Terminal Evaluation)</i>				
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (delete if not applicable)				
1. Percentage of indigenous/local communities where FPIC have been followed and documented		NA	IS	Since the POET processes will encompass 3.7 million

				<p>hectares, the methodology to ensure proper representation of indigenous groups is through representation within the Technical Committee.</p> <p>When the project engages directly a community where the people identify as indigenous, the FPIC process is carried out, as is the case in the following 9 communities:</p> <p>Agostaderos de Topón</p> <p>Luchadores del Castaño</p> <p>Carrizal</p> <p>Huatulco (3 FPICs for different entities)</p> <p>San Pedro Tapanatepec</p> <p>Santa María Guienagati</p> <p>Guevea de Humboldt</p> <p>The total number of communities with indigenous presence is difficult to calculate in the region due to the widespread coexistence of indigenous and non-indigenous individuals in the communities.</p> <p>Not applicable to the project.</p>
2. The percentage of communities where project benefit sharing have been agreed upon through the appropriate community governance mechanisms and documented		0%	IS	
INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT (delete if not applicable)				

1. Number of persons involved in voluntary resettlement		0	NA	In the following communities, 488 individuals were involved in the voluntarily designation of part of their land as an ADVC: Santa María Guienagati (259M, 54W) Santo Domingo Petapa (144M, 31W)
2. Number of persons compensated for voluntary resettlement		0	NA	
3. Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been voluntary restricted	..	403M 85W	IS	In the following communities, 488 individuals voluntarily restricted access to a part of their land in order to create ADVCs: Santa María Guienagati (259M, 54W) Santo Domingo Petapa (144M, 31W)
4. Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been involuntary restricted		0	IS	Not applicable to the project.
5. Percentage of persons who gave their consent for voluntary restrictions		100%	IS	At least 1 representative from all households were consulted.
6. Percentage of persons who have received compensation for voluntary restrictions		0%	IS	
7. Percentage of persons who have received compensation for involuntary restrictions		0%	IS	Not applicable to the project.

b. Information on Progress, challenges and outcomes on stakeholder engagement

Describe the progress, challenges and outcomes on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan included at CEO Endorsement/Approval)

Progress

Despite the disruption caused by COVID-19, stakeholder engagement and participation have progressed in almost all areas where stakeholder engagement is necessary. The project has achieved a positive level of synergy and communication with its stakeholders. Of special relevance is the continued relations between the Project Management Unit and the executing partner CONANP, which a close working relationship has been achieved. Additionally, the project has achieved a close level of cooperation with the state governments of Oaxaca and Chiapas, especially in matters related to the states' Land Use Plans and governance mechanisms. Similarly, the project has worked with private sector organizations such as the supermarket chain The Green Corner beyond original expectations. The Green Corner's interests originally focused on cashews, but through continued communication with the project, it became interested in products from other value chains (fish in the Costa landscape and dairy in Sierra Madre). Lastly, close cooperation with financing institutions has resulted in the creation of the Huatulco Fund and the ADVC Fund.

Besides improving relations with existing stakeholders, both the office and field staff have been successful at integrating new actors when the situation required. To name some examples, academic actors such as Costa Rica's Tropical Agricultural Research and Teaching Center (CATIE, in Spanish) were integrated to assist in developing intervention plans for best practices (in CATIE's case, livestock). Efforts to integrate new private actors have continued, as shown by the project's work with online shopping platform Mercado Libre's Sustainability initiative and the sustainable tourism service Introspecta. It is also worth noting the remarkable level of cooperation achieved with other civil society initiatives from Conservation International Mexico operating in the region. The project has aligned a considerable number of activities to create synergies in the Sierra Madre and Sierra Sur with the recently implemented SLV-USAID project, helping further the objectives of both initiatives.

Challenges

It is worth noting that operating during the COVID-19 pandemic brought forth its own set of challenges. For example, properly carrying out the FPIC process turned out to be difficult, since it requires the presence of the entire community to be gathered. As a consequence, processes such as ADVC certification were delayed. As a temporary solution, the project is receiving the FPIC from community leaders, who have previously held meetings with the community members to ensure their approval.

The main challenge was that face-to-face meetings became less regular, and online video calling platforms were sometimes unfamiliar to actors. Additionally, access to the field became more difficult for office staff operating from the CI Mexico headquarters, including the Safeguards Manager, which put a strain on communication between the safeguards department and field staff.

