



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2022 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

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1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	Latin America and the Caribbean
Country (ies):	Argentina
Project Title:	Governance Strengthening for the Management and Protection of Coastal- Marine Biodiversity in Key Ecological Areas and the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EEP in Spanish)
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/ARG/025/GFF
GEF ID:	5112
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity
Project Executing Partners:	FAO-Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS) and Federal Fisheries Council (CFP in Spanish)
Project Duration (years):	66 months / 5,5 years
Project coordinates:	-34.615744, -58.414771 -36.35694, -56.72351 -38.00042, -57.5562 -40.73193, -64.94769 -42.7692, -65.03851 -43.24895, -65.30505 -54.81084, -68.31591

Project Dates

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	16 September 2016
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	1 May 2017
Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	30 November 2022
Revised project implementation end date (if approved) ²	n/a

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	3,534,786
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc³:	15,821,620
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2022 (USD)⁴:	2,465,581

¹ As per FPMIS

² If NTE extension has been requested and approved by the FAO-GEF CU.

³ This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO document/Project Document.

⁴ For DEX projects, the GEF Coordination Unit will confirm the final amount with the Finance Division in HQ. For OPIM projects, the disbursement amount should be provided by Execution Partners.

Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2022⁵	8,100,235.4
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M&E Milestones

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:	21 December 2021. Zoom meeting of Project Technical Consultative Committee (TCC)
Expected Mid-term Review date⁶:	June 2019
Actual Mid-term review date (when it is done):	September 2019
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date⁷:	<i>n/a</i>
Tracking tools/Core indicators updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)	<i>YES</i>

Overall ratings

Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):	<i>Moderately Satisfactory</i>
Overall implementation progress rating:	<i>Satisfactory</i>
Overall risk rating:	<i>Substantial</i>

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	<i>Low</i>
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Status

Implementation Status (1st PIR, 2nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):	5 th PIR
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Project Contacts

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⁵ Please refer to the section 12 of this report where updated co-financing estimates are requested and indicate the total co-financing amount materialized.

⁶ The Mid-Term Review (MTR) should take place after the 2nd PIR, around half-point between EOD and NTE. The MTR report in English should be submitted to the GEF Secretariat within 4 years of the CEO Endorsement date.

⁷ The Terminal Evaluation date should be discussed with OED 6 months before the project's NTE date.

2. Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s) (Development Objective)

(All inputs in this section should be cumulative from project start, not annual)

Please indicate the project's main progress towards achieving its objective(s) and the cumulative level of achievement of each outcome since the start of project implementation.

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	⁹ Mid-term Target ¹⁰	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹¹ since project start Level at 30 June 2022	¹² Progress rating ¹³
The project's global environmental objective is to strengthen management capabilities and protection of marine biodiversity in environmentally	Outcome 1: Improved protection of marine ecosystems with globally significant biodiversity in key areas by supporting the Namuncura/Burdwood Bank Enforcement Authority for managing the Marine Protected Area (AMP in Spanish) and its transition zones, and creating a new protected area, established	Indicator 1.1.1: 9.000 km ² increase in the area covered by the MPA.	Area covered by AMP: approximately 4% of the total EEZ areas and territorial sea is preserved (65.000 km ²).	-	9.000 km ² along the Valdes Front are added as a new MPA.	In December 2018, a scientific research campaign was conducted in the Valdés Front to evaluate oceanographic and biological information in order to build an environmental baseline. At the same time, a document with socioeconomic fishing information for the Valdés Front was prepared. With this previous information and in collaboration with the contributing researchers, the environmental and socioeconomic baseline document for the Valdes Front area was elaborated. In 2021, the document was presented to the Federal Fisheries	MS

⁸ This is taken from the approved results framework of the project.

⁹

¹⁰ Some indicators may not identify mid-term targets at the design stage (refer to approved results framework) therefore this column should only be filled when relevant.

¹¹ Please report on results obtained in terms of Global Environmental Benefits and Socio-economic Co-benefits as well.

¹²

¹³ Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory (HS)**, **Satisfactory (S)**, **Moderately Satisfactory (MS)**, **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)**, **Unsatisfactory (U)**, and **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)**.

significant areas by creating new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and applying the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF). The project's development objective is to enhance knowledge on biological, ecological, social and economic aspects of marine ecosystems and their biodiversity, with a view to managing the protection of key	beyond the 12 miles of Territorial Waters					Council, which endorsed the proposal for the creation of the MPA of the Valdés Front. Currently, the Frente Valdés MPA Law Project is drafted and under review by the legal area of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, for interaction with the Federal Fisheries Council, the Undersecretary of Fisheries and the National Directorate of Protected Areas. The Frente Valdés MPA Law is expected to be submitted to the Congress through the Executive.	
		Indicator 1.1.2: GEF Biodiversity METT score for the Namuncurá-Burdwood Bank Marine Protected Area (NBBMPA).	GEF BD METT score for Namuncurá: 21.	GEF BD METT score for NBBMPA: 26.	GEF BD METT score NBBMPA: 45.	100% of the Project goals were met in the second year of the project.	HS
		Indicator 1.1.3: GEF biodiversity METT score for the other new MPA to be created.	GEF biodiversity METT score for the other new MPA to be created: 0	-	GEF BD METT score for the other new MPA to be created: 33	This goal is linked to the creation of the FV-AMP.	MU
	Outcome 2.1: Those responsible for fisheries implement effective EAF practices.	Indicator 2.1.1: Number of companies adopting EAF in their operations.	Regulatory frameworks include some ecological, social and economic aspects in	At least two (2) industrial fishing companies	At least two (2) industrial fishing companies	Two industrial fishing companies have been contacted and participated since the beginning of the Project: Glaciar Pesquera SA and Wanchese Argentina SRL. Both adopted selectivity practices	S

<p>biodiversity areas and minimizing the negative impact of fisheries on biodiversity by applying EAF.</p>			<p>specific fisheries, but they need to be integrated</p>	<p>(offshore and coastal) and one (1) artisanal fishing company identified and contacted . Active participation in workshops and meetings of the project.</p>	<p>(offshore and coastal) and one (1) artisanal fishing adopt selective practices developed in the project</p>	<p>developed in the project (LoA-INIDEP, 2018). Both operate in the scallop fishery and are MSC certified. Both are very active participants in the EAF Management Plan for the scallop fishery. The Project (LoA-IIMyC/UNMDP) began with a process of research and articulation of actions with the industry to mitigate bycatch in the coastal anchovy fishery. Participated in the implementation of face-to-face and virtual workshops and personalized meetings with companies associated in the "Grupo Promotor Anchoita Bonaerense". These companies are working in the MSC recertification on the anchovy fishery. An agreement was signed with the Asociación de Pescadores Costeros, the Asociación de Armadores de Pesca Artesanal, the Asociación de Pescadores Artesanales and the Sindicato Argentino de Pescadores Artesanales (LoA-FVSA, 2018), which represent artisanal fishermen in Bahía Samborombón and Cabo San Antonio, in the province of Buenos Aires. A successful pilot plan was developed with them that consisted of placing pingers in their fishing nets, which emit an</p>	
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						audible signal in a frequency that only dolphins can hear, so that when the dolphin is close to the net, it hears a signal that alerts it and avoids the net, avoiding bycatch without affecting at the same time the capture of fish targeted by the fishery. It is pending, with the government of the province of Buenos Aires, to advance in the regulation and implementation of the use of acoustic alarms.	
		<p>Indicator 2.1.2: Minutes of the Federal Fisheries Council (CFP in Spanish) spelling out the commitment to adopt EAF in its regulations.</p>		<p>Development of a management plan with Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries</p>	<p>At least one minutes in which the Federal Fisheries Council (CFP in Spanish) establishes its commitment to the general principles of the ecosystem approach to fisheries</p>	<p>The indicator was achieved, at least, as of CFP's Minute 8/2019 where it states: "7. BYCATCH. In order to continue with the analysis of measures to reduce bycatch in Argentine commercial fisheries, and in the framework of the actions that the Council develops from an ecosystem approach to fisheries, it is unanimously decided to create a working committee to strengthen bycatch reduction measures in fisheries, which shall be composed of members of the CFP, technicians of the Authority of Application, INIDEP technicians, representatives of the private sector, and other experts in the field. To this end, the Authority of Application is instructed to</p>	<p>S</p>

						<p>proceed with the creation of the Commission and to coordinate its activities.”</p> <p>Also, the principles of the EAF are contained in Law 24.922, Federal Fishing Regime, which creates the Federal Fishing Council, in its "ARTICLE 1°- The Argentine Nation will encourage the exercise of maritime fishing in pursuit of the maximum development compatible with the rational use of marine living resources. It shall promote the effective protection of the national interests related to fishing and shall promote the sustainability of the fishing activity, encouraging the long-term conservation of the resources, favoring the development of environmentally appropriate industrial processes that promote the obtaining of the maximum added value and the greatest employment of Argentine labor."</p>	
	<p>Outcome 2.2: An information and monitoring management system with required tools to provide socio-economic data and information on selectivity, best practices and mitigation measures, facilitating decision</p>	<p>Indicator 2.2.1: Information management and monitoring system operational with the necessary capacities.</p>	<p>Current systems don't have sufficient socio-economic information to guide the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries. There isn't a monitoring</p>	<p>The current systems do not provide enough socioeconomic information so as to guide the</p>	<p>CFP and monitoring committee decisions by fishery sector use information on ecosystem</p>	<p>The Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture, as Authority of Application, that has the functions of conducting and executing the national fisheries policy established Provision No. 154/2020 - Approve the Integrated Fisheries Information System (SIIP), as a computer system for the storage, systematization and articulation of the information related to all fishing activity,</p>	<p>S</p>

