

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

for the project:

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

FY23 July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Executing Partners



Project Information				
Project Title:	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity in Priority Landscapes of Oaxaca and Chiapas			
Country(ies):	Mexico	Mexico GEF ID: 9445		
GEF Agency(ies):	Conservation International	Duration In Months:	86	
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:	04/30/2025	
GEF Grant Amount:	USD 7,219,450	Expected Financial Closure Date:	10/31/2025	
Expected Co-financing:	USD 47,456,966	Date of Last Steering Committee Meeting:	01/19/2023	
Co-financing Realized as of June 30, 2023:	USD 14,201,309	Mid-Term Review-Planned Date:	08/01/2020	
Date of First Disbursement:	02/15/2018	Mid-Term Review-Actual Date:	07/26/2021	
Cumulative disbursement as of June 30, 2023:	USD 5,489,195	Terminal Evaluation-Planned Date:	01/1/2025	
PIR Prepared by:	Esther Quintero, Gustavo Garduño, Alexis Kastanos, Sandro Miranda	Terminal Evaluation-Actual Date:	TBD	
CI-GEF Project Manager:	Daniela Carrión	CI-GEF Finance Lead:	Susana Escudero	

Minor Amendment Categories	Minor Amendment Justification Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5%. Please select the box that is most applicable for FY23 and include an explanation for the minor amendment request.
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Results Framework	The project has made the following precisions to the results framework:
	Outcome 1.3 Indicator 1: A multi-stakeholder coordination body for each priority landscape is established and functional. Target: Multi-stakeholder coordination body for each priority landscape is established and
	functional. Adjustment: At least two multi-stakeholder coordination bodies covering the three priority landscapes are established and functional. Target: Multi-stakeholder coordination bodies covering the three priority landscapes are established and functional.
	Rationale for change: While the multi-stakeholder coordination bodies were originally planned to be limited to each landscape, at implementation phase, it became clear that the region needed a coordination body per State that connected communities upriver and downriver. The result was two coordination bodies that encompass the Sierra Sur and Coast of Oaxaca and the Sierra Madre and Coast of Chiapas. These coordination bodies still represent the stakeholders of the three priority landscapes (which was the end goal of this Outcome), as well as the area that connects their watersheds.
	Outcome 2.1 Indicator 1: Number of hectares where Producer Organizations (cooperatives, association, family business, etc.) in Primary Intervention Sites (PIS) have adopted sustainable production practices with a market-driven value chain approach. 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).
	Adjustment: Number of hectares where Producer Organizations (cooperatives, association, family business, etc.) in Primary Intervention Sites (PIS) have adopted and strengthened sustainable production practices with a market-driven value chain approach. 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).
	Rationale for change : Many times, POs were already applying some form of sustainable practices. In these cases, the project helped strengthen those with additional social, economic and productive practices complementing the interventions. It is important to clarify that some Pos did not start from scratch, as could be interpreted by the original indicator wording.
	Output 1.2.1 Indicator 2: Number of hectares with draft legislation for the expansion of protected areas. Target: 102,403 ha.
	Adjustment: Number of hectares certified as Areas Destined Voluntarily to Conservation (ADVC). Target: 102,403 ha.
	Rationale for change: In 2018, the Mexican government shifted its conservation strategy from promoting publicly owned Pas to privately or communally owned Pas (ADVCs). As a result, the original plan to expand La Frailescana and Volcán Tacaná Pas became unviable. The project shifted its focus to promoting ADVCs in the Primary Intervention Sites (PIS) and suggests modifying the indicator to reflect this change given the overall objective or increasing the conserved area is met but with other type of protection categories.
	Output 2.1.1 Indicator 2:

Number of producers (broken down into M/W, Indigenous peoples, afro descendant, and vulnerable groups) organized in POs that have 6-10 points in the ISP, that participate in transforming conventional production into sustainable production practices in the 16 PIS. Target: At least 1,000 seeking proportional participation of M/W, IP and afrodescendants and youth.

Adjustment: Number of producers (broken down into M/W, Indigenous peoples, afro descendant and vulnerable groups) organized in POs that have 6-10 points in the ISP, that participate in transforming conventional production into sustainable production practices in the 16 PIS and 10 PAs.

Target: At least 1,000 seeking proportional participation of M/W, IP and afro descendants and youth.

Rationale for change: Precising that the project has worked with POs in the PIS and also the region's PAs.

Output 2.2.1 Indicator 2:

Percentage of PO that have been benefitted from financial mechanisms for investment in sustainable practices and value chain development. Target: 50%.

Adjustment: Number of PO that have been benefitted from financial mechanisms for investment in sustainable practices and value chain development. Target: At least 3.

Rationale for change: The project initially planned to work with nine POs, aiming to help at least four access financing. However, it is currently working with twenty-seven POs. While it's possible to strengthen four POs to access financing, assisting eighteen POs in doing so is not feasible. The project proposes setting a fixed target of four POs instead of a percentage-based approach.

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.

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 (2025) (alignment will be determined by an alignment criteria catalog to be developed by the project).

Adjustment: Increase in *public-private co-funding aligned* for integrated landscape management and sustainable production with market-orientation and value-chain approach. Target: At least USD 21 Million of the 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 (2025) (alignment will be determined by an alignment criteria catalog to be developed by the project).

Rationale for change: The project has supported the creation and establishment of projects that have brought large investments to the three landscapes, such as CI-MasterCard's Priceless Planet Coalition (\$25 Million USD), Sustainable Landscape Ventures (\$6 Million USD) and CocaCola's Clean Beaches project (10,000 USD). While these investments signify a large sum of funding for sustainable production and integrated landscape management, they do not necessarily fall under the definition of ongoing. Therefore, the word "ongoing" has been omitted.

Output 3.1.2 Indicator 1:

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 for ILM and SPP activities in the three landscapes. Target: At least 3.
	Adjustment: Number of financial sources 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 for ILM and SPP activities in the three landscapes.
	Target: At least 1.
	Rationale for change: The project team has helped bring considerable new financial resources to the region through the Blended Finance Engine (BFE). It is also working with the El Triunfo Conservation Fund to establish the Huatulco Fund, a financial mechanism to fund the Huatulco Protected Area. It is worth noting that the project is on track to surpass Outcome 3.1's target only with the BFE's investments. We recommend focusing on the proper establishment of SLV's BFE and potentially the Huatulco Fund, instead of spending resources on building a new one.
	Additionally, there were incongruences in the Project Document (ProDoc) regarding Output 1.1.3, Indicator 3 and Output 2.1.1, Indicator 3, both written below:
	 Outcome 1.3.1 Indicator 3: Percentage of Indigenous peoples and afro-descendants participating in ILM governance mechanisms. In some parts of the ProDoc, the target for this indicator is 15% of participation, while in others it is 20%. The project will aim for the 20% target, given the strong Indigenous and afro Mexican presence in the region.
	 Outcome 2.1.1 Indicator 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. In some parts of the ProDoc, the target for this indicator is at least one demonstration case per landscape, while in others it is at least five cases (total). The project will aim to establish at least one demonstration case per landscape, to focus efforts on consolidating these demonstration cases to be a model for other organizations in the region.
Components and cost	
Institutional and implementation arrangements	
Financial management	
Implementation schedule	
Executing Entity	
Executing Entity Category	
Minor project objective change	
Safeguards	
Risk analysis	
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%	
Co-financing	
Location of project activity	
Other 🗌	

MINOR AMENDMENT RESPONSE FROM CI-GEF

Provide approval or reject minor amendment request(s) along with a justification

The CI-GEF Project Agency Project Implementation Report (PIR) is composed of six sections:

- <u>Section I:</u> 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;
- <u>Section II</u>: 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;
- <u>Section IV</u>: 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;
- <u>Section V</u>: 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
- <u>Section VI</u>: Project Geocoding: documents the precise and specific geographic location(s) of activities supported by GEF investments based on information available in project documentation.

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 biodiversity and 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 value chain and gender 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

The first half of the year presented numerous changes for CI Mexico and CONANP; together with the COVID restrictions in the first semester, these changes affected the adequate implementation of the activities planned for the FY22 annual workplan. However, from November onwards, the field team had more opportunities to resume activities in the field and advance towards the project targets.

Currently, the project is at a key stage in the development of an integrated landscape management model. With an advance in the characterization, diagnosis, and prognosis of land use plans in Chiapas and Oaxaca, we are covering a total of 3.7 million hectares. These processes have required the intervention of multisectoral groups and the support of a network of interpreters to be able to translate the processes, workshops, and meetings into 4 indigenous languages of Oaxaca. At the same time, the process has integrated the vision of young people, women, men, Afro-Mexicans, and indigenous groups, who are not only building the POET through a participatory process but are also integrated as part of the governance bodies of the territory.

The team has achieved the certification of 35,000 new ha of ADVC, and an additional 70,000 ha have begun the certification process. This will allow for more than 100,000 new ha of ADVC to be established by the end of FY24.

As COVID infections reduced, the technical team, together with the CONANP liaisons, have worked to ensure that the Federal PAs' annual workplans have a gender approach. This is part of a process that must culminate in the real adoption and understanding of the approach, which is why a consultancy has been established to strengthen capacities in the gender approach, not only in the PAs, but also in producer organizations.

We have advanced in the collection of a baseline and first round of monitoring of the 15 globally significant species in the region. We have formed 16 monitoring brigades in 16 PIS, which, together with the existing monitors in the PAs, have collected valuable data to be analyzed with a landscape approach. The results of this analysis will complement the POETs' results, while also adding value to the adoption of best practices and linkages to sustainable markets.