As a mitigation measure, the project invested on the purchase, training and use of participatory online tools such as Mentimeter and Miro to ensure there was a democratic approach to meetings where feedback was required.

Outcomes

Despite COVID-19, a 100% engagement of stakeholder groups were accomplished for this fiscal year. This can be exemplified by the participatory approach by which the Land Use Plan's work groups were established, since it is based on the participation of the Plans' stakeholder groups and facilitates a dialogue between the project, the state government agencies, and local actors.

c. Provide information on the progress towards achieving gender sensitive measures/targets

This year saw steady progress towards achieving gender-sensitive measures in the landscapes. CONANP staff members became increasingly interested in integrating a gender perspective, as can be observed by a rising interest in incorporating gender matters into their annual workplans. Additionally, 6 meetings took place with the newly formed group of gender and conservation (Grupo de género y conservación), which take place monthly with representatives from the region's Protected Areas, the projects field technicians, and the Safeguards Manager.

Additionally, there were initiatives by the field team to strengthen the project's gender perspective, as is the case with the Seminar on Gender that took place with the Costa landscape's fishery workers.

It must be noted that the project is still in the sensitization phase, and efforts towards building awareness of gender issues and appropriating these matters beyond the safeguards department must continue. For example, 3 NPAs did not participate in the development of gender-sensitive workplans*, and the project's field teams continue to struggle using gender measures and viewing the gender perspective as a matter that is not only the responsibility of the safeguards manager.

*The time of the year in which the workshops were going to take place coincided with an early forest fire season, which demands a great amount of time and effort. This, combined with very low budget and manpower, made carrying out the workplans difficult. In addition, the Directors of Tacaná and Isthmus (2 of the 3NPAs that didn't carry out a gender-sensitive workplan) have shown resistance to changes regarding gender. The other PA, the CMT, was transitioning to a new Director.

d. Overall Project Safeguard Implementation Rating

SUMMARY: PROJECT SAFEGUARD IMPLEMENTATION RATING BY TYPE OF PLAN

SAFEGUARDSTRIGGERED BY THE PROJECT (delete those not applicable)	CURRENT FY21 IMPLEMENTATION RATING	RATING TREND
Accountability and Grievance Mechanisms	HS	Unchanged
Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP)	HS	Unchanged
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	HS	Unchanged
Indigenous Peoples	HS	Unchanged
Involuntary Resettlement	HS	Unchanged

OVERALL PROJECT SAFEGUARD IMPLEMENTATION RATING

RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
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HS	The project received one query which indicated that stakeholders are aware of and can access the grievance mechanism. Gender participation in FY21 fell below the 30% target. However, the project continues to increase gender awareness and mainstream gender actions in its modus operandi. These efforts are resulting in staff/partners being more gender aware and incorporating gender into their annual work plans. The number of stakeholders and number of engagements continues to be high (surpassed targets) despite the limitations imposed by the pandemic. The project also collected sex-disaggregated data. With the pandemic restricting large gatherings, the project could not carry out the usual FPIC process but adapted the process to seek consent from leaders. In terms of restrictions of access, the project followed a participatory approach and 100% of the restrictions were voluntary.	Unchanged.
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e. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Ensure that the gender target is achieved in FY22.	PMU	June 30, 2021

SECTION V: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCES, KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND LESSONS LEARNED

1. Knowledge activities/products (when applicable), as outlined in the knowledge management plan approved at CEO endorsement/approval.

1. Learned Lesson 1 – COVID-19

COVID-19 was a great challenge for the project. Namely, the value chains were greatly impacted, as the distribution and storing processes were disrupted. To add to this, the trust created between the project and the communities saw itself in jeopardy when the project's staff could not visit the communities for the mutual risk of infection. To respond to these challenges, the project developed a mitigation and adaptation strategy to keep the project alive from the distance. For example, it used non-conventional communication channels such as WhatsApp groups with key local stakeholders and CONANP staff to assuage community fears that the project had abandoned activities with them.

2. Learned Lesson 2 – Link to local actors

The relationship through CONANP and directly from the PMU team with members of the community, such as traditional representatives of rural committees and technical advisory fisheries, facilitates the generation of trust, expedites the authorization of the Assemblies and the consolidation of Conservation Agreements, establishes solid communication channels between the parties and opens the way to joint planification of activities.