<p>making on the application of the EEP in the public and private spheres.</p>		<p>system based on indicators of sex, age and vulnerable groups</p>	<p>implementation of EAF. There is no monitoring system based on indicators disaggregated by sex, age and vulnerable groups</p>	<p>and socioeconomic indicators for their decision-making.</p>	<p>replacing any other system in use. On the other hand, the Federal System of Information on Fishing and Aquaculture (SiFIPA) has approved as an external platform for the management of procedures required by the Authority of Application to those administered, and for the secure exchange of information with the provincial jurisdictions. The SiFIPA will operate as an exchange node between the SIIP and the existing databases in the dependencies of the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture with the purpose of producing, obtaining, articulating and/or storing the information required from those administered. Since its inception, the Project has been working on the development of social and economic indicators, promoting the gender and vulnerable groups approach to be incorporated into the SIIP (LoA-UNMDP, UNPSJB; consultancies on social indicators and gender approach).</p>	
<p>Outcome 3.1: Project implementation is results-oriented and project outcomes and lessons learned will be applied in future operations.</p>	<p>Indicator 3.1.1: Percentage of activities carried out within the timeframe established by the work plan.</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>48%</p>	<p>95%</p>	<p>Considering the five years of project execution, many of the results have been achieved. However, institutional changes at different levels of government and in the executing agency, as well as mobility constraints due to the COVID-19 pandemic, affected the</p>	<p>MS</p>

						original project implementation schedule. Nevertheless, a monitoring specialist joined the project team to ensure as many results as possible within the stipulated timeframe.	
		Indicator 3.1.2: Percentage of budget lines implemented according to the work plan.	n/a	40%	80%	The difficulty in executing activities on time plus the effect of the devaluation of the Argentinean currency (peso) had a direct impact on financial execution. However, in 2021, an administrative-financial assistant was added to the project team to try to achieve the execution of the budget lines on schedule.	MS

Action Plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Outcome 1 Indicator 1.1.1. 9.000 km ² increase in the area covered by the MPA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen institutional relations with key project partners to enhance the validation process of the law draft, its presentation and support in congress. 	MAYDS	December 2022
Outcome 1 Indicator 1.1.3: GEF biodiversity METT score for the other new MPA to be created.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen institutional relations with key project partners to enhance the validation process of the law draft, its presentation and support in congress. Include specific activities for 2023 to reinforce Law draft treatment in the congress. 	MAYDS MAYDS-FAO	December 2022 May 2023
Outcome 3.1: Project implementation is results-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve Project's monitoring tools to improve pace of implementation. 	Project Unit	December 2022

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
oriented and project outcomes and lessons learned will be applied in future operations.			

3. Implementation Progress (IP)

(Please indicate progress achieved during this FY as per the Implementation Plan/Annual Workplan)

Outcomes and Outputs ¹⁴	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹⁵ (please avoid repeating results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁶ in delivering outputs
Output 1.1.1. One (1) new MPA geographically designed and delimited, with a participatory management plan outlined for the “Chubut Front Corridor”, accounting for at least 25% of its total area (37.000 km ²).	Indicator 1.1.1.1: A bill for a new MPA on the Valdes Front prepared and approved by MAYDS.	A bill for the creation of the new MPA formulated.	The Valdés Front MPA Law project has started the administrative process (EX-2022-53562707- -APN-DGAYF#MAD) and is under review by the legal area of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. Additionally, in the first quarter of 2022 a consultant started lobbying in different political areas.	
Output 1.1.2. Support to the implementation of the Namuncurá Burdwood Bank MPA (NBBMPA) Management Plan.	Indicator 1.1.2.1: Management Plan for the NBBMPA implemented through the Biennial Operating Plan approved through 2019.	1 (one) Management Plan implemented.	100% of the Project goal was met in the second year of the project.	
	Indicator 1.1.2.2: Percentage of the monitoring programme activities established in the new Namuncurá-Burdwood Bank I and II MPA Management Plan implemented.	At least 50% of the monitoring programme established in the new Namuncurá-Burdwood Bank I and II MPA Management Plan to be implemented.	The consultant for fisheries planning in the NBBMPA is approved and the call for proposals is opened. Workshops were planned to define biological indicators for monitoring conservation objects, and for fisheries management.	
Output 1.1.3: Document with tools for the	Indicator 1.1.3.1: Document with tools for	One (1) document prepared.	100% of the Project goal was met in the fourth year of the project. The Sustainable financing toolkit for the	

sustainable financing of MPAs.	the sustainable financing of MPA prepared		Marine Protected Area was approved by the National Directorate of Protected Areas.	
Output 1.1.4: Institutional and regulatory framework reinforced for the management of MPAs and surrounding areas	Indicator 1.1.4.1: Number of documents for the management of MPAs and surrounding areas promoted by the Project.	At least two (2) documents prepared for the management of MPAs and surrounding areas promoted by Project.	100% of the Project goal was met in the fourth year of the project.	
	Indicator 1.1.4.2: Public administration agents related to MPA administration trained in methodological and operational tools for management.	At least 40 trained agents.	The consultancy for training in methodological and operational tools for MPA management is being carried out.	
Output 1.1.5. Research organizations, governmental and non-governmental agencies with enhanced capabilities for the exchange and joint analysis of scientific aspects of marine biodiversity to improve the effectiveness of the management of MPAs and key ecological areas of the Argentine Sea.	Indicator 1.1.5.1: Geographic Information System (GIS) that holds information from oceanographic and biological campaigns, and environmental information available in key ecological areas of the Argentine Sea.	One (1) Geographic Information System (GIS)	100% of the Project goal was met in the third year of the project (http://geoportal.ddns.net/#/burdwood).	
	Indicator 1.1.5.2: Government website that includes updated, visible, and accessible information at metadata level on the oceanographic and biological campaigns carried out in key	One (1) government website.	The habitat use mapping of priority species of seabirds, marine mammals and sea turtles was generated by an expert GIS consultant. This product has been validated by experts in exchange and consultation workshops. Mapping visibility is available at the MAYDS Integrated Environmental Information System website (https://sinia.ambiente.gob.ar/geovisor.php).	

¹⁴ Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

¹⁵ Please use the same unit of measurement of the project indicators as per the approved Implementation Plan or Annual Workplan. Please be concise (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

¹⁶ Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

	<p>ecological areas of the Argentine Sea until the end of the Project.</p>		<p>The mapping of benthic species and habitats in four priority areas of the Mar Argentino is being generated from the collection and organization of basic information from different governmental and academic institutions by an expert oceanographer consultant. This product will be validated by experts in exchange and consultation workshops. Mapping visibility is expected on the MAyDS Environment IDE website (https://sinia.ambiente.gob.ar/geovisor.php)</p> <p>The Biodiversity Information System (SIB) is a system that consists of the collection, classification, and management of biological information on the species and protected areas of Argentina, which are administered by the National Parks Administration (https://sib.gob.ar/index.html#!/area-prottegida/area-marina-prottegida-namuncura-banco-burdwood-ii). From the project, the SIB has been strengthened in terms of its technical capacities specifically related to the National System of Marine Protected Areas (SNAMP), generating a digital repository and public portal. SNAMP information was integrated into the SIB to strengthen and facilitate the diffusion of MPAs and the exchange of data between institutions.</p>	
	<p>Indicator 1.1.5.3: Percentage of environmental information on key ecological areas of the Argentinean Sea collected by the end of the Project and incorporated in the website "Infraestructura de Datos Espaciales" of the National Ministry of Environment and</p>	<p>100% of the environmental information of key ecological areas of the Argentine Sea gathered until the end of the Project and incorporated in the Environmental IDE.</p>	<p>The habitat use mapping of priority species of seabirds, marine mammals and sea turtles was generated by an expert GIS consultant. This product has been validated by experts in exchange and consultation workshops. Mapping visibility is available at the MAyDS Integrated Environmental Information System website (https://sinia.ambiente.gob.ar/geovisor.php).</p>	