Although the ProDoc suggests working with 9 POs, the reality in the field has been very different. We have learned that terrestrial organizational processes are different from coastal ones. For this reason, we are working with 29 groups of producers, of which 8 groups respond to the criteria established in the ProDoc and the rest belong to fishing and tourism producer organizations, scattered throughout the coastal landscape and with a wide range in their number of producers and hectares. We have initiated the adoption of best practices with all POs, and are most advanced in scale fishing, shrimp, tourism, and cacao. These processes will be extended in the new fiscal year.

The POs have been linked to national markets (Green Corner, SmartFish, local markets) and international markets (Belgium and Guatemala). There are several groups of producers that are improving their value chain processes, based on the input given by buyers from their target markets. However, we need to generate more capacity in marketing, negotiation, management, and financing to leave strong groups that last.

Three POs of cacao and coffee are gaining access to financial mechanisms, while other groups have been identified within the landscapes that will align \$10 million USD to financially strengthen the region. At the same time, we have aligned activities with the Secretariat of Agriculture and the Secretariat of Welfare, in addition to \$30 million USD for restoration projects in the PIS and PAs.

Regrettably, the state of Oaxaca experienced a Category 2 Hurricane (Hurricane Agatha) in June, which severely affected the area's infrastructure, including the tree nurseries that the Project had installed in Sierra Sur. The team is working with the affected communities to rebuild and provide emergency supplies.

The project has been satisfactorily evaluated by the implementing agency and an external consultant, with recommendations focusing on consolidating the basis of the processes that this FY22 has allowed the project team to generate. The project received a no-cost extension until March 2025.

CURRENT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS (FY23)

The current year has been a pivotal period in the implementation of the project, marked by significant achievements. Notably, the project has successfully delivered land use plans to the States of Oaxaca and Chiapas, facilitating the organization of 4.4 million hectares of their respective territories. The team's diligent efforts in collaborating with producers have begun to yield tangible results in the field and along the value chains. Furthermore, through close coordination with Cl's Sustainable Landscape Ventures (SLV), financing has been secured for two producer organizations (Café Capitán and UCIRI) that the project supported the past year.

Regarding the fifteen globally significant species, the project has adopted a comprehensive approach to ensure their preservation. A three-pronged strategy has been employed, encompassing the provision of sustainable land use plans (POETs) for the States of Oaxaca and Chiapas, covering a total of 4,409,065 hectares across three distinct landscapes. These plans are specifically designed to safeguard the aforementioned species. Additionally, the project has facilitated the training of fourteen community brigades and the implementation of monitoring activities in thirteen PIS. The data gathered by these brigades has played a vital role in determining the execution of the POETs, while also contributing to a comprehensive biodiversity analysis of the fifteen species and their associated ecosystems. Furthermore, noteworthy progress has been observed in the average Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) score of the region's federal Protected Areas (PAs), signifying advancements made toward accomplishing this objective. It is worth noting this was a partial assessment.

The project has also certified during the implementation period 60,454.8 hectares as Areas Destined Voluntarily for Conservation (ADVCs) and has begun the administrative processes to certify seven ADVCs more, which will far surpass the 102,403-hectare target. The team has ensured that it follows the FPIC process throughout the ADVC certification steps, engaging communities at an early stage, and keeping them informed.

Moreover, the project has established two multi-stakeholder coordination bodies in the Sierra Madre and Coast of Chiapas, as well as in the Sierra Sur and Coast of Oaxaca. These bodies serve to foster collaboration and coordination among stakeholders involved in the project. Additionally, efforts have been made to enhance the capacity and effectiveness of mid-level and local governance bodies, including the Advisory Council network associated with the region's Protected Areas (PAs) and the local fishery governance bodies. Through these measures, the project aims to strengthen the governance framework at various levels, facilitating effective decision-making and promoting sustainable practices.

Significant progress was made in Component 2. Ten producer organizations (POs) encompassing an area of 4,671 hectares have successfully embraced sustainable practices throughout their value chains. Notably, three of these organizations, namely Agostaderos de Topón, Café Capitán, and Luchadores de El Castaño, have either received or are in the process of obtaining international certifications that acknowledge their commitment to sustainable production. Furthermore, the remaining producer organizations within the project are actively engaged in transitioning their production practices across 3,944 hectares during the fiscal year 2024. While it is premature to report any notable increase in income at this stage, the project has been diligently undertaking crucial steps towards achieving this objective. These steps include facilitating connections with niche markets, fortifying the value chain through the provision of new equipment, facilitating access to financing, and reducing production costs. These measures collectively aim to enhance the financial prospects of the producer organizations and contribute to their long-term sustainability.

Regarding Component 3, the project has so far aligned \$4,693,811.67 USD with the project's objectives from actors present in the field through coordination of actions in the landscapes. Additionally, coordination with Cl's Sustainable Landscape Ventures (SLV) project has secured a total approved amount of \$688,399.00 USD from its innovative financing mechanism for Café Capitán and UCIRI. Alignment is reflected in the letters reporting materialized co-financing.

The team has endeavored to enhance the bidirectional communication channels between the project and the communities that collaborate with the project. As part of this effort, the Grievance and Accountability Mechanism has undergone restructuring to encompass not only grievances but also concerns, comments, and ideas. In line with this expansion, the mechanism has been rebranded as CI Te Escucha (CI Listens to You). Subsequently, the project's leadership engaged with twenty-five communities to introduce and present CI Te Escucha, alongside the proposed intervention plan tailored for each organization. To ensure accessibility for individuals across various literacy levels, the intervention plan was shared in both written and visual formats, allowing for meaningful engagement by all.

PROJECT PART	PRIOR FY22 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	CURRENT FY23 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING ¹	RATING TREND ²
OBJECTIVE	S	S	Unchanged
COMPONENTS AND OUTCOMES	S	S	Unchanged
ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS	HS	HS	Unchanged

SUMMARY: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS

PROJECT RISK RATING³

RISKS M L Decreasing	

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 since the start of the project 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:

- a. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective: this section measures the likelihood of achieving the objective of the project
- b. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Outcomes (by project component)
- c. Overall Project Results Progress Rating, and
- d. 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 RATING⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator a: 15 globally significant species effectively conserved. Target: 15 species	15 globally significant species effectively conserved / in the process of conservation. According to the Theory of Change of the Project Document (ProDoc)	IS	The project has established, trained, and implemented community brigades to monitor the presence of the fifteen target species in thirteen PIS. The three landscapes have approved land use plans with the aim of protecting the fifteen species. The average METT score of the region's nine federal PAs has increased from the original baseline of 48/100 to 63/100.
Indicator b: 2,618,250 hectares with sustainable land use plan promoting biodiversity conservation Target: 2,618,250 hectares	4,409,065 ha	CA	In coordination with the appropriate governmental institutions and stakeholders, the Project has designed two sustainable land use plans, which were approved in a public consultation. The following step is publishing the decree in the official journals of Oaxaca and Chiapas, which is outside of the Project's jurisdiction.

⁴ **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
			The sustainable land use plans cover the landscapes of the Sierra Madre, Sierra Sur, Pacific South Coast of Oaxaca and Chiapas, and the watersheds connecting the mountain landscapes with the coast.
Indicator c: 4,650 hectares under sustainable productive practices to support biodiversity conservation. Target: 4,650 hectares	4,671 ha	IS	 The project team has succeeded in transforming and strengthening 4,671 ha to be under sustainable practices, belonging to the following POs: Café Capitán (coffee agroforestry systems, 567 ha), which received a CERTIMEX certification on organic production, proving its successful adoption of sustainable practices. Agostaderos de Topón (shrimping, 1,716 ha), which received recognition as a Sustainable Fishery by Fishery Progress, proving its successful adoption of sustainable practices. Luchadores de El Castaño (fishing, 313 ha), which received recognition as a Sustainable Fishery by Fishery Progress, proving its successful adoption of sustainable practices. El Carrizal (shrimping, 415 ha), which received recognition as a Sustainable practices. UCIRI (coffee and cacao agroforestry systems, 583 ha), the process is in the process of acquiring means of verification for the successful adoption of its practices. CUCOS (coffee and cacao agroforestry systems, 528 ha), the process is in the process of acquiring means of verification for the successful adoption of its practices.

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
			 Yoo'Nashi (tourism, 17 ha), the process is in the process of acquiring means of verification for the successful adoption of its practices. La Ventanilla (tourism, 27 ha), the process is in the process of acquiring means of verification for the successful adoption of its practices. Aventura y Ecoturismo Lagunas de Chacahua (tourism, 5 ha) the process is in the process of acquiring means of verification for the successful adoption of its practices. Moreover, an additional 3,944 ha are consolidating their final processes to adopt sustainable production, social, and economic practices. They are expected to complete this by the end of FY24.

OBJECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION
S	A satisfactory rating is given to the objective implementation. The project has met the objective targets and will continue to consolidate the results in the final year.