The intentional involvement of consultants, technicians, and local NGOs during implementation phase strengthened trust between the productive organizations and the operational team.

CONANP's presence and previous relationships within the landscapes allowed it to continue working with relevant actors even during the COVID-19 pandemic. Assuming an articulation role and involving new local participants has allowed the redefinition of responsibilities based on the project design.

3. Learned Lesson 3 – Uniqueness of landscapes

The socio-political diversity of the landscapes (eg. organizational, management, logistics and quality capacities in production; quality and status of agreements between groups in the landscapes; deep-rooted dynamics of assistance; unintended favoring of some productive groups from public policy, etc.) was not considered in the initial project design. Understanding this heterogeneity of conditions implied a greater investment of time in the team to understand the context of each territory and define the appropriate processes for each case.

The different views of the project's goals at the beginning of the implementation phase were a challenge. This was addressed by having meetings with relevant stakeholders and a definition of the roles among the partners that has allowed better cooperation within the implementing partners and the participation of the relevant local actors. Communication within and between teams and the definition of operational processes (safeguards, CPLI, MIP and Conservation Agreements) made it possible to consolidate the structure of the personnel necessary to specify and initiate consultancies and generate results.

As a lesson learned, it is proposed to include a phase at the beginning of project implementation aimed at better understanding the particular context of the sites and stakeholders of interest, whose objective is to consolidate fine adjustments to the project design (operational processes, definition of roles, definition of audiences and proposal of bases for communication strategy, gender analysis in interest groups, etc.) and the structure of the personnel (operational technical team).

For future projects, it is recommended to integrate cross-sectional areas to field teams and multidisciplinary profiles as early as possible to attend multidisciplinary requirements (lawyers, marketers, economists).

2. Knowledge generation and management

The project has placed significant efforts to ensure the information collected by the project, such as that raised by the Landscape Assessment Framework, returns to the local stakeholders. An interesting instance was witnessed during the economic and financing characterization consultancy for fisheries in the Costa landscapes. When returning the consultancy's results, community members were reassured, and rumors were quelled because there had been widespread confusion and distrust as to why the consultants had asked for information viewed as intimate or irrelevant. The results helped many contextualize the reason behind the questions. This helped boost trust between the parties and will assist in creating solid business plans with the fishers.

3. Factors that improve likelihood of long-term sustainability of project impacts

The likelihood of the project's impacts being sustainable in the long term has been significantly secured by several decisions taken during the implementation phase. For example, the project pushed for the Land Use Planning (POET) methodology that will be applied in the States of Chiapas and Oaxaca to use a landscape perspective. This implied the POETs to shift from considering the environmental impact solely on the delimited area to evaluating the environmental, social and economic impact of the landscape as a whole. It is because of this that the areas to be covered by the POETs had to be extended from the original 2.4 million ha to 3.7 million ha, to comprehensively evaluate the landscape's full range. Furthermore, the Land Use Plan legislation has been set as a policy, meaning that it will outlive the project for many years.

Another surprising factor that facilitated long-term sustainability of the project's goals was the market incentive. While the project expected increased production and access to new markets to be an influential driver for POs to apply best practices, the influence of it was unexpected. For example, in the Coast, fishing communities are carrying out legislative processes to establish legally-binding Fishing Refuge Zones to improve their fishing catch in the long term.

Other factors implemented have been the engagement of youths both as part of the project team and within the POs. Within the project as interns, and externally, as young producers from Organizations, as is the case with Café Capitán, which is led and coordinated by youths under 30. The training and strengthening of youths will have a much longer-lasting impact for the project than otherwise.

Lastly, the methodological pivot that the project had to implement to meet its goal of expanding Protected Areas in the region (from expanding two federal PAs by 102,00 ha to establishing 102,000 hectares of mostly ADVCS) brought forth the benefit that this conservation mechanism is completely voluntary, and does not depend from the decreasing budget of Mexico's environmental agencies. Furthermore, the ADVCS Fund will ensure the ADVCS receive financing, further increasing the sustainability of the project's impacts.