	Sustainable Development (Environmental IDE).			
	Indicator 1.1.5.4: Number of technicians involved in the management of MPAs and surrounding areas and trained in the use of GIS.	At least 20 people involved in MPA management and trained in GIS and information systems.	Technicians involved in the management of MPAs and surrounding areas aren't trained in the use of GIS yet.	
Output 2.1.1 Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Plan (EAFMP) for the Patagonian scallop fishery (<i>Zygochlamys patagonica</i>) adopted by all stakeholders (Patagonian scallop fishers and fishing companies, INIDEP, CFP, SSPyA, SGAYDS, and science institutions)	Indicator 2.1.1.1: An EAFMP for scallop fisheries adopted, and at an initial stage of implementation during the last six months of the Project.	One (1) EAFMP for scallop fisheries.	During the reporting period, the Guidelines for the preparation of Management Plans based on the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries were discussed and validated, including the social, economic, institutional, biological and ecological dimensions. During the reported period, six virtual meetings were held, and progress was made on a draft document of the Management Plan with an Ecosystem Approach for the Scallop Fishery by consensus (MAyDS, SSPyA, INIDEP and companies). Operational objectives, indicators, benchmarks (performance measures) and decision rules were defined that will allow for the evaluation of the implementation of the MPEASF (see also Output 2.1.2).	
Output 2.1.2 Good catch and management practices for the Patagonian scallop fishery, validated through a participatory process, including zoning and regulation of this activity, fishing techniques and selectivity devices which minimize the impact on non-target species and the benthic community.	Indicator 2.1.2.1: Number of good catch, management and research practices, including zoning, adopted by the Patagonian scallop fishery.	At least three good research, catch and management practices for scallop fisheries validated.	As a result of the Project's interaction with the two companies that operate the scallop fishery, a virtual meeting/workshop of the Project (MAyDS-FAO) was held on December 15, 2021 with the references and advisors of the two companies (Wanchese and Glaciar Pesquera), with the objective of reviewing and discussing the guidelines for the Patagonian scallop management plan, the baseline document, operational objectives, indicators and benchmarks. Good practices for research, capture and management of the species were discussed. There was agreement with the progress of the documents presented by the Project and the contributions made by the two companies were incorporated. It is expected to present the EAFMP to the CFP in the third quarter of 2022. As an example of good research and management practices in the Patagonian scallop fishery we mention:	

			<p>CFP RESOLUTION No. 2/2022 establishing the areas closed to Patagonian scallop fishing in the zoning corresponding to Management Unit B for the year 2022 and identifying the area of the Reproductive Reserves, according to INIDEP research (Technical Report No. 25/2022).</p> <p>CFP Resolution N° 18/2021 Idem above in the zoning corresponding to Management Unit A for the year 2022, according to INIDEP's research (Technical Report No. 34/21).</p> <p>CFP Resolution N° 4/2022 That exempts vessels operating in the Patagonian scallop fishery from the use of bird-scaring lines, based on the Advisory and Transfer Report No. 95/2020 carried out by INIDEP, National University of Mar del Plata and CONICET.</p> <p>CFP Resolution N ° 10/2022 Which establishes the Maximum Allowable Catches of Patagonian scallops, whole and of commercial size, in the zoning corresponding to Management Unit C, D, E and F, in a precautionary manner, for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2022, based on the best scientific information provided by INIDEP.</p>	
<p>Output 2.1.3 Minimum EAF contents established and adopted by CFP and mainstreamed in the regulatory frameworks for fisheries management</p>	<p>Indicator 2.1.3.1: Federal Fisheries Council (CFP) Resolutions supporting the adoption of EAF and its minimum contents as a supplementary instrument in managing fishing across all fisheries, agreed upon by consensus with key stakeholders (companies, trade unions, academia, fishery management units).</p>	<p>CFP issues resolutions to adopt minimum EAF contents (selectivity instruments and measures, discard reduction, fair and equitable labour for fishermen including a gender perspective)</p>	<p>On 27/07/2021 a Workshop on ideas for selectivity and reduction of bycatch in shrimp and hake fisheries was held, including the design of fishing gear and devices for exclusion of marine mammals. During the month of October, face-to-face/virtual meetings were held in Puerto Madryn and Rawson (Argentina). Madryn and Rawson (Chubut) of the NPOA (National Plan of Action) -Sharks (Res. 6/2009 CFP) where the Plan and identification of progress up to 2021, the general situation of chondrichthyans in Argentina were presented, and actions to be prioritized were planned and actions to be prioritized in the Triennial Operational Plan 2022-2024 were planned. For the first time since its preparation, the fishing sector was invited to actively</p>	

			<p>participate in the monitoring and planning of the NPOA-Sharks.</p> <p>Within the framework of the LoA-INIDEP, it was held the First Workshop for the development of good fishing practices for chondrichthyan sharks in the Argentine southern fleet. It was presented a proposed guide on "Good fishing and return practices for sharks caught by the Argentine commercial trawling fleet" (no "finning" and immediate release) applied to large sharks caught by the fleet operating in the Argentine southern region. As a result of the first workshop, the possibility of designing, in a participatory manner, and implementing a device to prevent large sharks from falling into the fishing wells of the vessels emerged. The implementation of this device would maximize the probability of survival at the time of their return to the sea.</p> <p>Based on the proposed "Guide of Good Practices for fishing and return of sharks caught by the Argentine commercial trawling fleet", brochures of easy visualization and interpretation are being prepared to be distributed among the different actors of the national fishing sector. The guide contains information on potential risks for the crew when handling cartilaginous fish, good practices for handling and releasing chondrichthyans of different sizes, procedures to avoid when handling cartilaginous fish on board, considerations for reporting specimens returned to the water and a description of shark tagging programs. During the period, an amendment of the LoA in force with INIDEP was prepared, for an amount of USD 171,385.13, which includes experiences for the reduction of bycatch of juvenile hake and bycatch of rays in the fishery.</p> <p>The amendment includes the construction of devices to improve the selectivity of juvenile hake and reduce bycatch of rays in the hake fishery.</p>	
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	Indicator 2.1.3.2: Number of management measures that include some of the minimum contents of EAF in the different fisheries.	At least three management measures for the different fisheries mainstreaming EAF aspects.	Establishment of commercial catch size regulations for scallops, hake, and Patagonian toothfish (among others), 3. Establishment of closures and zoning for the most economically important fisheries, 4. Establishment and administration of the General Regime of Individual Transferable Catch Quotas for: hake, Patagonian toothfish, black hake, scallops, and Southern blue whiting.	
Output 2.1.4 Analysis of market incentive options (increase in business sector profitability) for applying EAF.	Indicator 2.1.4.1: Market study to increase the fisheries business sector profitability, including the gender approach.	Market study.	During the reporting period, a consultancy in market was developed to carry out an analysis and diagnosis on the global positioning of Argentine fisheries and the identification of positive experiences that could be considered for the design of a campaign aimed at strengthening the dissemination and marketing of Argentine marine fishery products, based on the use of the distinctive sign "ARGENTINE SEA, wild and southern", and highlighting the general values of national fisheries, such as aspects related to fisheries management under an Ecosystem Approach, the National Action Plans and the management measures applied to fisheries.	
Output 2.1.5 Staff of the institutions involved in fisheries management (INIDEP, PNA, SSPyA and equivalent provincial authorities and provincial environment agencies) and fisheries trade unions have developed capacities in the practical application of EAF, including options for sustainable fisheries certification, from a gender perspective and with the participation of youth.	Indicator 2.1.5.1: Number of unionized fishery workers trained in the implementation of EAF, disaggregated by sex and institution they belong to.	Reinforced capacities (training, equipment) for at least 50 people from fishery trade unions (20%, women and 80%, men).	With the Argentine Association of Fishing Captains, Pilots and Skippers (AACPSPP), it was proposed to strengthen the capacities of the union, identifying the one referred to "Initiatives for the prevention of pollution from fishing and fishing vessel garbage". It was also identified the convenience of holding a series of talks on the EAF, which were delayed due to the sanitary restrictions derived from COVID.	
	Indicator 2.1.5.2: Number of government officials trained in the application of EAF, disaggregated by sex and institution they belong to.	Reinforced capacities (training, equipment) for at least 50 government officials (60%, women and 40%, men).	Based on a survey made to the chambers and fishing companies, the Project is organizing a training and dissemination workshop to address the different aspects of fisheries certification as one of the tools that make it possible to implement the EEP. National and provincial government officials are expected to participate as well.	