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 landscapes for biodiversity conservation through land-use plans and management of protected areas.
Outcome 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:	Expansion of protected areas with globally significant biodiversity.
Outcome 3:	Governance un 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 RATING⁵	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)	4,409,065 ha	CA	In coordination with the appropriate governmental institutions and stakeholders, the Project has designed two sustainable land use plans approved in a public consultation. The following step is publishing the decree in the official journals of Oaxaca and Chiapas, which is outside of the Project's jurisdiction. The sustainable land use plans cover the landscapes of the Sierra Madre, Sierra Sur, Pacific South Coast of Oaxaca and Chiapas, and the watersheds connecting the mountain landscapes with the coast.
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.	15 conservation and monitoring plans	CA	 The project has implemented the conservation and monitoring plans for the fifteen species since Q3, FY22. The monitoring activities are ongoing in the following 13 Primary Intervention Sites (PIS): PIS 1. Istmo- Cerro de las Flores PIS 3. Copalita - Pluma Hidalgo PIS 4. Playa Cahuitán PIS 5. Lagunas de Chacahua PIS 6. Playa La Escobilla PIS 7. Huatulco – Cacaluta PIS 8. Playa Morro Ayuta - Barra de la Cruz

^{5 5} **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
				 8. PIS 10. Puerto Arista - Cerro Bernal 9. PIS 11. La Encrucijada - Los Patos Solo Dios y Carretas Pereyra 10. PIS 13. El Censo - Cerro Brujo 11. PIS 14. Montañas de La Frailescana 12. PIS 15. Montañas de Siltepec 13. PIS 16. Boquerón - Volcán Tacaná The Project attempted to establish a monitoring brigade in PIS 2: Yautepec-Santo Tomas Teipan, however, local authorities were unwilling to meet with the Project. Following FPIC guidelines, the Project stopped reaching out. The Project was not able to establish a brigade in PIS 9: San Francisco del Mar due to the high level of violence in the area. Instead, the team formed two brigades in PIS 8: Playa Morro Ayuta - Barra de la Cruz (one monitoring in Morro Ayuta, the other Barra de la Cruz). Lastly, the Project established a monitoring brigade in PIS 12: Laguna del Viejo on three different occasions. On each occasion, at least one of the brigadiers emigrated for reasons unrelated to the monitoring activities. Given the high probability of losing the brigadiers, the Project concluded that the training expense was too costly to continue establishing brigades in the site. In light of this year's successful completion of brigadier training, with the newly trained team fully implementing the conservation and monitoring plans, the target of this indicator has been completed.
Outcome 1.1 indicator 3: Increase in the average management effectiveness of the landscapes including federal Protected Areas over the baseline, according to Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) baseline score (9 PAs).	Indicator 3 target: 9 PAs (with a coverage of 581,614.65 ha) have together an average management effectiveness score of at least 60 out of 100 (according to METT).	63/100 (partial result)	IS	The Project has been able to evaluate the METT score of five out of the nine PAs. While it is a partial evaluation, the results are encouraging, with an increase from the last score of 60.3/100 to 63/100. Due to scheduling issues with CONANP, the remaining PAs will be assessed in Q1, FY24.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
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.	60,454.8 ha	IS	This year, the Project has certified the ADVC of Ovando la Piñuela in Chiapas (2,790 ha) and expanded the reach of ADVC of Guiexoxa - Guishido Nabajni in Oaxaca (20,811 ha).Given the seven certification processes already underway, the project expects to surpass the 102,403-ha target in Q3 of FY24.
Outcome 1.3 Indicator 1: At least two multi- stakeholder coordination bodies covering the three priority landscapes are established and functional	Indicator 1 target: Multi-stakeholder coordination bodies covering the three priority landscapes is established and functional.	Two multi- stakeholder coordination bodies established, covering the three priority landscapes.	CA	The project achieved this target by creating a multi-stakeholder coordination body in the Sierra Madre and Coast of Chiapas and another in the Sierra Sur and Coast of Oaxaca. These coordination bodies, named POET Technical Committees, are linked to the Land Use Planning processes of Oaxaca and Chiapas, and integrate representatives from the governmental, private, academic and CSO sectors. These are led by the Executive Committee, composed by the federal environmental agency (SEMARNAT), the state environmental agencies (SEMAHN and SEMAEDESO), CONANP and CI Mexico. For more information on the operation of these bodies, access the following link. To guarantee the sustainability of these coordination bodies, the team has initiated a consolidation process of the "Guardians of the Land Use Plan," a body made up of women and men from the territory to follow up on the land use planning objectives. This process will continue during FY24.

COMPONENT 1 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	A satisfactory rating is given to component 1. In this fiscal year the project was able to complete two State land use plans, completed the conservation and monitoring plans for 15 key biodiversity species. All other outcomes are on track to be completed at the end of the project.	-

	Mainstreaming models of sustainable production with a market-driven value chain approach in agriculture, fishing aquaculture, forest and tourism
COMPONENT 2	activities, as a pillar of integrated management of the three priority landscapes.

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: Number of hectares where Producer Organizations (cooperatives, association, family business, etc.) in Primary Intervention Sites (PIS) have adopted and strengthened sustainable production practices with a market-driven value chain approach. 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).	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)	4,671	IS	 The project team has transformed and strengthened 4,671 ha to be under sustainable practices, belonging to the following POs: Café Capitán (coffee agroforestry systems, 567 ha), Agostaderos de Topón (shrimping, 1,716 ha), Luchadores de El Castaño (fishing, 313 ha), El Carrizal (shrimping, 415 ha), UCIRI (coffee and cacao agroforestry systems, 583 ha), CUCOS (coffee and cacao agroforestry systems, 528 ha), Senderos y Humedales (tourism, 500 ha), Yoo'Nashi (tourism, 17 ha), La Ventanilla (tourism, 27 ha), Aventura y Ecoturismo Lagunas de Chacahua (tourism, 5 ha). Moreover, an additional 3,944 ha are consolidating their final processes to adopt sustainable practices. They are expected to complete this by the end of FY24. The team has achieved the POs strengthening through the following activities: * Conducted twenty-five training courses on socially, economically, and productively sustainable practices. * Provided sixteen sets of donations to strengthen the sustainable value chains of six POs, including machinery, seedlings, certifications, and equipment. *Carried out strategic planning workshops with twenty-seven POs to consolidate their strategy to adopt sustainable practices in the short, medium, and long term.
Outcome 2.2: Increased income of members of Producer Organizations (PO) that have adopted	Indicator 1 target: An average 15% of income increase of	0%	IS	The project completed the collection of average income baselines in Q1, FY23, and has sought to increase 1,528 producers' income belonging to twenty-seven POs through the following four actions:

⁶ **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
sustainable production practices with a market- driven value chain approach	members of Producer Organizations (PO) that have adopted sustainable production practices with a market-driven value chain approach.			 Linking seven POs to niche markets that buy their products at a greater value. (Café Capitán, CUCOS, Cacao del Alto, UCIRI, Productores Orgánicos del Tacaná, Senderos y Humedales and Yoo'Nashi). Donating equipment to four POs to transform their products and sell them with an added value (Agostaderos de Topón, Luchadores de El Castaño, Café Capitán, Cacao del Alto). Facilitating financing for two POs (Café Capitán, UCIRI) to buy more coffee from their members for export. By exporting larger quantities and bypassing local middlemen, the PO members can expect greater profits, increasing their income. Reducing production costs for CUCOS by improving the efficiency of the cocoa production process. By reducing production costs, the organization can receive more profit from their product without raising prices. In June, 2024, the team will have calculated the average income increase of the PO members. The project's selected income calculation tool selects a PO's focus group to identify the number and volume of products cultivated in a hectare, the price by which they are sold, the potential renting value of the land and any government production subsidies received; then, they calculate the cost of each activity necessary to cultivate the products, including supplies needed, machinery use/rental, and wages. Lastly, the costs are subtracted from the value, giving the average net income per hectare of the PO.

COMPONENT 2 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	A satisfactory rating is given for component 2. The project reports 4.671 hectares under sustainable production practices benefiting 10 producer organizations and is advancing towards strengthening the links to new markets opportunities. Consolidating the work in Component 2 during the last year of implementation is key for sustainability.	

COMPONENT 3 Increasing financial sustainability in the integrated management of the three priority landscapes

Outcome 3.1:

Access to investment from public and private programs oriented towards ILM and SPP* substantially increased. *SPP: Sustainable Production Project with market-driven value-chain approach

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 <i>public-private</i> <i>co-funding aligned</i> for integrated landscape management and sustainable production with market-orientation and value-chain approach	Indicator 1 target: At least USD 21 Million of 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 (2025) (alignment will be determined by an alignment criteria catalog to be developed by the project).	\$4,665,731.07 USD The project has yet to calculate co- financing for FY23.	D	The project's alignment with other financial sources is calculated through the annual co-financing letters sent by partners, where they describe the funds in USD that they have invested either in cash or in-kind on ILM and SPP activities. The project team is working to secure the co-financing target.
Outcome 3.1 indicator 2: Increase in public-private funding for ILM and SPP through new (innovative) financial mechanisms (e.g., green bonds, risk capital investments, carbon marketing, and others) or the expansion	Indicator 2 target: At least US\$500.000 will be funded for ILM and SPP ⁸ through additional and diversified sources of funding (did not exist before	\$360,160.59 USD	IS	The project team facilitated relationships and the building of trust between UCIRI, Café Capitán and the Sustainable Landscape Ventures (SLV) project. This relationship has led to new sources of financing for these two organizations. UCIRI received a \$141,924.28 USD loan from CI Ventures, while Café Capitán received \$79,837.31 USD from CI Ventures and \$138,399 USD from impact fund Red Girasol.

^{7 7} **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved ⁸ Integrated Landscape Management and Sustainable Production Practices.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁷	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
of existing ones in the country to cover these three landscapes.	project start) in the 16 PIS.			These deposits are part of a greater financing plan with the Sustainable Landscape Ventures Project. The total approved amount for these two POs is \$688,399.00 USD, to be delivered in FY24.