APPENDIX I: PROJECT ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING

Rating		Overdue (O)	Delayed (D)	Not started on schedule (NS)	Under implementation on schedule (IS)	Completed/Achieved (CA)
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	HS	0%		100%		
Satisfactory (S)	S	20%		80%		
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	MS	40%		60%		
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	MU	60%		40%		
Unsatisfactory (U)	U	80%		20%		
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	HU	100%		0%		

- **Highly Satisfactory:** 100% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project. The project can be presented as an example of “good practice” project,
- **Satisfactory:** 80% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; except for only 20% that are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Moderately Satisfactory:** 60% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 40% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Moderately Unsatisfactory:** 40% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 60% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Unsatisfactory:** only 20% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 80% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action, and
- **Highly Unsatisfactory:** 100% of the indicators: a) are overdue, and/or b) delayed in their implementation, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project.

APPENDIX II: RISK RATINGS

Rating	
Low (L)	L
Moderate (M)	M
Substantial (S)	S
High (H)	H

- **Low Risk (L):** There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
- **Moderate Risk (M):** There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
- **Substantial Risk (S):** There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
- **High Risk:** There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.

APPENDIX III: PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING PROJECT EXPECTED OUTPUTS

INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹³	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome 1.1 Integrated management of three priority landscapes for biodiversity conservation is substantially strengthened through land-use planning and the expansion and management of protected areas.				
Output Indicator 1.1.1: Number of gender-sensitive land use plans at an integrated landscape level.	Target: At least 1	None for now	D	The 2 land use plans that are in process will cover 3.7 million ha. The consultant for Chiapas has been hired, and the Oaxaca consultant is in the hiring process.
Output Indicator 1.1.2: Number of gender-sensitive annual operational plans, one per Protected Area (PA), to be updated each year during project life time this project.	Target: 14 operational plans per year	7 gender-sensitive annual workplans for federal PAs.	D	3 federal PAs did not follow up on developing gender-sensitive annual workplans. Additionally, the project developed 1 annual workplan for a regional federal PA (it integrated into its annual operating program the concept of gender mainstreaming), 1 workplan for an Area Designated Voluntarily to Conservation (Santa María Guienagati). The project had planned for this year to work with State governments to integrate the 4 State PAs present in the region. COVID-19 caused the closing down of State offices, but the project was successful in contacting State PAs after their reopening, and they are on route to develop an annual workplan the following year.

¹³ O= Overdue; D= Delayed; NS= Not started on schedule; IS= Under implementation on schedule; and CA= Completed/Achieved

<p>Output Indicator 1.1.3: Number of Biodiversity monitoring protocols developed and implemented in each landscape.</p>	<p>Target: 15</p>	<p>None for now.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The project's plan for this year entailed selecting, equipping, strengthening, and training the brigades, with the final objective of having a landscapes-wide baseline of the project's 15 globally significant species.</p> <p>Despite the disruption caused by COVID-19, the project managed to establish or integrate 26 monitoring brigades (including the 10 PA's brigades), launch and implement a multi-year consultancy in charge of training and following up on biological monitoring. Additionally, the platform to collect the monitoring information is up and running.</p> <p>It is also worth mentioning that the project successfully provided all monitoring gear to all participating brigades.</p>
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<p>Output Indicator 1.1.4: The Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) model for biodiversity conservation is validated by the coordinating body in each priority landscape.</p>	<p>Target: Model validated in Y2</p>	<p>Model not yet validated</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>In this fiscal year, the project planned to strengthen the multistakeholder coordination bodies present in the region, which also required the identification, integration, (in some cases) creation and strengthening of already-present local governance bodies.</p> <p>The project was able to identify the region's existing governance mechanisms; however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the other activities were paused. Nevertheless, the project was able to advance on the creation of an ADVC governance body and establishing a governance and leadership training program for governance body members.</p> <p>Additionally, the project has been implementing the LAF every year in each landscape. The information obtained will be used to propose the integrated landscape management model.</p>
<p>Outcome 1.2 Expansion of protected areas with globally significant biodiversity.</p>				