<p>Output 2.1.6 Fishery-related implementation authorities (SSPyA, provincial fishing authorities, PNA) have strengthened their capacity to implement efficient management, control and surveillance mechanisms (satellite system, landing control), by applying EAF</p>	<p>Indicator 2.1.6.1: Number of officials and technicians from INIDEP, the federal and provincial governments, trained and equipped to strengthen management, control and surveillance mechanisms, disaggregated by sex.</p>	<p>At least 100 trained officials and technicians (40%, women; 60%, men).</p>	<p>A LoA is in advanced drafting with the National Directorate of Coordination and Fisheries Control of the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture whose objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve the efficiency, transparency and consistency of the data acquisition system, optimizing the port control systems implemented in order to reliably determine the catches in the territorial sea and the Exclusive Economic Zone and landed in Argentine ports, as well as the compliance and veracity of the catch affidavits. - Optimize and reduce the data loading time in the system, ensuring that it takes less than 24 hours from the end of the unloading. 	
<p>Output 2.2.1 The SSPyA fisheries information system mainstreams easily accessible and relevant socio-economic variables for applying EAF</p>	<p>Indicator 2.2.1.1: Number of socioeconomic indicators included in the SSPyA fisheries information system on scallop and hake.</p>	<p>At least six socioeconomic indicators.</p>	<p>Different socioeconomic indicators for scallops and hake have been developed and validated, but have not yet been incorporated into the Integrated Fisheries Information System of the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture (SSPyA). LoA with UNPSJB for the development of SMART social and labor indicators for the hake fishery for the gradual implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF). Bathymetric maps and use maps are being prepared for incorporation into the SSPyA and MAyDS information system. A critical review of the abundance assessment models used to determine the abundance status of the common hake and the Patagonian toothfish (<i>Macruronus magellanicus</i>) was also carried out, and work was done together with the scientific community to improve the methodology for data collection in order to comply with international standards.</p>	
<p>Output 2.2.2 A monitoring and information system for applying EAF in the Argentine Sea</p>	<p>Indicator 2.2.2.1: A monitoring and information system established by SSPyA to</p>	<p>A monitoring and information system available.</p>	<p>Bathymetric maps and use maps are being prepared for incorporation into the SSPyA and MAyDS information system.</p>	

	facilitate managerial decision-making for implementing EAF in the Argentine Sea.		<p>A critical review of the abundance assessment models used to determine the abundance status of the common hake and the Patagonian toothfish (<i>Macruronus magellanicus</i>) was also carried out, and work was done together with the scientific community to improve the methodology for data collection in order to comply with international standards.</p> <p>On 10/08/2021 a virtual workshop on "Socioeconomic indicators in the hake fishery (<i>Merluccius hubbsi</i>)" was held to propose a working methodology for the hake fishery from the economic point of view, to reach a consensus on the dimensions of analysis, the sources of information and the agents responsible for providing the data, and to survey the requirements of the private sector with respect to the study of the fishery.</p> <p>During the period reported, a LoA was signed with the UNPSJB, which provides for assistance in the development and measurement of social and labor indicators for the hake (<i>Merluccius hubbsi</i>) fishery. The Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture (SSPyA), as Authority of Application, that has the functions of conducting and executing the national fisheries policy established Provision No. 154/2020 - Approve the Integrated Fisheries Information System (SIIP), as a computer system for the storage, systematization and articulation of the information related to all fishing activity, replacing any other system in use.</p>	
Output 2.2.3 National Evaluation of: i) efficacy of fishing techniques and selectivity devices; ii) mitigation of the impact of these techniques and devices on the ecosystem; iii) inclusion of the recommended measures	Indicator 2.2.3.1: A national evaluation on the implementation of EAF in the Argentine Sea.	A national evaluation.	In the case of the Patagonian scallop fishery (<i>Zygochlamys patagonica</i>), there has been active interaction with the two fishing companies that exploit the resource, with the researchers responsible for INIDEP and with the Working Commission to strengthen bycatch reduction measures in fisheries (CFP Act N°8/2019) the enforcement authority. Likewise, an international consultancy is being developed with the objective of carrying out a critical review of the abundance assessment models used to know the	

<p>for the implementation of EAF in the Argentine Sea</p>			<p>abundance status of hake (<i>Merluccius hubbsi</i>) and Patagonian toothfish (<i>Macruronus magellanicus</i>). Documents have been submitted to contribute to the improvement of the applied methodology regarding the format and the way in which the data are collected (methodology) in order to define in the future the necessary procedures for the uniformity of the data and reports to adjust them to an international standard to be defined once agreed upon with the participating scientific community.</p> <p>Within the framework of the LoA IIMyC, progress has been made with the evaluation of the effectiveness of mitigation measures implemented in the crab fishery and in the quantification and specific identification of the interactions between marine mammals and the crab fishery. Also, the document with the proposal of different mitigation measures and analysis of operational feasibility and effectiveness in pelagic trawlers was delivered.</p> <p>Within the framework of the MSC recertification of anchovy from Buenos Aires, which is being carried out by a group of 7 companies ("Client Group") that operate on the anchovy species, a meeting was held on 20/08/2021. Representatives of the different companies, specialists with experience in mitigation of incidental fishing of birds and mammals (IIMyC-CONICET), on-board observers from INIDEP and Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina advanced in methodological aspects that minimize bycatch of seabirds and marine mammals, fishing gear designs and the use of acoustic alarms in mobile nets.</p> <p>Within of the LoA with National Institute of Fishing Research and Development (INIDEP), the products related to the report detailing the construction of the device to improve the selectivity of juvenile hake, the device designed, built and operational and the report with the recommendations of the participatory</p>	
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			<p>workshop for the implementation of the selectivity devices evaluated were delivered and approved; and the proposal of new designs of devices to reduce bycatch of juvenile hake built with flexible elements. A prototype of a device to minimize the bycatch of rays in the hake fishery was also built and presented.</p> <p>During this period, a LoA was signed with the Natalie Goodall Foundation: "Assistance for the initial estimation of the impact of interactions between the Commerson's dolphin <i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii commersonii</i> and artisanal fisheries in Tierra del Fuego". An aerial census of Commerson's dolphins was already made in April, and the survey of coastal artisanal fisheries on the Atlantic coast of Tierra del Fuego, to record possible interactions and incidental fishing of Commerson's dolphins in nets.</p> <p>With the CoA of Mundo Marino Foundation, the report Product 3: Final report with results of the monitoring of sea turtle strandings 2019-2020 was delivered, integrating the analysis of the information collected during the monitoring conducted in the period 2014-2018. This report included a meeting with the SSPyA and the Provincial Directorate of Fisheries of the Province of Buenos Aires to reach a consensus on the results. Also, in this semester, the meetings of the National Action Plans Technical Advisory Groups of marine mammals and chondrichthyans were held.</p> <p>With the National University of Patagonia "San Juan Bosco" (UNPSJB), a LoA was signed that includes the implementation and dissemination of good recreational fishing practices on the coast of the Province of Chubut. With the National University of La Plata (UNLP) and the National University of Mar del Plata (UNMdP), progress is being made with the drafting of LoAs that include these bycatch initiatives.</p>	
<p>Output 3.1.1 Dissemination of EAF notions and project</p>	<p>Indicator 3.1.1.1: Target groups (fishing companies, fisheries trade</p>	<p>At least six target groups participated in workshops and strategic meetings by</p>	<p>Target groups are periodically identified for participation in workshops and strategic meetings</p>	

objectives and outputs among different target groups, shaping the Project's communication strategy.	unions, CSOs, provincial and national fisheries and environmental agencies, and academia) identified as having participated in workshops and strategic meetings by the project's completion date.	the Project's completion date.		
	Indicator 3.1.1.2: Number of articles that mention the EAF notion, and Project objectives and outputs in media related to the fishing industry (aimed at fishermen and fishing chambers).	At least 60 mentions in the Argentine fishing industry media until project completion.	In the reporting period, the publication of the document "Recreational Marine Fisheries in Argentine: Guidelines for Monitoring and Best Practices" was approved and its dissemination by the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development was promoted. In addition, the project was without a communications consultant from October to May. A new consultant was hired to strengthen the dissemination of project activities.	
	Indicator 3.1.1.3: Number of articles that mention the EAF notion, and project objectives and outputs in the general local, national and international media.	At least 40 mentions in general media until project completion.		
	Indicator 3.1.1.4: Number of communication pieces (brochures, flyers, stands, videos, merchandising, banners) generated throughout the project including pieces that portray the situation of women in fishing or scientific research.	At least eight audio-visual products and one publication throughout the project. At least three of the eight must portray the situation of women in fishing or scientific research.		
	Indicator 3.1.1.5: Number of mentions made to the Project in institutional channels of MAYS,	28 mentions made throughout the project in institutional channels of MAYS, MAGyP (SSPyA and INIDEP), FAO and GEF.		

	MAGyP (SSPyA and INIDEP), FAO and GEF.			
Output 3.1.2: Gender perspective is included in the production of technical content for the Project.	Indicator 3.1.2.1: Percentage of women actively participating in activities organized by the Project.	At least 40% of the participants in the activities organized by the Project are women and LGBTBI+.	Work is being done to try to incorporate the greatest number of women and LGBTBI+ in the actions carried out.	
	Indicator 3.1.2.2: Number of comprehensive diagnostic documents on the engagement and representation of women, vulnerable groups and LGBTBI+ persons in the public and private fishing industry in the provinces with a coastline and that mainstream a gender perspective, diversity and intersectionality.	One (1) diagnostic document	In order to identify the gender situation in the fishing sector, a consultant was hired to carry out a diagnosis on Gender and Diversities that includes liaising with a wide range of actors from companies, unions, academia and the public sector at the provincial and national levels.	
	Indicator 3.1.2.3: Number of agents from the target groups informed about the gender perspective in the activities carried out by the Project.	At least 150 agents that belong to the reported target groups.	According to the operational plan, a meeting is planned for the second part of the year to communicate the diagnosis of the sector	
	Indicator 3.1.2.4: Number of governmental and non-governmental organizations that, by October 2022, will include in their reports or strategic documents information generated by the project on the situation of women in fisheries.	Five organizations, including at least two governmental organizations by October 2022	The capacities generated by the project to inform about the gender perspective in the agents of the target groups, as well as the document with the diagnosis on gender and diversities in the sector, will be the main inputs on which this indicator is based.	