COMPONENT 3 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
	A Satisfactory rating is given to component 3. The project has been successful in mobilizing additional funding in outcome 3.2. Outcome 3.1 is progressing with the key government programs intervening in the project landscapes.	Unchanged

c. Overall Project Results Rating

OVERALL PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION RATING

OVERALL RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND ⁹
S	A satisfactory rating is given to the overall project results. There was significative progress across all outcomes of the project in each component. For Component one the project was able to complete the sustainable land use plans and c monitoring plans for 15 key species. For component two the project benefited 10 producer organizations with 4.671 has under sustainable production practices, supporting capacities and market links. This work will continue in the final year to consolidate the results. For component three, there was significative work to achieve more public-private funding for the project and mobilize additional funding to the landscapes or aligned existing resources from other programs.	-

d. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Execute the exit strategy to ensure sustainability of results achieved under each component, in close coordination with the counterparts and key stakeholders.	PMU	June 2024.

⁹ Rating trend: Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

Consolidate results of Component 2 and 3 proposing actions that ensure meeting the targets and ensure	
sustainability after the project ends.	

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.

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

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
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 project at the	Designation of 1,848,685.23 ha of the region's territory to restoration initiatives (having taken into account current conditions under a changing climate scenario).	IS	The land use plans of Oaxaca and Chiapas have designated more than 1.8 million hectares in the landscapes for restoration activities. Similarly, the project is closely working with the reforestation project Priceless Planet Coalition, which is implementing restoration activities in 3 PAs (La Frailescana, Volcán Tacaná, El Triunfo) and 3 PIS (Copalita-Pluma Hidalgo, Cerro de las Flores and Montañas de Siltepec). It is expected that these restoration activities will help restore 17,657 ha by 2025, helping combat adverse effects from climate change. Additionally, strengthening the POs' leadership has helped to bolster their adaptation to climate change risks, as explained in the activities below.	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

¹⁰ **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved ¹¹ **Rating trend**: Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
	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 stakeholders will be able to better	Forest fire app	IS	During the project's lifetime, it has supported the development of a fire strategy for CONANP, CONAFOR, SADER, and the governments of Oaxaca and Chiapas. The support has mainly consisted in supporting the design and implementation of a forest fire early warning app and facilitating the training of forest firefighting brigades for 3 PAs (Volcán Tacaná, El Triunfo and La Encrucijada).	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
	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.						
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 infrastructure and strengthening the	Climate change and extreme weather adaptation measures for 5 POs	IS	 Pacific Coast: Mangroves as a climate solution In the estuarine ecosystems of Topón and El Castaño, the project promoted and disseminated a practice termed locally as "deadwood cemeteries". Fishers collect fallen logs in the estuary floor, which could damage their nets, and stack them in large piles in the water. Drifting mangrove seeds latch to these piles, where they germinate and create new mangrove sections, nourished by the decaying wood. Mangrove ecosystems are one of the most effective buffers for extreme coastal weather phenomena, and store remarkably high levels of carbon. Sierra Madre: Rejuvenation of coffee agroforestry systems. 	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
	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-	IMPLEMENTATION	RATING ¹⁰	The project is working closely with MasterCard's Priceless Planet Coalition project in the rejuvenation of Café Capitán's coffee plots. The PPC procures the new coffee plants, while this project teaches sustainable practices to ensure that the new plants survive. Old coffee plants are more vulnerable to diseases, especially when weakened by droughts or heavy rainfall. Rejuvenating the coffee plots boosts the coffee farmers' resilience during extreme weather and increases their profits. Sierra Sur: Building resilience and adapting to climate change. To boost producers' resilience to market shocks, the project team has assisted UCIRI and CUCOS in diversifying their production. These organizations have begun growing and exporting cacao, plantain, and soursop, thanks to the project's donations and technical guidance. Income from plantains was particularly important after Hurricane Agatha (2022), when most shade trees fell, and direct sunlight damaged cacao and coffee plants. CUCOS producers grew the plantain trees donated by the project to			
	related losses, by reducing the dependency on one crop. By			provide temporary shade to protect cacao and coffee plants. The income from plantains also helped sustain producers while the other plants recovered.			
	strengthening the governance mechanisms in these landscapes and the	Strengthening the organizational capacity of 16 POs		Throughout its implementation, the project has also trained sixteen POs in organizational governance skills and assisted twelve producer organizations in			

PROJECI DISKS MITI	OOC RISK MITIGATION GATION MEASURES ASURE IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
areas will to recove	of rs ations, ale rs in rural Il be able		designing gender-sensitive annual workplans for the first time. Strengthening the organizations' leadership has boosted their resilience to climatic crises, as proven by CUCOS's coordinated response to the damages of Hurricane Agatha. As mentioned above, CUCOS's plots were severely affected. However, thanks to the PO's diversified production, remarkable organizational skills and new financing sources, the organization was able to acquire temporary crops with quick yields (as explained above), contact financing institutions to invest in the plots' recovery (SLV) and ultimately keep members from abandoning agroforestry systems altogether, therefore avoiding land use change that will negatively affect the territory's capacity to face extreme weather events. Avoidance of land use change is a recurring topic. The team has identified that many POs with which it works already applied a degree of sustainable practices in the plot. However, their level of organizational and commercial capacity was often very low, considerably reducing profits for the organization and its members. This would lead plot owners to abandon the sustainable crop for seemingly more profitable activities (e.g. <i>robusta</i> coffee, African palm or livestock). By strengthening the administrative and commercial capacity of organizations with sustainable production practices,			

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
				the project ensures the continuation of these practices in the territory.			
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 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	Twenty-five capacity building processes Strengthening of governance and participatory processes FPIC and gender inclusion	IS	As mentioned above, the team has so far conducted twenty-five training courses on socially, economically, and productively sustainable practices. These training courses have consolidated good relations with the organizations and local governments. Similarly, the project has strengthened the region and organizations' governance mechanisms. In the POETs' Technical Committees, the project has actively sought the participation of stakeholders from the productive, academic, governmental, and civil sector. It has also created or strengthened governance mechanisms for three producer organizations. To strengthen the FPIC process with Producer Organizations, the team's leadership visited each organization to display in a written and graphic form the activities it will conduct with them until the end of the Project. The team's leadership also used these meetings to The Project has also encouraged the engagement of women in its activities. The clearest example would be the tourism cooperatives of Huatulco. While both men and women have traditionally worked as tourist service providers, the leadership of these organizations has traditionally been male. For example, participants in the Project's tourism	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
	successfully. A Grievance Mechanism will be implemented to address social problems within the project boundaries (See Annex VI. Grievance mechanism).			activities were initially 100% men. As a response, the team encouraged participation of women early in the process through several methods (i.e., communicating that parents could bring their children, having male and female trainers, etc.). These efforts had a significant impact. A female member of PO Senderos y Humedales, who until that point had been only partially involved in the organization, was inspired to participate. She became increasingly more committed, taking up more responsibilities and becoming a leader within her organization. She was recently elected president of her PO. Even more importantly, she has inspired women in the other POs of Huatulco to actively participate in their organization, speak up during meetings and seek leadership roles in their own organizations. Currently, women make up around 50% of participants in project activities related to tourism.			
		Grievance Mechanism		CI Mexico has launched a new, centralized grievance mechanism called CI Te Escucha (CI Listens to You), which will replace the project's former mechanism. The team ensure to explain the purpose of the Mechanism and encourage its use during meetings with organizations and communities. It also clarified that it was appropriate for opinions, suggestions, and doubts (as well as grievances).			

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
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 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	Signing of three Conservation Agreements Establishment of fourteen biological monitoring brigades	IS	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. Additionally, the Project is opening new avenues for income through new market linkages, which is expected to mitigate illicit activities in the communities. As previously mentioned, the Project team has created, trained, and launched fourteen biological monitoring brigades. The increased surveillance and awareness are expected to reduce poaching in the area, and the increased knowledge of the species' presence and behavior may lead brigadiers to be able to access new professional avenues, such as ecotourism guides.	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
	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 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	Strengthening relations with the three levels of government (federal, state, and municipalities) to make them co- responsible for the implementation of the project.	IS	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. An interesting case of governmental appropriation has occurred in Pochutla, where the project aligned the activities of government institutions, civil society, and local actors in the region. This new coordination has ensured that there are no double investments in the area, but also has created a co-responsibility among the stakeholders, because their impact is now increased by the other actors' intervention, including the Project's.	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
	(national, state and municipal) by the project staff. This will help maintain the project appropriation and coordination.						
Risk 7: Weak institutional capacities for planning, management and governance in targeted areas	The project will hire 14 project- 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.	Close coordination with CONANP Integration of three levels of government Two land use plans and governance bodies	IS	The project continues to strengthen capacities through gender-sensitive PA workplans, governance mechanisms, land use plans, and financing mechanisms for the region. The Project has made sure that federal PAs, state and municipal governments, agrarian, wellness, and environmental ministries appropriately participated in these processes.	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
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 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	Twenty-five training courses	IS	The project has continued to hold training processes to improve capacity in the field and the governance bodies. It has also fostered commitment with stakeholders.	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
	early stages of implementation, the project will work in a participatory manner with local communities to discuss and 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 we experienced this situation and the way we solved it was by talking to the new institution's leader that took over the activities and by approaching other possible co- financiers to fill in the gap that the other institutions left for the project.	Continued cooperation with 53 entities	IS	The project had continuous contact with the leadership of governmental institutions and producer organizations. It has also ensured to hold induction meetings whenever an organization changed leadership to ensure their continued commitment.	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged
Risk 10: CONANP's budget continues to	In order to address the risk of a reducing CONANP budget,	Financing from 20 new sources	IS	If accounting for inflation, CONANP's budget continues to decrease every year:	Substantial	Substantial	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
decline prohibiting the institution's full participation in this project	the proposal has been designed so that the PAs can be strengthened with the support from key stakeholders from various sectors that 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	International funding for CONANP		YearCONANP budget% change accounting inflation2018\$1,132,019,6662019\$843,553,106-28.92%2020\$864,087,713-0.38%2021\$866,383,279-2.80%2022\$887,345,822-4.60%2023\$930,376,724-2.76%Because of this, the project has continued to seek financing from other institutions. It has made closer ties with the Secretariat of Agriculture and the Secretariat of Wellness, the budgets of which have continuously increased.CONANP has also accessed funding from international institutions, which has helped compensate for the decrease in funds.			

