

## Terminal Evaluation Management Response Matrix

<b>Project Title:</b>	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity in Priority Landscapes of Oaxaca and Chiapas
<b>Executing Agency:</b>	National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP) Conservation International Mexico, A.C. CI Mexico
<b>Duration:</b>	02/2018 – 04/2025
<b>GEF Grant Amount:</b>	\$7,219,450
<b>Date of Evaluation:</b>	1/07/2019 - 1/05/2024
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The CI-GEF and partners are providing a management response to the terminal evaluation report prepared by FOKABS. The following are recommendations/comments from the management team in relation to the content of the draft evaluation report.

### General Comments:

#### A. Lessons Learned

- 1. Adaptive management.** At the time of inception of the project, COVID-19 had not started and was therefore not identified as a risk of the project implementation. However, it became an actual risk that caused delays and/or slowed down project implementation. To mitigate this unforeseen hindrance, adjustments were made to the project activities to accommodate the travel and physical meeting restrictions imposed by governments due to the pandemic. Project staff switched to remote and hybrid mode of work as well as virtual meetings to help them implement the planned activities, such as stakeholder consultations. Health measures were put in place to ensure the safety of the project staff and other partners involved in the implementation. However, even though the project already put in place adaptive measures, COVID-19 slowed down during implementation. Putting in place adaptive management strategies will also help a project of this nature to better mitigate unexpected events that bring delays to its implementation.
- 2. The project fostered inclusiveness by involving the private sector, indigenous people, Afro-descendants, youth and women.** Among the stakeholder groups, there are private sector organizations who had committed to co-financing the project, such as the ADO Foundation, ALSEA and DANONE, although their co-financing did not materialize. Efforts were made to ensure the participation of women, indigenous peoples, people of Afro-

descendant origin and youth in project activities, in the selection of stakeholders throughout the project implementation, taking into consideration their needs and interests as a minority or vulnerable group and putting measures in place to monitor and enhance their participation. The gender analysis developed at the inception phase of the project and the stakeholder engagement plan enabled this to happen.

3. **Continuous close collaboration amongst the project stakeholders, creates a sense of ownership and encourages a strong participation in project activities.** The Sustainable Landscapes project did well in bringing diverse stakeholders from all levels of government all through the project, starting from the design phase through implementation. Stakeholder consultations facilitated the selection of project stakeholders who showed a strong sense of engagement, which may have positively impacted progress in achieving expected outcomes.

## B. Recommendations

	TERMINAL EVALUATION RECOMMENDATIONS	CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL'S RESPONSES
<b>Sustainability</b>		
1.	For the successful achievement of project results and future interventions of this nature, long-term partnerships established during project implementation will need to be maintained even after the project ends.	Noted, CI Mexico as the Executing Agency is set to keep working with partners and keep the relationships established in the field.
2.	The project experienced delays due to political disruptions. For future initiative, it will be worthwhile to have contingency planning for potential social and political disruptions. In this way, the project will be better able to deal with these once they arise.	Noted. CI as an institution, on prioritizes engaging with new governments and actively including them in project engagement as soon as they take office to ensure better engagement of new governments. We will continue doing this with our current and future portfolio.
3.	This project has created awareness on the causes of land degradation and the importance of biodiversity conservation and landscape management. For these benefits to have a long-lasting impact, they will need to continue monitoring the factors impacting landscapes.	Noted. Land degradation is a key issue for Conservation International. During the GEF 8 cycle, CI-GEF will implement a project (ID 11121) within the Ecosystem Restoration Impact Program that is building on the results of this project.
<b>Knowledge management</b>		
4.	Continuous awareness-raising and education is imperative, through reports,	Noted. Continuous awareness-raising and education will continue to be prioritized.

	<b>TERMINAL EVALUATION RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL'S RESPONSES</b>
	social media and project partner websites, to widen the audience and create impact.	