Output 3.1.3. Project planning and monitoring system operational and providing systematic information on annually scheduled activities and targets, and progress made in achieving project outcomes and outputs	Indicator 3.1.3.1: Number of reports submitted and approved according to the monitoring and reporting plan of the Project	One (1) Inception Report Four (4) annual work plans and budget submitted and approved. Four (4) Annual Project Implementation Reports (PIR) submitted. Eight (8) Biannual Project Progress Reports (PPRs) on project activities and MML indicators submitted.	A monitoring consultant has been hired to strengthen the monitoring and implementation of the project.	
	Indicator 3.1.3.2: Percentage of co-financed implemented activities compared to those committed to by partner institutions in the PRODOC.	80%	A monitoring consultant has hired to strengthen the implementation of the project.	
Output 3.1.4 Mid-Term and Final Review / Evaluation.	Indicator 3.1.4.1: Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the Project completed.	One (1) MTR completed	According to the operational plan 100% of the goal was met in the fourth year of the project.	
	Indicator 3.1.3.2: Final Review (FR) of the Project completed.	One (1) FR completed	According to the operational plan, this task is expected to progress in the second part of the year.	

4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

Please provide a summary paragraph on progress, challenges and outcome of project implementation consistent with the information reported in sections 2 and 3 of the PIR.

Regarding the progress of Outcome 1.1, the output 1.1.1. related to the draft MPA Law of Valdés Front has started the administrative process (EX-2022-53562707- -APN-DGAYF#MAD) and is under review by the legal area of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. Additionally, in the first quarter of 2022 a consultant started lobbying in different political areas.

For output 1.1.2, assistance is being provided for the implementation of the management plan for the NBBMPA through the hiring of a consultant for fisheries planning in the MPA, which is underway. Workshops have also been planned to define biological indicators for monitoring conservation targets.

A sustainable financing toolkit for MPAs was developed by the Project in coordination with the National Directorate of Protected Areas, which approved it . As a result, 100% of the project's objective for output 1.1.3 was met in the fifth year of the project.

Regarding output 1.1.4, the consultancy for training in methodological and operational tools for MPA management is being carried out.

Finally, for output 1.1.5, the mapping of habitat use of priority species of seabirds, marine mammals and sea turtles was generated by a GIS expert consultant. This product has been validated by experts in exchange and consultation workshops. The cartography is available and can be visualized on the MAyDS Integrated Environmental Information System website (<https://sinia.ambiente.gob.ar/geovisor.php>).

The mapping of benthic species and habitats in four priority areas of the Argentine Sea is being generated by an expert consultant in oceanography, based on the collection and organization of basic information provided by different governmental and academic institutions. This product will be validated by experts in exchange and consultation workshops. The mapping is expected to be visible on the website of the MAyDS Environmental Information System (<https://sinia.ambiente.gob.ar/geovisor.php>).

The Biodiversity Information System (SIB) of the National Parks Administration (<https://sib.gob.ar/index.html#!/protected-area/marine-protected-area-namuncura-banco-burdwood-ii>) has been strengthened in terms of its technical capacities, specifically related to the National System of Marine Protected Areas (SNAMP) through generating a digital repository and a public portal to facilitate the diffusion of MPAs and the exchange of data between institutions.

For Outcome 2.1, related to scallop fisheries, significant progress has been made developing Guidelines for the preparation of a Management Plan based on the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries. Those were discussed and validated, and include the social, economic, institutional, biological and ecological dimensions. A draft document of the Management Plan with Ecosystem Approach for the Scallop Fishery (MPEASF) is available, prepared by consensus (MAyDS, SSPyA, INIDEP and companies) where operational objectives, indicators, benchmarks (performance measures) and decision rules were defined to evaluate its implementation.

Related to the hake fishery, progress has been made in developing a Work Plan, a fishery stratification report and a stakeholder analysis. Also, an international consultancy was developed to review of the abundance assessment models used in the abundance determination of the common hake (*Merluccius hubbsi*) and the Patagonian toothfish (*Macruronus magellanicus*). This work contribute to the improvement of the

applied methodology regarding the format and the way in which the data are collected (methodology) in order to define in the future the necessary procedures for the uniformity of the data and reports to adjust them to an international standard to be defined once agreed upon with the participating scientific community. In the LoA with the IIMyC-CONICET, progress has been made with the evaluation of the effectiveness of mitigation measures implemented in the crab fishery, as well as in the quantification and specific identification of the interactions between marine mammals and the crab fishery.

In addition, we are working closely with the SSPyA to strengthen the control and surveillance systems in the Argentinean fishery through the development of a LoA draft. For the implementation of a monitoring and information system for the application of the EEP in the Argentinean Sea, the consultancy for the elaboration of bathymetric maps continues to be developed, as well as a consultancy for the elaboration of use maps to incorporate them into the information system of the SSPyA and the MAdS.

The Project continued to support and participate in the Working Commission to strengthen bycatch reduction measures in fisheries (which were implemented after the 2019 EEP Workshops, CFP Act N°8/2019). On 27/07/2021 a Workshop on ideas for selectivity and reduction of bycatch in fisheries (shrimp and hake) was held, including the design of fishing gear and devices for exclusion of marine mammals. During October, face-to-face/virtual meetings of the NPOA-Sharks were held in Puerto Madryn and Rawson (Chubut) of the NPOA-Sharks (Res. 6/2009 CFP) where the Work Plan was presented and the progress made until 2021 and the general situation of chondrichthyans in Argentina were identified. Actions to be prioritized in the Triennial Operational Plan 2022-2024 were planned. For the first time since its preparation, representatives of fishing companies and unions were invited to participate.

The NPOAs for birds, turtles and marine mammals continued to be strengthened by making progress in the preparation, review and approval of the products agreed upon in the Letters of Agreement and the Marine and Coastal Research Institute (IIMyC-CONICET). It also participated in meetings of the TAG mammals and chondrichthyans.

In relation to the second LoA with the National Institute of Fisheries Research and Development (INIDEP), progress was made on "Good fishing and return practices for sharks caught by the Argentine commercial trawling fleet" (no "finning" and immediate release) applied to large sharks caught by the fleet operating in the southern region of Argentina and on the development of a guide on Good Fishing and Shark Return Practices. Within this framework, in a participatory workshop with researchers, officials and companies, the possibility of designing in a participatory manner, and implementing a device that prevents large sharks from falling into the fishing wells of the vessels emerged. The implementation of this device would maximize the probability of survival at the time of their return to the sea. Based on the proposed "Guide of Good Practices for fishing and return of sharks caught by the Argentine commercial trawling fleet", brochures of easy visualization and interpretation are being prepared to be distributed among the different actors of the national fishing sector. The guide contains information on potential risks for the crew when handling cartilaginous fish, good practices for handling and releasing chondrichthyans of different sizes, procedures to avoid when handling cartilaginous fish on board, considerations for reporting specimens returned to the water and a description of shark tagging programs. Likewise, progress was made in the purchase of equipment for recording audiovisual materials to strengthen INIDEP's Communication area and, in the first half of 2021, a Rayfin HDI underwater video camera was also purchased for the development of more selective fishing gear. A LoA was signed with the Natalie Goodall Foundation for technical assistance for the evaluation of interactions between Commerson's dolphin (*Cephalorhynchus commersonii*) and artisanal fisheries in Tierra del Fuego. Finally, a LoA with the government of the Province of Río Negro and another LoA with the National University of La Plata and the National University of Mar del Plata (UNMdP) are under preparation. Progress was

made with the Argentine Association of Fishing Captains, Pilots and Skippers to identify proposals to strengthen the sector. In this regard, the fishing business sector was surveyed and an interest in training on the relationship between market incentives and the EAF was identify. As a result, a workshop on this matter is being organized and a facilitator was hire.

To reinforce outcome 3.1, a new project monitoring matrix was developed to detect early warnings and correct deviations. In addition, new workflows with associated execution times and specific responsibilities were implemented to learn lessons for future operations. Regarding the gender perspective, a gender and diversity consultant is working on the diagnostic document on the engagement and representation of women, vulnerable groups and LGTBI+ persons in the public and private fishing industry in the Argentinian provinces with a coastline. This is the main input that will be used to include the topic in the production of the Project's technical content. In addition, in May a new communication consultant joined the project team, which has been working on the communication approach.

Development Objective (DO) Ratings, Implementation Progress (IP) Ratings and Overall Assessment

Please note that the overall DO and IP ratings should be substantiated by evidence and progress reported in the Section 2 and Section 3 of the PIR. For DO, the ratings and comments should reflect the overall progress of project results.