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
	CONANP's budget to manage these landscapes sustainably. CONANP is developing strategies to address recent 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	Risk rating reduced to modest.	IS	Previously, there was a high risk that the COVID-19 pandemic would continue affecting the project's impact. The team considers that this is no longer	Not present in ProDoc	Modest	Decreasing

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRES S RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURREN T FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
				accurate. Widespread vaccination campaigns have significantly reduced severe illness and hospitalization rates. Additionally, improved testing, contact tracing, and public health measures have helped in early detection and containment of outbreaks. Therefore, the current FY23 rating is decreased to Modest Risk.			

OVERALL RATIN	IUSTIFICATION	RISK RATING TREND ¹²
L	A low rating is provided to project risks. The project has been able to monitor the risks and execute mitigation measures to manage timely in coordination with relevant stakeholders.	Decreasing

Recommendations

MITIGATION AND CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Continue managing the risks by implementing the mitigation measures planned in the annual workplan.	PMU	June 2024

¹² Rating trend: Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

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

This section of the PIR describes the progress made towards complying with the approved ESMF plans, as well as recommendations to improve the implementation of the ESMF plans, when needed. This section is divided into seven parts:

- a. . Progress towards complying with the CI-GEF Agency's ESMF
- b. Information on progress, challenges and outcomes on stakeholder engagement
- c. Information on the progress towards achieving gender sensitive measures/targets
- d. Information on the implementation of the accountability and grievance mechanism
- e. ESMF lessons learned and Knowledge Management Products developed and disseminated
- f. Overall project ESMF implementation rating
- g. Recommendations

	MINIMUM ESMF INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR STATUS	CUMULATIV E STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹³	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
ACCOU	NTABILITY AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM Number of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	0	0	0	IS	No conflict or complaint cases were reported through the CI Mexico Grievance Mechanism regarding this project.
1.	Percentage of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism that have been resolved (for projects approved before November 2020)	100%	NA	NA	IS	Since there have been no complaints, there were none to resolve. It should be noted that the
2.	Number of times the Accountability and Grievance Mechanism is communicated/disseminated to stakeholders (for projects approved after November 2020)	NA	24	24	IS	Grievance Mechanism has been communicated many more times in an informal manner. However, the team leadership conducted a formal dissemination of the mechanism to twenty-four

a. Progress towards complying with the CI-GEF Agency's ESMF

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

					communities in this fiscal year.
GENDER MAINSTREAMING 1. Number of men and women that participated in project activities (e.g. meetings, workshops, consultations)	NA	386 M 116 W (39 did not specify)	1442 M 431 W (589 did not specify)	IS	The project has systematized its demographic data to provide clear information that reflects the participation of key groups appropriately. While earlier reports did not discern if the same person participated multiple times (and therefore counted them as separate persons) this year's report has solved this problem. Out of project participants that specified their gender, 30.7% identified as women and 69.3% identified as men. Unfortunately, only 4.18% of participants reported being part of an Indigenous or afro descendant group. In all likelihood, the real number is much higher, but some choose not to report it due to historical (and current) discrimination.
 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 	NA	21 M and 9 W received employment as biological monitoring	21 M and 9 W received employment as biological	IS	Lastly, 12.6% of participants were youths under 30 years of age, while 32.3% were more than 65 years old. The project distributed salaries to brigadiers who conducted monitoring activities. Additionally, the training they received and the knowledge they are acquiring
		brigadiers.	as biological		knowledge they are acquiring 31

	608 M and 388 W received (group) donations. 95 M, 26 W, and 3 who did not specify received training.	monitoring brigadiers. 621 M and 401 W received (group) donations. 360 M, 85 W, and 26 who did not specify received training.		 could help them in the future to conduct nature tours. The project donated equipment to six POs to strengthen their value chains. It considers that all its members will benefit from them. Lastly, the project has held twenty-nine training courses for POs, monitoring brigades and fire brigades throughout its implementation phase.
NA	39	65	IS	The project has elaborated the following plans and strategies including gender considerations: Two land use plans Twenty-seven PO intervention plans Ten gender-sensitive annual workplans for CONANP: 1 Reserva de la Biosfera el Triunfo 2 Reserva de la Biosfera la Encrucijada 4 Reserva de la Biosfera la Encrucijada 4 Reserva de la Biosfera La Sepultura 5 Parque Nacional Lagunas de Chacahua 6 Centro Mexicano de la Tortuga 7 Parque Nacional Huatulco

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)

						 8 Área de Protección de Recursos Naturales La Frailescana: 9 Oficina de la Región Istmo 10 Oficina Regional Frontera Sur- Istmo y Pacífico Sur
STAKEHOL	DER ENGAGEMENT					
0 0	Jumber of government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, Indigenous peoples, and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in he project implementation phase on an annual basis.	60	State and fed gov. agencies: 40 Civil society: 8 Producer Organizations: 27 Private sector: 15 Municipalities : 111 Ejidos (communal agriculture nuclei): 13 Financing sector: 2	State and fed gov. agencies: 76 Civil society: 10 Producer Organization s: 45 Private sector: 54 Municipaliti es: 111 Ejidos: 21 Financing sector: 3	IS	The project has sought to cooperate with and represent different stakeholder groups throughout its implementation.
ir	Jumber persons (sex disaggregated) that have been nvolved in project implementation phase (on an nnual basis)	300	386 M 116 W (39 did not specify)	1442 M 431 W (589 did not specify)	IS	As explained above, out of project participants that specified their gender, 30.7% identified as women and 69.3% identified as men.
C	lumber of engagement (e.g., meeting, workshops, onsultations) with stakeholders during the project mplementation phase (on an annual basis)	30	54	316	IS	of the recent of

ESS 3: I	Resettlement and Physical and Economic Displacement					
1.	Number of persons involved in voluntary resettlement.	NA	0	0	IS	There was no voluntary resettlement.
2.	Number of persons compensated for voluntary resettlement.	NA	0	0	IS	There was no involuntary resettlement.
3.	Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been voluntary restricted.	NA	8608	11680	IS	The project has established two additional Areas Designated Voluntarily for Conservation (ADVCs). The ADVC's inhabitants have voluntarily restricted the way their own natural resources are used. The project team follows local decision- making mechanisms when
4.	Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been involuntary restricted.	NA	0	0	IS	establishing these ADVCs. There has been no involuntary restriction of natural resources.
5.	Percentage of persons who gave their consent for voluntary restrictions.	NA	100%	100%	IS	Since the project's ADVCs are in ejidos, it must call an assembly of ejido plot owner according to Mexican law. For an assembly to be legally valid, more than 50% of plot owners must attend it. Since ejido members consent to follow these laws, the projec counts with the consent of 100% of ejido members. At the end of the meeting, the attendants provide their consent through a signed
6.	Percentage of persons who have received compensation for voluntary restrictions.	NA	100%	100%	IS	 consent through a signed assembly minute. Since the ADVCs' inhabitant received equipment for their community monitoring brigades, management plans for the area and plot georeferencing; and the fishing and shrimping POs who signed a conservation

7.	Percentage of persons who have received compensation for involuntary restrictions	NA	0%	0%	IS	agreement with the project received equipment and technical assistance, 100% of persons received compensation for voluntary restrictions. No individual received a compensation for involuntary restrictions.
ESS 4: Ir	ndigenous Peoples					
1.	Percentage of indigenous/local communities where FPIC have been followed and documented	NA	100%	100%	IS	The project follows FPIC protocols in all the rural communities it works with.
						The Project ensures that its communication is always
2.	The percentage of communities where project benefit	NA	100%	100%	IS	with the appropriate community governance
	sharing has been agreed upon through the appropriate community governance mechanisms and documented					mechanism, and its contact with communities is always documented.

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

During FY23, we have implemented tools and processes to facilitate the participation of key stakeholders in training and providing feedback on activities and strategies implemented in their respective territories. Effective communication has been established across all three levels of government, as well as with cooperatives, academia, and NGOs.

However, the inclusion of women in the committee on territorial planning faced challenges due to the predominantly male representation from government agencies. It is important to note that this issue falls outside the scope of the project, as the selection of committee members is based on candidacies rather than a direct decision by our organization.

Overall, the execution of fiscal year 23 has been marked by proactive efforts to engage relevant actors and ensure transparent and inclusive communication channels. However, the issue of gender representation in the committee on territorial planning remains an area that needs further attention and consideration.

b. ESS 8 Community Health, Safety and Security findings

Despite, ESS 8 was not part of the ESMF when the project started, the team identified the need to assess CHSS risks in the project. The "risk assessment tool" was reanalyzed to identify hazards to the health and safety of the community where the project is implemented.