<p>Output Indicator 1.2.1: Percentage of rural and indigenous communities that grant their consent in PAs following the process of gender-sensitive Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).</p>	<p>Target: 95%</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The total number of communities with indigenous presence is difficult to calculate in the region due to the widespread coexistence of indigenous and non-indigenous individuals in the communities. When the project identifies speakers of indigenous languages in a community, the FPIC process is carried out, as is the case in the following 9 communities:</p> <p>Agostaderos de Topón</p> <p>Luchadores del Castaño</p> <p>Carrizal</p> <p>Huatulco (3 FPICs for different entities)</p> <p>San Pedro Tapanatepec</p> <p>Santa María Guienagati</p> <p>Guevea de Humboldt</p>
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<p>Output Indicator 1.2.2: Number of hectares with draft legislation for the expansion of protected areas.</p>	<p>Target: 102,403 ha</p>	<p>35,794 ha</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The project was able to certify the following hectares (35,794 ha) in the following communities in the Sierra Sur landscape:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santa María Guienagati (29,794 ha) • Santo Domingo Petapa (6,000 ha). <p>It is also worth mentioning that the project has entered the following hectares (31,241 ha) in the following communities into the certification process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santo Domingo Petapa (4,000 ha) // Sierra Sur Landscape • Guevea de Humboldt* (21,000 ha) // Sierra Sur Landscape • Copalita (2,041 ha) // Costa Landscape (Fishing Refuge Zone) • Nuevo Guerrero (600 ha) // Sierra Madre Landscape • Rizo de Oro (800 ha) // Sierra Madre Landscape • Ovando la Piñuela (2,800 ha) // Sierra Madre Landscape <p>These hectares were projected to be certified during this year, but the National Agrarian Registry closed down its offices due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the ADVC certification process requires the approval of the Agrarian Registry, the project has not been able to complete the certification process of these areas, and will be certified in FY22.</p>
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Outcome 1.3 Governance in the three priority landscapes with multi-stakeholder and multi-sector participation improved.				
Output Indicator 1.3.1: Percentage of key stakeholders ¹⁴ that are represented in the three governance bodies for integrated landscape planning and management.	Target: 70%	100%	CA	The project ensured the participation of all stakeholders in the governance bodies developed for Oaxaca and Chiapas.
Output Indicator 1.3.2: Percentage of women participating in ILM governance mechanisms.	Target: 30% of women out of a baseline of 15%	57%	IS	57% of women participated in the ILM governance mechanisms.
Output Indicator 1.3.3: Percentage of indigenous peoples and afro-descendants participating in ILM governance mechanisms.	Targets: An average of 20% of Indigenous Peoples and Afro Mexicans consistent with their proportion within the population of each landscapes	72%	IS	72% of indigenous and afro-descendant peoples participated in the ILM governance mechanisms
Output Indicator 1.3.4: Percentage of youth participating in ILM governance mechanisms.	Target: At least 10%, consistent with population representation age classes 20 – 29 yrs; baseline is the minimal participation of youth in decision making spaces	NA due to COVID	..	<p>The pandemic has created difficulties in collecting clear age statistics due to the virtual nature of the meetings. When the staff can return to the communities and the field, it will be possible to have this data again.</p> <p>As temporary mitigation, an online attendance list protocol was built in collaboration with the M&E team.</p>
Outcome 2.1 The area of sustainable agricultural, fishery, aquaculture, forestry, and tourism production is substantially increased through best practices and a market-driven value chain approach for biodiversity conservation				

¹⁴ Key stakeholders are those belonging to the different sectors constituting a PA Advisory Council: social, private, productive, academic, CSO, government).

<p>Output Indicator 2.1.1: Number of Producer Organizations (PO) with potential to transform conventional production practices with market orientation in the primary intervention sites (PIS) that are identified, selected and classified and/or its creation is supported.</p>	<p>Target: At least 9 POs</p>	<p>18 PO identified and selected (pending classification)</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>The project has selected 18 POs with 6,702 ha in the PIS (1,891 ha in landscapes and 4,811 ha in seascapes) for adoption of best practices in Livestock, Cocoa, Coffee, Cashew, Fish, Shrimp and Tourism.</p>
<p>Output Indicator 2.1.2: Number of producers (broken down into M/W, Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendant and vulnerable groups) organized in PO that have 6-10 points in the PIS, that participate in transforming conventional production into sustainable production practices in the 16 PIS.</p>	<p>Targets: At least 1,000 producers, seeking proportional participation of M/W, IP and Afro-descendants and youth</p>	<p>612 producers identified</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>It was planned by the project to launch the adoption of best practices in the 18 POs; however, due to COVID-19, this was not possible due to the risk of contagion posed to communities. This is also the case with ToT and training modules, which will have to be implemented in the following year. The project achieved the drafting of intervention plans for cocoa, fishing, livestock, and tourism.</p> <p>Moreover, the project successfully started training POs in the fishing, cocoa, and livestock value chains to set up infrastructure and develop capacities to improve their production mechanisms.</p> <p>It is worth noting that 4,461 hectares were georeferenced, which will serve as a baseline through which to gauge the progress on best practices adoption.</p>