	FY2022 Development Objective rating¹⁷	FY2022 Implementation Progress rating¹⁸	Comments/reasons¹⁹ justifying the ratings for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	MS	S	Although the implementation of the Project is delayed due to various issues that have been reported, it is still considered possible to make a significant contribution to achieve its major global environmental objectives. A new extension of the Project would contribute to this. The rating change from the previous PIR is due to risks associated with the lack of political support for the implementation of key deliverables.
Budget Holder	S	S	Despite the constraints due to the COVID-19 pandemic on the Project during this period and the devaluation of the Argentine peso, budget execution is steadily increasing. The Project is making significant contributions in terms of institutional strengthening, and knowledge and information generation, which are not necessarily quantified through budget execution. To achieve its major objectives, a project extension has been asked and political support needs to be reinforced.
GEF Operational Focal Point²⁰	MS	S	<i>After COVID-19 the Ministry of Environment team has shown proactivity in carrying out the activities described in the project. In addition, many of these activities are now part of the national and local policies fulfilling the project's goals and leaving established pillars for the sustainable management of coastal marine ecosystems. Thus, this project is still essential to building up a more sustainable country.</i>

¹⁷ **Development Objectives Rating** – A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.

For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁸ **Implementation Progress Rating** – A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the projects approved implementation plan. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁹ Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

²⁰ In case the GEF OFF didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.

Lead Technical Officer²¹	S	S	The project has made already significant contributions to both the global and the environmental objectives. Solid baselines and multiple studies have been generated to nurture an already formulated new marine protected area decree project, which is already under legal revision. Also a participatory Vieira fishery management plan has been formulated and is ready to be officially adopted by the fisheries authorities. Although next steps are more dependent on political will, the national counterparts have assured that they will commit all efforts to see the marine protected area being passed by the Congress and also present the formulated fishery management plan as a basis for the adoption of the EEA in fisheries management in general.
FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer	MS	S	From a technical standpoint, the project has made important progress, producing valuable information for the country regarding the management of fisheries under an ecosystem approach. The project has built capacities for public institution staff, delivered tools and liaised with the private sector to disseminate the benefits of the project approach. However, the project has also suffered important delays and another no-cost extension, this time for 13 months, has been requested by the government, which is currently under review to adequately justify and examine mitigation actions for the risks identified. This extension will be important to ensure that results are adequately appropriated and integrated by public institutions in their norms and regulations, and for important outcomes such as those related to the expansion of the area under protection. The project needs to work not only at the technical level, but also reach out and involve high political levels to ensure the achievement of pending outcomes in the remaining period of implementation, and to ensure long-term sustainability of the results.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

²¹ The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

Please describe the progress made complying with the approved ESM plan. Note that only projects with **moderate** or **high** Environmental and Social Risk, approved from June 2015 should have submitted an ESM plan/table at CEO endorsement. This does not apply to **low** risk projects. Add new ESS risks if any risks have emerged during this FY.

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
ESS 1: Natural Resource Management				
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats				
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
ESS 7: Decent Work				
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				

In case the project did not include an ESM Plan at CEO endorsement stage, please indicate if the initial Environmental and Social (ESS) Risk classification is still valid; if not, what is the new classification and explain.

Initial ESS Risk classification (At project submission)	Current ESS risk classification
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	Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ²² . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Low	No new classifications were made.

<i>Please report if any grievance was received as per FAO and GEF ESS policies. If yes, please indicate how it is being/has been addressed.</i>
No grievances were received during the reported period.

6. Risks

The following table summarizes risks identified in the Project Document and reflects also any new risks identified in the course of project implementation (including COVID-19 related risks). The last column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in the project, as relevant.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²³	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	<i>Political support to achieve the creation of the AMP "Frente Valdés, Chubut"</i>	S	N	The Project Task Force convened a political meeting with high level representatives of the Ministry of Environment and FAO, in order	A political meeting was held. Working on the proposal of the technical mission of	Political support is expected to be strengthened during the process of

²² **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

²³ Risk ratings means a rating of accesses the overall risk of factors internal or external, to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. For more information on ratings and definitions please refer to Annex 1.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²³	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
2	<i>Political support to create regulations with the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EEP).</i>	S	N	to revalidate the priority of the project and build the next steps to achieve the remaining objectives. At this meeting, a new and expanded political meeting was requested, including authorities from the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture and the Federal Fisheries Council. In addition, the project team is working on setting up a technical mission of the LTO to support the project and enable it to liaise with the political actors.	the LTO is being planned.	planning and approval of extension activities in the Project Technical Consultative Committee (TCC).
3	<i>Regulations derived from the effects of COVID-19 implied delays and changes in the work dynamics and activities to be carried out this year</i>	M	N	A new 13-month extension of the project was requested in order to program the activities and task that were not completed on time.	An extension of the project was requested and work is underway on the associated Work Plan.	

Project overall risk rating (Low, Moderate, Substantial or High):

FY2021 rating	FY2022 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
M	S	Overall project risk has increased due to the difficulty in achieving thorough political support for the main adoption of measures that lead to the main results of the project.

7. Follow-up on Mid-term review or supervision mission (only for projects that have conducted an MTR)

If the project had an MTR or a supervision mission, please report on how the recommendations were implemented during this fiscal year as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented <u>during this Fiscal Year</u>
<p>Recommendation 1: to MAyDS and FAO. The recommendation is to supplement the project's implementation arrangements by setting up two working groups, within the structure of the Technical Consultative Committee. One to address Marine Protected Areas (MPA), and another to focus on the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF). These working groups would allow an open, ongoing, informed and transparent dialogue on the project, and would particularly allow the following:</p> <p>a) Inform and address project progress in Marine Protected Areas, as suggested at the high-level fisheries meeting held in April 2019, and in the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries. The outcomes of the oceanographic research cruises and other technical studies within the project could be presented and discussed, settling any disagreements and highlighting points of agreement. The Working Group on Marine Protected Areas could become a forum to hear the different voices of stakeholders in favour of and against the creation of Marine Protected Areas along the Chubut Front, start negotiations and agree on the boundaries and zoning.</p> <p>b) Sensitize key stakeholders, mainly those that can have a great impact on achieving the project's objectives (e.g., private sector fisheries) to reach a common understanding on Marine Protected Areas and their similarities and differences with other conservation strategies, as well as on the adoption of EAF, among other relevant topics.</p> <p>c) Discuss and agree on a work plan with coastal provinces</p> <p>d) Rebuild trust with the provinces and private sector</p> <p>The working groups would be made up of high-level or technical members, according to the kind of topics to be discussed and the current membership of the Technical Consultative Committee, and will include the participation of guest stakeholders and agencies that are key players in the topics to be addressed.</p>	<p>Substantial changes have not yet been implemented to observe an impact. TCC members were informed of this recommendation at the fourth commission meeting, held in December 2020. The working groups have not been constituted but will be summoned when considered necessary.</p>

<p>Frequency of meetings will be defined as per the topics requiring dialogue and discussion.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 2: to MAdS and FAO. The recommendation is to immediately start lobbying with legislators and other relevant political stakeholders on the proposal to create the new Marine Protected Area along the Valdes Front. The Ministry for the Environment and Sustainable Development and FAO should come into contact with decision-makers who can pass laws at the national and provincial levels. Dialogue could be informal and should start with awareness-raising on the importance and challenges of creating an MPA along the Valdes Front Corridor. The Working Group on Marine Protected Areas mentioned in Recommendation 1 could be harnessed for this purpose. This lobbying should be supported by Non-Governmental Organizations that are experts in the matter. This action would be even more relevant if the NGOs dealing with conservation are taken into consideration, particularly those that are a part of the international network known as Forum for the Conservation of the Patagonian Sea that has been supporting proposals and projects aimed at creating new ocean-related MPAs. This Forum has also been carrying out important efforts to sensitize key stakeholders within the National Executive and Legislative Branches, as a part of its mission to contribute to enhancing and strengthening the management of the national Marine Protected Areas in the region, and thus contribute to achieving Aichi Target 11. Furthermore, with a view to ensuring the timely and efficient attention of the Project's National Director and its Technical Coordinator (CNTP) to project activities, it is recommended that FAO comes into closer contact with the new authorities of the Ministry for the Environment and Sustainable Development to endorse project-related commitments, including co-financing, and ensure rapprochement with the Argentine Under-secretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture, the Federal Fisheries Council and other partners</p>	<p>In the latter part of the last year a new consultant joined the project team to start lobbying. He worked until May of this year 2022. However, authorities' changes inside MAdS prevented the achievement of significant progress.</p>
<p>Recommendation 3: to GEF and FAO. Considering the importance of having a Results Framework that is complete, effective and robust for appropriate project implementation, monitoring and evaluation, the recommendation is for the Global Environment Facility not to approve projects that have Results Frameworks that are incomplete, lack indicators, assumptions and mid-term targets. Furthermore, it is recommended that the FAO-GEF Coordination Unit,</p>	<p>The updated Results Framework, informed during the 2021 PIR, has been implemented during this period.</p>