Some of the needs are:

It is necessary to train the monitoring brigades in first aid, as well as in risk management with poisonous fauna.

Radio communication equipment is required for monitoring brigades for field trips.

It is necessary to continue strengthening the brigade members on gender and inclusion issues, to promote teamwork and the care of their colleagues.

The risks of organized crime have increased in the project areas, it is necessary to train the monitors in conflict management and in how to handle situations where there is intervention with illicit activities and their representatives.

Inform community representatives about the benefit of knowing/identifying the state of fauna in their communities. To avoid incidents/misunderstandings by the crossing of the monitors in the different territories.

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

Implementation of Planned Activities:

The project successfully conducted gender training sessions for producer organizations (POs) and tourist service providers. In addition, CONANP's technical departments and areas were strengthened in terms of gender considerations. These activities were part of the gender diagnosis process aimed at identifying areas of opportunity for both National Protected Areas (PAs) and Producer Organizations (POs).

Challenges in Implementing the Planned Gender Mainstreaming Activities:

Both PAs and POs managed to identify areas of opportunity for fostering inclusivity and gender equality within their organizations. At least 9 activities resulting from the diagnoses will be incorporated, and the responsible technicians will provide follow-up in collaboration with the safeguards area.

Applying Adaptive Management to Promote Women's Participation and Gender Equality:

Modifications were made to the GMP plan to ensure meaningful participation of women. An inclusive call was made during the gender workshops, and clusters of cooperatives were created to facilitate interaction between women and men from different POs.

Unintended Outcomes Related to Gender Equality:

The interaction between different POs through cluster training led to increased inclusivity among women and men in the POs. This fostered empathy regarding the diverse activities carried out by each PO and highlighted the similarities in different contexts. For example, coffee and cocoa farmers recognized the important contributions made by women, but it was through the sharing of contexts and experiences that they fully understood the concept of intersectionality and multiculturalism.

In the case of the PAs, it became evident that there are gaps and biases that need to be addressed within the institutions. They expressed a strong interest in continuing to strengthen themselves and requested support from CI for further training. Many women were able to voice their dissatisfaction with the comments and actions of men.

Recommendations for the Next Fiscal Year:

For the upcoming fiscal year, it is proposed to develop a strategy to strengthen the PAs. This can be achieved through the formation of committees within each cluster of POs, consisting of women and men. These committees will serve as agents of change within their respective organizations.

In the case of the PAs, it is recommended to provide training and support from the safeguards area to strengthen the gender committees within the PAs.

d. Information on the implementation of the accountability and grievance mechanism

Progress on the Implementation of the AGM:

a) Ensuring Stakeholder Awareness:

To ensure stakeholder awareness of the existing AGM, the project has conducted visits to each PO, delivering work plans that outline project activities, collaborating actors, and budgets. Monitoring committees for territorial planning have been established during the development process. For the next fiscal year, the project intends to disseminate it with all actors involved in the project, including counterparts and stakeholders in the landscapes. The complaint mechanism is being strengthened through a protocol developed by CI Mexico's safeguards management (CI Te Escucha), and its dissemination is being carried out by the technical area across the three landscapes.

b) Challenges in Implementing the AGM:

One of the challenges encountered was addressed by conducting visits to the POs by the project management, monitoring, and safeguards areas. During these visits, work plans were delivered to enable the POs to understand the scope of project activities and establish connections with additional actors for strengthening follow-up strategies after the project.

c) Mechanism Adaptation to Overcome Challenges:

As an adaptation, a manual for the grievance mechanism was developed, and the name was changed to "Mechanism for the Resolution of Doubts and Controversies of CI Mexico." This name change was aimed at making the mechanism more user-friendly and collecting more comprehensive information on disagreements from project beneficiaries and actors in the landscapes.

d) Adaptations to Enhance Accessibility:

To make the AGM more accessible, the name of the mechanism was changed to "Mechanism for the Resolution of Doubts and Disputes of CI Mexico," and its friendlier name is CI Te Escucha (CI Listens to You). This change was made to ensure sensitivity to cultural context and foster a more inclusive approach.

e. ESMF lessons learned and Knowledge Management Products (KMPs)¹⁴ developed and disseminated.

Learned lessons regarding the AGM

In Mexico, the word "queja" (grievance) is not pleasant, as it is often misinterpreted as "to whine." By changing the name, the complaints mechanism has become more userfriendly for project partners and beneficiaries. It should be noted that this "Mechanism for the Resolution of Questions and Controversies of CI Mexico," named publicly as "CI Te Escucha" (CI Listens to You) is applicable to all CI Mexico projects. Therefore, the dissemination of this mechanism is widespread through all technical areas of projects implementing initiatives in the same landscapes as the GEF 6 project.

f. Overall project ESMF implementation rating (To be completed by the CI-GEF Agency)

SUMMARY: PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING BY TYPE OF PLAN

ESMF PLAN REQUIRED BY THE PROJECT	CURRENT FY23 IMPLEMENTATION RATING	RATING TREND
Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	HS	Unchanged.
Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP)	S	Unchanged.
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	HS	Unchanged.
ESS 3: Voluntary Resettlement Action Plan/Process Framework	S	Decreasing
ESS 4: Indigenous Peoples Plan	HS	Unchanged

OVERALL PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING

RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
HS	The project demonstrated this year, and after the supervision visit in November 2022, to have adapted their AGM to better suit the needs of their stakeholders, including for example a change in the name of the AGM and a procedure to receive oral grievances. There is also evidence that the adapted AGM (that is now a national level one) was socialized with project stakeholders during the last quarters of the year. On the GMP, this year women's participation continues to be low (between 20 and 25 percent). Nevertheless, the team has invested time and efforts in assessing and understanding more in-depth gender relations, gaps and opportunities in the POs they are working with and has also influenced that several plans and strategies supported by the project, incorporate gender considerations. The team is also underway to implement the recommendations from the gender and youth consultancy, and from the CI-GEF ESMF	Unchanged.

¹⁴ Knowledge Management Products are those that are both intended to transmit knowledge but at the same time enable action by their audiences. For example, a lessons learned report, compilation of good practices and recommendations, etc.

SUMMARY: PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING BY TYPE OF PLAN

ESMF PLAN REQUIRED BY THE PROJECT	CURRENT FY23 IMPLEMENTATION RATING	RATING TREND
	supervision visit. On ESS 3, the project team has continued to formalize agreements with communities, using their recognized governance/decision-making bodies and procedures. On ESS4 the time has implemented FPIC processes with indigenous communities. During the visit it was possible to observe that the Chiapas POERT implemented FPIC also with Afro-Mexican communities, and other rural communities.	

g. Recommendations (*To be completed by the CI-GEF Agency*)

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
The project team should share with the CI-GEF Agency the results of the risk assessment they undertook on community, health, safety and security and the mitigation measures identified.	PMU	October 2023
The PMU to share with the CI-GEF Agency the final version of the action plan and responses that were prepared following the ESMF supervision visit, highlighting those that were already implemented.	PMU	October 2023
With support from the CI-GEF ESMF Team, the project should share their lessons learned and good practices in adapting their AGM with other project teams as a peer-to-peer exchange exercise.	PMU and CI-GEF ESMF Team	June 2024

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

Required topics.

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

As outlined in the CEO endorsement, the project has promoted the participation of key stakeholders in the analysis and dissemination of project methods and results.

One of the activities defined in the CEO endorsement document is the presentation of the project to Protected Areas (PA) advisory councils in the priority landscapes. The team has presented the project and worked closely with PA advisory councils, ensuring their participation in the project and representativity in governance mechanisms this way the project consolidated the Red CAPAS (Advisory Councils of the South Pacific Network). The project hopes that the Red CAPAS will play an important role in ensuring the voice of communities in PA are heard. Furthermore, the Red CAPAS's representatives have access to the governance bodies developed by the project through this mechanism.

The CEO endorsement document also delineates that the project must hold institutional forums with the productive, academic and government sectors. This year, the project organized five interagency and intersectoral meetings/forums and consultation forums. These have ranged from institutional forums to align activities of governmental, private, and civil society initiatives in a specific PIS to coffee, cacao, fishing, and tourism fairs to promote sustainable practices and consumption among governmental institutions, private organizations, and general public.

Additionally, as required in the aforementioned document, the team has systematized their learned lessons when promoting and training the adoption of sustainable practices. This is the first of a string of knowledge management activities that the Monitoring and Evaluation team of the project is coordinating. During the exchange of experiences in which this topic was discussed, the team touched on broad topics including the varied intervention methods needed for each value chain, ecosystem restoration, and how to integrate women and youth in the male-dominated and aging agricultural sector.

Lastly, the project designed and implemented a course on Integrated Landscape Management. The goal of this course was to train key stakeholders in the concept of integrated landscape management. Considering that multiple of the course's participants are active in areas beyond the project's three landscapes, it is an effective method to scale up the impact of the project and disseminate the integrated landscape management concept in other areas of Mexico.

In summary, the lesson learned is that involving and collaborating with diverse stakeholders, fostering interagency cooperation, and promoting capacity building and knowledge dissemination are essential strategies to achieve successful conservation and sustainable development outcomes. These practices enhance the effectiveness, inclusivity, and long-term impact of such projects.

2. Capacity building

The project's strategy has centered from the start on first finding a buyer to guide producer organizations on market trends and needs based on their feedback, the project would afterwards strengthen them towards what the market demands. While the presence of a partner to offer feedback and support is crucial, the team has learned that premature entry into new markets can have adverse effects if the producer organization has not yet developed the necessary organizational skills and social capital stock.