Output Indicator 2.1.3: Number of demonstration cases of a successful model of sustainable production with a market-driven value chain for biodiversity conservation that is established in each of the three landscapes to promote learning by doing.	Target: At least 5 cases	None for now	IS	<p>The project is working on the development of these success cases, which will be then demonstrated to other communities.</p> <p>Potential demonstration cases have been identified for the livestock, fishing and shrimping value chains.</p>
Outcome 2.2 Increased income of members of Producer Organizations (PO) that have adopted sustainable production practices with a market-driven value chain approach				
Output Indicator 2.2.1: Number of PO that have a partnership with a buyer that will help guide the development of their value chains early on in the process.	Target: At least 9 PO	None for now	D	<p>It has been difficult to acquire commitment from buyers that will guide the development of their value chains (the POs) due to the travel and face-to-face meeting restrictions imposed by COVID-19.</p> <p>It is worth noting that face-to-face meetings are key to establishing trust and business deals between communities and buyers, and a lack of such meetings makes both parties reticent to commit to long-term trust relationships.</p>
Output Indicator 2.2.2: Percentage of PO that benefit from financial mechanisms for investment in sustainable practices and value chain development.	Target: 50%	0%	D	<p>The project is working with the SLV-USAID project to develop such type of financial mechanisms for investment in sustainable practices and value chain development.</p>

<p>Output Indicator 2.2.3: Number of value chains that reach new markets.</p>	<p>Target: 7 POs</p>	<p>2 POs</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The project, based on the intervention plans developed to increase 15% of the producers' income, has supported the following POs to reach national markets through the supermarket chain The Green Corner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Los Ángeles PO (Sierra Madre, cattle ranch) - El Pelicano PO (Costa, cashew) <p>The project is also currently supporting 6 POs in the linking process to the following national partners in the private sector:</p> <p>Mercado Libre: Volcán Tacaná (SMCh, coffee) Captain Luis Vidal (SMCh, coffee) UCIRI (SSIO, coffee / cocoa) CUCOS (cocoa, SSIO)</p> <p>Green Corner: Luchadores del Castaño (scale, PSCOCh)</p> <p>SmartFish: Agostaderos de Topón (shrimp, PSCOCh)</p>
<p>Outcome 3.1: Increasing financial sustainability in the integrated management of the three priority landscapes</p>				

<p>Output Indicator 3.1.1: Number of public or private sources of ongoing investments that have supported or coordinated with project activities, outputs and outcomes for ILM and SPP in the 16 PIS.</p>	<p>Target: At least 7 support programs</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>D..</p>	<p>Despite delays due to COVID-19, the project is in the process of drafting a counterpart letter with the Secretariat of Agriculture (SADER, in Spanish) for the government agency to contribute \$ 10 million USD. To expedite the process, the Steering Committee came to the resolution that they would include a representative from SADER to the Committee to help improve communication. This institution closed during the pandemic, hampering the counterpart process; however, contact was re-established in June.</p> <p>The project has also established the foundations for work with the government initiative Sembrando Vida, of the Secretariat of Wellness.</p>
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<p>Output Indicator 3.1.2: Number of financial mechanisms new to the region that are supporting project activities, outputs and outcomes, funded by diversified sources (could be market based, mixed public-private or other) as a long-term solution to for ILM and SPP activities in the three landscapes.</p>	<p>Target: At least 3 financial mechanisms</p>	<p>\$0</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The project worked with the SLV-USAID project to design a roadmap to obtain financing from a blended finance platform. As a part of this road map, it was planned that the first step of this roadmap is to select the most matured producer organizations to be investable and credit-ready.</p> <p>The Huatulco Fund and the ADVC Fund was agreed upon and has begun development with FONCET to receive funds through hotel groups and the Huatulco AZUR airport, who are interested in donating and establishing a collection strategy for tourists to maintain the Fund.</p> <p>Agreements with FCCF to create a forest management financing mechanism in the PIS La Sepultura have yet to be finalized. Due to COVID-19, international flights were not permitted, which barred access from Luxembourg consultants to carry out a pre-feasibility study in the field.</p>
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