<p>FAO Argentina and the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean design projects having a Results Framework based on technical foundations for building a logical framework matrix.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 4: to PEU & FAO. The recommendation is to strengthen and again supplement the PRODOC's Results Framework and reinforce the project's monitoring, through a counter-proposal including SMART indicators and assumptions, in agreement with the targets established within the PRODOC's Results Framework for each output and outcome. In this regard, the support of the FAO Office of Evaluation could be requested, as well as that of the FAO-GEF Coordination Unit as a Liaison. Furthermore, to reinforce Project follow-up, the recommendation is to develop an Excel tool allowing: Project progress monitoring pursuant to the reinforced Results Framework; the follow-up of co-financing using a homogeneous and robust methodology; systematization of project outputs, workshops, meetings and training sessions; appropriate systematization and follow-up of the project's financial statements; and the follow-up of project risks as spelled out in the PIR, and documentation of the adaptive measures implemented. Additionally, the recommendation is to hire an expert in Monitoring & Evaluation to design and operate the tool in support of the Project's National Technical Coordinator (CTNP).</p>	<p>Last November, a monitoring consultant was hired and a new project monitoring matrix was developed to generate early warnings and correct deviations.</p>
<p>Recommendation 5: to MAyDS, SSPyA & CFP (Federal Fisheries Council). The recommendation is to formally institutionalize the management documents prepared in a participatory manner within the project, and agreed upon by consensus among the competent agencies, so that they are duly adopted through customary administrative procedures. For this purpose, it is necessary to have the Project Executing Unit design an effective strategy to promote this process with greater determination, which will directly contribute to the sustainability of project benefits. Among them, is the Output on "Guidelines for outlining Marine Protected Area Management Plans".</p>	<p>All documents generated within the Project are shared with the relevant institutions. This means that institutionalization is being held as these institutions may use the documents or its contents to generate regulations or make decisions.</p> <p>The key documents have been worked in a participatory manner with some institutions, such as the SHN, CONICET, INIDEP and other academic institutions with the aim of validating the information.</p> <p>We are working on a redesign of the Project's website to create a repository of documents as a digital library, with a search engine generated ad hoc. To this end, we have been working on three categories of documents: environmental, institutional and socioeconomic.</p>
<p>Recommendation 6: to PEU, FAO and MAyDS. With the purpose of making the review and authorization of project outputs more agile, the recommendation is to outline, agree upon and implement an effective mechanism to make this</p>	<p>Periodic meetings were held to improve regular updates and organize revision priorities. Additionally, FAO Argentina added a new person in the Programmes area, so as to strengthen the team and reduce revisions' times.</p>

<p>process more agile, ensuring the timely contribution of the Argentine Under-secretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture (SSPyA) and the LTO. This could be achieved by identifying specific stages at which the process experiences delays. According to the nature of the causes for delay, review times could be diminished, ensuring strict compliance therewith and/or the number of necessary reviewers or authorizations could be simplified.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 7: to PEU and MAyDS. The recommendation is to design and implement a comprehensive, effective communication strategy agreed upon by consensus, involving the new communications unit of the Ministry for the Environment and Sustainable Development, to thus improve the project's visibility. Additionally, it must be confirmed whether, according to FAO communication regulations in force, the project can develop an exclusive, interactive website which is, overall, necessary to strengthen the implementation of Component 3.</p>	<p>In the first part of year the search for a new consultant was opened and last May the new communication consultant joined the project team. Now, the communication consultant has been working on the communication approach.</p>
<p>Recommendation 8: to MAyDS and FAO. With a view to ensuring the effective mainstreaming of the gender perspective in the project, it is recommended that the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity be asked to provide their expert support in this field. Moreover, the suggestion is to consult with FAO Fisheries Division experts to draw lessons learned on the topic. This would reinforce progress made by the project in this field and would provide clarity on the activities to be carried out within each project output or outcome, so as to appropriately mainstream the gender perspective when deemed advisable.</p>	<p>Ministry Of Women, Gender and Diversity was involved in the preparation of ToRs and interviews to hire a specialist in gender and diversity consultant to working on the diagnostic document on the engagement and representation of women, vulnerable groups and LGTBI+ persons in the public and private fishing industry in Argentina.</p>
<p>Recommendation 9: to MAyDS, FAO and PEU. The recommendation is to perform a financial analysis to determine whether, in fact, there will be any remaining resources stemming from the devaluation of the Argentine peso against the dollar and from savings in the disbursements foreseen in the PRODOC to pay the fees of consultants hired by the Project, which have been lower than expected; and, if so, outline a new plan for the forthcoming years of project execution and determine the use that could be made of the remaining resources.</p>	<p>The incorporation of the financial administrative assistant allow the regular monitoring of the project's financial execution, which is a key input for decision-making.</p>
<p>Recommendation 10: to MAyDS, FAO and PEU. It is suggested that no later than July 2020 the</p>	

<p>opportunity and convenience of managing an extension of the project be analyzed in accordance with the progress made to ensure the fulfillment of the projected objectives. Initially, an extension would be recommended at no additional cost for one year</p>	
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<p>Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please describe</p>	<p>The Project's exit strategy is contained in the initiative of the Government of Argentina, "Pampa Azul". It is an inter-ministerial initiative (8 ministries) that articulates scientific research, technological development and innovation actions to provide scientific bases for national ocean policies, including the strengthening of national sovereignty over the sea, conservation, as well as the sustainable use of marine assets, including the creation and management of marine protected areas (see https://www.pampazul.gob.ar/).</p> <p>Pampa Azul seeks to advance research, development and innovation that contribute to safety and social, economic and environmentally sustainable development with a focus on technological innovation, social inclusion with a gender perspective, the protection of marine natural assets and the integration of marine and coastal environments, as well as to promote capacity building in scientific disciplines and related technological areas. It is also proposed to promote greater social awareness of the services and benefits provided by the sea, deploying a specific agenda of scientific communication and dissemination. For this purpose, there is a medium and long term planning that promotes multidisciplinary approaches and inter-institutional synergies.</p> <p>The Project also proposes to strengthen work at the federal level with the provinces with a coastline as a medium- and long-term sustainability strategy.</p>
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8. Minor project amendments

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% as described in Annex 9 of the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines²⁴. Please describe any minor changes that the project has made under the relevant category or categories. And, provide supporting documents as an annex to this report if available.

Category of change	Provide a description of the change	Indicate the timing of the change	Approved by
Results framework	As recommended in the MTR, the logical framework was adjusted. This was reported to the GEF in the 2021 PIR, Annex 2, as minor adjustments.	2021	Project Technical Consultant Committee, Implementing Agency
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			

²⁴ Source: <https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/guidelines-project-and-program-cycle-policy-2020-update>

9. Stakeholders' Engagement

Please report on progress and results and challenges on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan) included at CEO Endorsement/Approval during this reporting period.

Stakeholder name	Role in project execution	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement
Government Institutions			
Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS)	Executing Agency	In all Project activities	Political commitment and support to achieve project outcomes
Ministry of Defense (MD) through the Naval Hydrography Service (SHN)	Co-financier	Participated by providing oceanographic information for the generation of the mapping of benthic species and habitats in four priority areas of the Argentinean Sea. Attends regularly the TCC meetings.	
Ministry of Security (MS) through the Argentine Naval Prefecture (PNA)	Co-financier	Attends regularly the TCC meeting.	
Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MINCyT)		The National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET), that depends of this Ministry, is a TCC member. Some CONICET institutes have LoA linked to EAF.	Procurement of inputs necessary to carry out the activities included in the LoA timely.
Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity (MMGyD)	Collaborator to Executing Agency	Participated in the elaboration of the gender analysis.	
The Under-Secretary of Fisheries and Aquaculture (SSPyA)	Co-financier	In most of the Project activities. Attends the TCC meeting.	Political commitment and support to achieve project outcomes.

The Federal Fisheries Council (CFP)	Co-executor	In all Project activities. Attends the TCC meeting.	Political commitment and support to achieve project outcomes.
National Institute for Fisheries Research and Development (INIDEP)	Co-financier	In most of the Project activities. A LoA to improve gear selectivity and bycatch reduction is under execution.	Achieve LoA outputs to improve Project outcomes. Procurement of inputs necessary to carry out the activities included in the LoA timely.
The National Park Administration (APN)	A TCC member	Activities related to Result 1.1 and its outputs are carried out in constant coordination with DNAMP-APN, the authority responsible for MPA management. Attends the TCC meeting.	Political commitment and support to achieve project outcomes
The Fishing and Environmental Directorate of the Buenos Aires province	A TCC member	Develop regulations for the use of pingers to mitigate the by-catch of marine mammals in artisanal gillnet fisheries. They also participated in the presentation of the document "Marine recreational fishing in Argentina: Guidelines for monitoring and good practices" prepared by the project. They are committed to participate in the review of the draft resolution for marine recreational fishing permits that is being processed by the MAyDS. Also attends the TCC meeting.	It is expected that institutional strengthening will be achieved. Commitment and support to achieve project outcomes
The Fishing and Environmental Directorate of the Río Negro	A TCC member	A LoA is being drafted with the government of the Province of Río Negro. Attends the TCC meeting.	Commitment and support to achieve project outcomes
The Fishing and Environmental	A TCC member	They participated in the presentation of the document "Marine	Commitment and support to achieve project outcomes