A livestock group served as a noteworthy case study for the project team in understanding this phenomenon. The project had been collaborating with this group since 2019, when CONANP facilitated their introduction to the markets staff in Sierra Madre. Unlike other producer organizations, which faced greater challenges in establishing buyer connections, this particular group quickly established a partnership with a niche buyer in Mexico City interested in sustainable dairy products. The group successfully delivered its initial dairy product shipment without any issues. However, soon after, the COVID-19 pandemic struck, significantly impacting the buyer's financial capacity to fulfill payment obligations to its suppliers. As a result, the buyer fell behind on payments to the livestock

group for a period of three months, triggering internal discord within the group regarding the appropriate course of action. Some members advocated for reverting to local milk production instead of continuing to sell dairy products.

The project team intervened by linking the group with an alternative buyer that supplies to nearby cities. The interested buyer expressed satisfaction with the group's product samples and proceeded to place further orders. Unfortunately, the group's commitment to maintaining high product quality waned after the initial successful order. The decline in quality did not go unnoticed by the buyer, who subsequently terminated the commercial relationship. This setback created further internal strife within the organization, leading to a prolonged impasse on the way forward, lasting several months. Eventually, the producers and the project reached a consensus, determining that the group should resume selling milk locally, with the project focusing on fortifying their organizational practices.

Had the team focused on developing stronger organizational, administrative, technical and governance capacities in the beginning, it would have been more resilient to these types of setbacks. Without a strong social capital, administrative, technical, and organizational capacity to understand and respond to market dynamics, an organization may struggle to succeed in the market.

In comparison, the project had the opposite experience with POs that were strengthened before they accessed markets. For example, a coffee and cacao producer organization in Oaxaca was markedly weak in its organizational capacity. Established originally as a mechanism through which to access subsidies for coffee producers, the organization lost the majority of its members when subsidies declined. Viewing the PO's potential, the team worked to stabilize the organization, holding training workshops and strategic planning meetings to consolidate their organizational capacity. After their organizational consolidation, they were linked with a buyer in Oaxaca City. The partnership has proven to be lasting and successful, and the organization itself has become remarkably resilient.

The lesson learned is the importance of balancing market entry with adequate organizational development and strong social capital, which allows to face challenges without compromising social cohesion. It has also highlighted the need for producer organizations to possess the requisite administrative, service, procurement and human resource management skills and capacity before venturing into new markets. The project team has internalized the significance of sustainable growth and the need to carefully manage partnerships, ensuring that producer organizations are equipped to meet market demands while maintaining consistent product quality.

3. Implementation of safeguard policies, including gender mainstreaming, accountability and grievance mechanisms, stakeholder consultations

After a comprehensive review of the year's experiences, the team has underscored certain valuable lessons. The lack of prioritization and suitable tools to ensure the active participation of women has been identified as a significant concern. Therefore, it is strongly encouraged to integrate gender-inclusive criteria into project selection and evaluation processes as well as give prominence to projects involving or benefiting women.

Engaging young people in agricultural activities has proven to be a challenging task for the project. Recognizing the influence of parental guidance in cultivating an appreciation for agricultural work, sports-based approaches have been acknowledged as effective in attracting and retaining youth. Going forward, it is advisable to design interactive sessions that cater to the specific interests and preferences of young individuals.

Childcare responsibilities have emerged as a substantial barrier to women's participation, as mothers and grandmothers face difficulties attending advisory council meetings. To overcome this hurdle, participants have proposed the use of educational materials, games, and activities, such as puppets, to keep children entertained during sessions. This would enable mothers and grandmothers to fully engage in the meeting.

Discussions have emphasized the importance of involving women and children in environmental education initiatives, with the aim of promoting gender equality and youth participation. Overcoming implementation challenges stemming from cultural norms and limited resources has been recognized as an

ongoing obstacle. Hence, tailored educational approaches that consider the specific needs and preferences of children, incorporating playful elements, interactive activities, and age-appropriate materials, are deemed essential for effective engagement.

Furthermore, concerns have been raised regarding the diminishing connection between children and nature, which can be attributed to urbanization, technology, and limited outdoor experiences. To reestablish this vital bond, participants have suggested organizing outdoor field trips, creating nature-based learning experiences, and encouraging unstructured play in natural settings.

Environmental education has been identified as a crucial catalyst for bridging the gap between children and the environment. Hands-on activities, immersive experiences, and storytelling have been highlighted as effective methods for nurturing a deep and enduring connection with nature.

Overcoming barriers such as time constraints, safety concerns, and limited access to green spaces necessitates collaborative efforts from educators, parents, and communities. Additionally, integrating technology, including digital resources, interactive applications, and virtual reality experiences, has been recognized as a potential tool to reconnect children with the environment.

SECTION VI: PROJECT GEOCODING

This section of the PIR documents the precise and specific geographic location(s) of activities supported by GEF investments based on information provided in the Project Document. The following information should be contained in this section:

- a. Geo Location Information of Project Location(s) for the current fiscal year
- b. Project Map and Coordinates from Project Document

Geo Location Information of Project Location(s) for the current fiscal year (add additional columns as needed)

Geo Location Information	Location No. 1	Location No. 2	Location No. 3
CLASSIFICATION	Existing in previous	Existing in previous	Existing in previous
Indicate whether the site is NEW (for new sites this FY23), EXISTING (already existing in	PIRs and ProDoc	PIRs and ProDoc	PIRs and ProDoc
the previous PIR) or CEO Endorsed/Approved (indicate whether the site is included at			
CEO Endorsement/Approval). Please add more columns for projects with more than 3			
locations.			
Note: if the site is NEW, provide a justification in the box after this table			
GEO NAME ID	3523774	3516105	3800541
Provide the location's Geo Name ID in a numerical format. IDs are available in the			
GeoNames' geographical database covering all countries and containing millions of			
placenames with free access at: <u>http://www.geonames.org</u> .			

LOCATION NAME Name of the geographic locations in which the activity is taking place. In instance when a GeoNames ID is provided above, the name of the said ID should be reflected. Otherwise, the location name provided will be considered as an exact location.	Sierra Madre of Chiapas	Sierra Sur and Isthmus of Oaxaca (sharing geo name ID for Isthmus, Sierra Sur's is not available)	Pacific South Coast of Oaxaca and Chiapas (no geoname available, we are adding the geo name ID for a bay near the center of the area)
LATITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	15.4884	15.9925	16.3193
LONGITUDE Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.	-92.5923	-96.0892	-94.8975
LOCATION DESCRIPTION (Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the location in which an activity is taking place, such as for example "mini-grid energy system" or "park ranger site".	Tropical mountainous landscape.	Tropical mountainous landscape.	Coastal landscape.
ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION (Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the activity taking place at the location, for example, "Installing a mini-grid energy system".	Land use planning, strengthening conservation, improving sustainability of value chains, boosting financing.	Land use planning, strengthening conservation, improving sustainability of value chains, boosting financing.	Land use planning, strengthening conservation, improving sustainability of value chains, boosting financing.

Please provide a justification regarding changes in location during implementation. Justifications should also be provided in the event the geographic location of key project activities cannot be provided at CEO Endorsement/Approval stage.

(Geo Name ID: Location Name)

Justification:

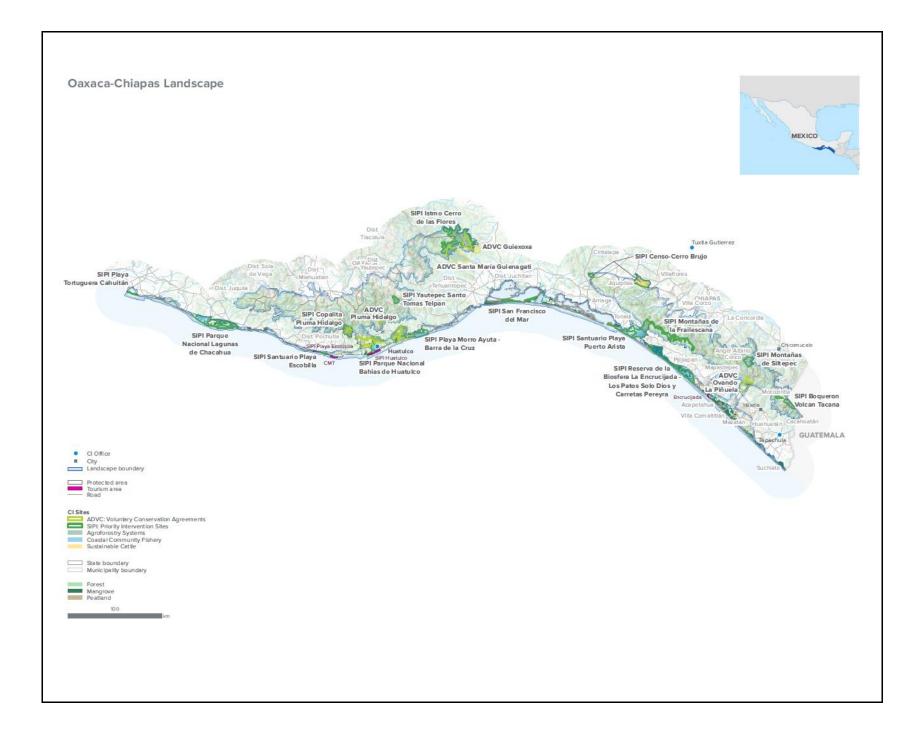
Project Map and Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and an image map where the project interventions took place. If available, please provide attachments as appropriate such as in the case of locations presented along geometric shapes in popular formats like shapefiles, KML and GeoJSON.