Directorate of the Chubut		recreational fishing in Argentina: Guidelines for monitoring and good practices" prepared by the project. They are committed to work together in the review of the draft resolution for marine recreational fishing permits that is being processed by the MAYDS. Also attends the CCT meeting.	
The Fishing and Environmental Directorate of the Santa Cruz	A TCC member	They participated in the presentation of the document "Marine recreational fishing in Argentina: Guidelines for monitoring and good practices" prepared by the project. They are committed to work together in the review of the draft resolution for marine recreational fishing permits that is being processed by the MAYDS. Also attends the TCC meeting.	Commitment and support to achieve project outcomes
The Fishing and Environmental Directorate of the Tierra del Fuego	A TCC member	They participated in the presentation of the document "Marine recreational fishing in Argentina: Guidelines for monitoring and good practices" prepared by the project. They are committed to work together in the review of the draft resolution for marine recreational fishing permits that is being processed by the MAYDS. Also attends the TCC meeting.	Commitment and support to achieve project outcomes
<i>Non-Government organizations (NGOs)</i>			
Fundacion Natalie Goodall	Letter of Agreement	A LoA named "Assistance for the initial estimation of the impact of interactions between Commerson's	Procurement of inputs necessary to carry out the activities included in the LoA timely.

		dolphin <i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii commersonii</i> and artisanal fisheries in Tierra del Fuego, Argentina" is being carried out.	
Fundacion Mundo Marino	Letter of Agreement	A LoA named "Technical assistance for the evaluation of sea turtle mortality on the coast of Buenos Aires, and for the preparation of a document on the current state of knowledge on the problem of marine debris in Argentina" is being carried out.	Disseminate and communicate multimedia materials developed in the LoA to generate conservation awareness and best practices in Buenos Aires fisheries.
Private sector entities			
Fishing chambers/companies such as Council of Argentine Fishing Companies (CEPA)	Fishing Sector	They participated in the Fourth NAP-Sharks Follow-up Workshop and in a meeting with the NPD for the FV-AMP.	Support for the creation of the FV- AMP.
Argentine Chamber of Jigger Shipowners (CAPA)	Fishing Sector	They participated in the Fourth NAP-Sharks Follow-up Workshop and in a meeting with the NPD for the FV-AMP.	Support for the creation of the FV- AMP.
Chamber of Freezer Fishing Owners Argentina (CAPECA)	Fishing Sector	They participated in the Fourth NAP-Sharks Follow-up Workshop and in a meeting with the NPD for the FV-AMP.	Support for the creation of the FV- AMP.
Chamber of the Argentine Fishing Industry (CAIPA)	Fishing Sector	They participated in the Fourth NAP-Sharks Follow-up Workshop and in a meeting with the NPD for the FV-AMP.	Support for the creation of the FV- AMP.
Glaciar Pesquera and Wanchese Argentina.	Co-financier	Both companies have actively participated in the development of the EAF Management Plan for Patagonian scallops.	Articulate the relationship with the companies and improve the dialogue with those responsible for the Patagonian scallop fishery research and with the CFP.

²⁵Others[1]			
University of Mar del Plata (UNMDP)	Letter of Agreement	A LoA to develop socioeconomic indicators for the hake fishery was carried out until 2021. A new LoA is being drafted to promote better fishing practices and responsible disposal of waste from recreational and artisanal fisheries.	Technical approval and signature of the LoA are pending.
National University of the Patagonia San Juan Bosco (UNPSJB)	Letter of Agreement	LoA Assistance in the development and measurement of social and labor indicators for the hake (<i>Merluccius hubbsi</i>) fishery and the dissemination of good recreational fishing practices on the coast of the Province of Chubut.	Procurement of inputs necessary to carry out the activities included in the LoA timely.
<i>New stakeholders identified/engaged</i>			

²⁵[1] They can include, among others, community-based organizations (CBOs), Indigenous Peoples organizations, women’s groups, private sector companies, farmers, universities, research institutions, and all major groups as identified, for example, in Agenda 21 of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and many times again since then.

10. Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on Gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable) during this reporting period.

Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages.	Yes	Gender analysis is now being carried out and will be the main input to the project's gender strategy.
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	-	
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):	-	This information can be provided when the gender analysis is completed.
a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources	-	
b) improving women's participation and decision making	-	
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	-	
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Yes	
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	
Any other good practices on gender	-	

11. Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in Knowledge Management Approach approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval <u>during this reporting period.</u>	
Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.	The project doesn't have its own website, as stated in one of the goals of Output 3.1.1, as FAO policy on hosting project websites changed since the project design. Currently, FAO encourages Countries to develop their own project websites, as a way to promote sustainability of the actions undertaken by the project. Currently, MAYS included in its own webpage a section of the project (see here). The proposal for 2022 is to improve the content of this section, which is still in the process of MAYS authorization. At present that section is been updated with new content and a document library with more than 40 materials, which is at a draft stage waiting for MAYS approval.
Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.	The project has a knowledge management strategy, which is being updated by the new communication consultant as last November the previous consultant left the project team. Consequently, in the first part of year the search for a new consultant was opened, and last May this position was filled. Now, the communication consultant has been working on the communication approach.
Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected Global Environmental Benefits. Please indicate any Socio-economic Co-benefits that were generated by the project. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.	No new stories to report for this period.
Please provide links to related website, social media account	The project doesn't have its own website, but it has a section on the website of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina (see here) that is being updated. There

	<p>is also information on the marine protected areas component in this section. In addition, some information about the project is published by MAYS social media accounts.</p>
<p>Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.</p>	<p>VIDEO MATERIALS</p> <p>Fernanda Villarino Interview, INIDEP. Hake fishery and accompanying fauna.</p> <p>Ricardo Roth Interview, INIDEP. Fishing selectivity campaign.</p> <p>Fishermen, allies in the conservation of sea turtle, Mundo Marino Foundation.</p> <p>MEDIA REPORT</p> <p>Below we attach a clipping report with news published in the media covering the period July 2021-June 2022</p> <p>August 2021 Santa Cruz Government website. Provincial authorities joined the meeting on management and protection of biodiversity.</p> <p>Pescare. https://pescare.com.ar/proteccion-de-la-biodiversidad-costero-marina-lucrecia-bravo/</p> <p>Tiempo Sur. Meeting on management and protection of biodiversity.</p> <p>October 2021 Sureño. Plan for the conservation and management of chondrichthyans.</p> <p>February 2022 Argentina Government website. MAYS participated in the releasing of five sea turtles.</p> <p>Infocielo. Return to the sea five sea turtles.</p>

	<p>Mundo Silvestre. Releasing of five sea turtles.</p> <p>Info Provincia. MAyDS participated in the releasing of five sea turtles.</p> <p>2262.com.ar. Return to the sea five sea turtles.</p> <p>March 2022 Pescare. Sea Science Conference.</p> <p>April 2022 Mar y pesca. INIDEP hosted a workshop of the joined technical commission of the maritime front.</p> <p>June 2022 Revista Puerto. Advances the sociolaboral diagnosis of hake fishery.</p>
<p>Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point's Name and contact details</p>	<p>María Jimena Cartechini (maria.cartechini@fao.org)</p>

12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

Are Indigenous Peoples and local communities involved in the project (as per the approved Project Document)? If yes, please briefly explain.

At present, there are no indigenous communities directly involved in the Project. Nonetheless, training in Gender and Vulnerable Groups on March 2018 included indigenous matters, with the participation of the MAYS coordinator on indigenous peoples. In this workshop, the participants agreed that there are no experiences of good fishing practice of indigenous peoples in Argentinean maritime areas, at least systematized as such.

13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing ²⁶	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2022	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
National Government	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS)	In-kind and grant	1,266,666	349,116	196,135	1,266,666
National Government	Ministry of Security (MS)	In-kind and grant	4,716,871	309,471	298,809	4,716,871
National Government	National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET)	In-kind and grant	822,000	595,251.08	265,903	822,000
National Government	National Institute for Fisheries Research and Development (INIDEP)	In-kind and grant	2,194,000	281,158	230,503	2,194,000

²⁶ Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Other.

National Government	Under-secretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture (SSPyA)	In-kind and grant	2,380,000	159,276	91,712	2,380,000
National Government	Chief of Cabinet Ministry (JGM)	In-kind and grant	289,800	3,247,487	3,247,487	289,800
National Government	Federal Fisheries Council (CFP)	In-kind and grant	635,361	126,007.81	92,210	635,361
National Government	Ministry of Defense (MD)	In-kind and grant	3,076,922	1,661,014	1,633,264	3,076,922
Private Sector	Glaciar Pesquera S.A	Grant	240,000	1,134,314	614,461	240,000
Multilateral Organization	FAO		200,000	237,140.5	123,475	200,000
TOTAL			15,821,620	8,100,235.4	6,793,959	15,821,620

Please explain any significant changes in project co-financing since Project Document signature, or differences between the anticipated and actual rates of disbursement

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

Development Objectives Rating. A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Project is expected to achieve or exceed all its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”
Satisfactory (S)	Project is expected to achieve most of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Project is expected to achieve most of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve some of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Project is expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its major global environmental objectives)
Unsatisfactory (U)	Project is expected not to achieve most of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits)
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, any of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.)

Implementation Progress Rating. A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project’s components and activities is in compliance with the project’s approved implementation plan.	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as “good practice
Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action.
Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

Risk rating. It should assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale:	
High Risk (H)	There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
Substantial Risk (S)	There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face substantial 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 moderate risk.
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 low risks.