(Geo Name ID: Location Name):

https://conservation.sharepoint.com/:f:/t/Extranet/mexico/Enpf5PUIBkFGuIHCY8QRpXsB7os9YxCucQBnrvjZz1lrPQ

Map:



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)	Μ	
Substantial (S)	S	
High (H)	Н	

- 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 ¹⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome 1.1 Integrated management of protected areas.	ent of three priority landscapes for bi	odiversity conservation is substa	ntially strengthened through land	l-use planning and the expansion and
Output Indicator 1.1.1: Number of gender-sensitive land use plans at an integrated landscape level.	Target: At least 1	2	CA	 The project has conducted two land use plans at an integrated landscape level. The first covers the Sierra Madre and Coast of Chiapas, along with the watersheds that connect them. The second covers the Sierra Sur and Coast of Oaxaca, along with the watersheds that connect them.
Output Indicator 1.1.2: Number of gender-sensitive annual operational plans, one per federal Protected Area (PA), to be updated each year during the lifetime of this project.	Target: 9 operational plans per year	9	IS	 The team facilitated the integration of gender into the operational plans of the following nine federal protected areas. 1. Tacaná Volcano Biosphere Reserve, 2. El Triunfo Biosphere Reserve, 3. La Sepultura Biosphere Reserve, 4. La Frailescana Natural Resources Protection Area, 5. La Encrucijada Biosphere Reserve, 6. Puerto Arista Marine Turtle Sanctuary, 7. Lagunas de Chacahua National Park, 8. La Escobilla Marine Turtle Sanctuary, 9. Huatulco National Park.

¹⁵ **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

Output Indicator 1.1.3: Number of Biodiversity monitoring protocols developed and implemented in each landscape. Output Indicator 1.1.4: The Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) model for biodiversity conservation is validated by the coordinating body in each priority landscape.	Target: 15 Target: Model validated in Y2	15 Model remains not validated.	D	As mentioned in the Outcomes section, the fifteen monitoring protocols are ongoing in thirteen PIS. The reason why monitoring protocols could not be established in the remaining three PIS are also explained in the Outcomes section. In light of this year's successful completion of brigadier training, with the newly trained team fully implementing the conservation and monitoring plans, the Project considers that it has effectively achieved the target for this activity. The team has concluded that this process will extend to FY24, to develop a solid ILM model with enough detail and stakeholder participation. The team realized that most stakeholders had different visions of what Integrated Landscape Management meant. To align their perspectives, agree on a definition, and understand the method of developing a model, the project designed an Integrated Landscape Management diploma. The project team, CONANP staff, and key
Outcome 1.2 Expansion of protected	ed areas with globally significant bio	diversity		stakeholders have taken this course.
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).	Target: 95%	100%	IS	The project has conducted and received the FPIC of the four communities that it has certified as ADVCs. It is also following processes to acquire the FPIC of the seven communities that will be certified as ADVCs in FY24.

Output Indicator 1.2.2: Number of hectares certified as Areas Destined Voluntarily to Conservation (ADVC).	Target: 102,403 ha	60,454.8 ha	IS	As mentioned in the Outcomes section, the project successfully certified two additional ADVCs (Ovando - La Piñuela and Guiexoxa - Guishido Nabajni) totaling 23,601 ha.
Outcome 1.3 Governance in the thr	ee priority landscapes with multi-sta	akeholder and multi-sector partic	ipation improved.	
Output Indicator 1.3.1: Percentage of key stakeholders that are represented in the three governance bodies for integrated landscape planning and management.	Target: 70%	100%	СА	This target was marked as completed in FY21. The project has continued to work with 100% of the key stakeholder groups.
Output Indicator 1.3.2: Percentage of women participating in ILM governance mechanisms.	Target: 30% of women out of a baseline of 15%	29.4%	CA	The project has achieved that 29.4% of participants in the ILM governance mechanisms were women. Given that the difference with the target is only 0.6%, it considers it has completed this target.
Output Indicator 1.3.3: Percentage of indigenous peoples and afro descendants participating in ILM governance mechanisms.	Targets: 20% of Indigenous Peoples and afro descendants, consistent with proportion within the population of the three landscapes.	19.3%	СА	The project has achieved an 18.5% of participation by people who identify as Indigenous, and 0.8% identified as afro Mexicans. Given that the difference with the target is only 0.7%, it considers it has completed this target.
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	6.4%	IS	The project has achieved a 6.4% of participation by youths. The project will put emphasis on youth participation during this last year and a half of implementation to reach this target.

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.	Target: At least 9 POs	Twenty-seven POs	CA	 The Project works with the following POs: 1. Café Capitán (coffee) 2. Productores Orgánicos de Tacaná (coffee) 3. CUCOS (coffee and cacao) 4. UCIRI (coffee and cacao) 5. Cacao del Alto (cacao) 6. Copropiedad Niños Héroes (resin) 7. Ejido California (resin) 8. Corazón del Valle (resin) 9. Raymundo Flores (livestock) 10. Luchadores de El Castaño (fishing) 11. Agostaderos de Topón (fishing) 12. El Carrizal (fishing) 13. Ribereña Santa María (fishing) 14. Costa Oaxaqueña (fishing) 15. Nuevo Horizonte Marino (fishing) 16. Punta Paraíso (fishing) 17. Pesquería Guadalupe (fishing) 18. La Salina Escobilla (tourism) 19. Senderos y Humedales (tourism) 20. Aquabuses (tourism) 21. El Madresal (tourism) 22. Las Ninfas (tourism) 23. Yoo'Nashi (tourism) 24. La Ventanilla (tourism) 25. Museo Comunitario de la Tortuga Marina (tourism)
				25. Museo Comunitario de la

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, which participate in transforming conventional production into sustainable production practices in the 16 PIS and 10 PAs	Targets: At least 1,000 producers, seeking proportional participation of M/W, IP and Afro-descendants and youth	1,528 producers	IS	The project directly works with 1,528 producers in seven value chains. Out of these, 489 are women (32%), and 1,039 are men (68%). Additionally, 242 are Indigenous (16%).
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 1 per landscape.	0 demonstration cases	IS	The team has three exemplary candidates to become the project's demonstration cases (CUCOS, Café Capitán and Agostaderos de Topón). The next step will be to systematize why they are successful cases and disseminate them with the appropriate public.
Outcome 2.2 Increased income of a	members of Producer Organizations	(PO) that have adopted sustainable	e production practices with a ma	rket-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	18 POs	CA	The following 18 PO have received feedback from at least one buyer regarding their products or operations during the development of their value chains. - Café Capitán, - Cacao del Alto, - Orgánicos del Tacaná, - Los Ángeles, - UCIRI, - CUCOS, - Nueztlan, - Agostaderos de Topón, - Luchadores del Castaño, - El Carrizal, - Yoo´nashi, - La Ventanilla, - La Salina Escobilla, - Senderos y Humedales, - Aquabuses, - Madresal, - Las Ninfas, - Lagunas de Chacahua, - Museo Comunitario de la Tortuga. The Project considers this target to be completed.
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Output Indicator 2.2.2: Number of PO that benefit from financial mechanisms for investment in sustainable practices and value chain development.	Target: At least 3.	2 PO	IS	Café Capitán and UCIRI have secured financing through the project Sustainable Landscape Ventures' Blended Finance Engine. The project participated in the creation of Sustainable Landscape Ventures and facilitated contact between the project and POs with potential to participate in it. Throughout its implementation, the team has aligned activities with SLV, including the joint design of Conservation Agreements. It is expected that CUCOS will access financing by the end of FY24.
Output Indicator 2.2.3: Number of value chains that reach new markets.	Target: 7 POs	5 PO	IS	 Throughout the project implementation phase, it has assisted the following value chains to access new markets: Coffee: International markets. Cacao: Niche Oaxacan market (higher price than national market) Livestock (dairy): Niche markets in Mexico City. Cashew: Niche markets in Mexico City. Tourism: Online markets.
Outcome 3.1: Increasing financia	l sustainability in the integrated m	anagement of the three priority	landscapes	

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.	Target: At least 7 support programs	16	CA	 The following public and private institutions have aligned activities that supported or coordinated with project objectives (not counting the ProDoc's counterpart pledges). Mexican Environment Secretariat (SEMARNAT), Fondo Oaxaqueño, Sociedad de historia Natural Niparajá AC, La Frailescana, Master Chef, INTERCAFE, SmartFish AC, Comité Oaxaqueño de Sanidad e Inocuidad Acuícola A.C. (COSIA), Chiapas Environment Secretariat (SEMAHN, its contribution has surpassed original cofinancing pledge), SEMARNAT (Chiapas delegation), Mexican Forest Commission (CONAFOR), Oaxaca Environment Secretariat (SEMAEDESO), Sustainable Landscape Ventures (SLV), Agosteros de Topón, Café Capitán, Priceless Planet Coalition.
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Output Indicator 3.1.2: Number of financial sources 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 for ILM and SPP activities in the three landscapes.	Target: At least 1 financial mechanisms	1 financial mechanism	D	The SLV project began implementation last year, and its Blended Finance Engine has successfully secured financing for two of the project's organizations this year. Parallelly, in partnership with the El Triunfo Conservation Fund (FONCET), the project has completed the design of the Huatulco Fund. However, it will not be operational until administrative processes are completed in FY24.
				processes are completed in FY24.