



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2023 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

Table of contents

1.	BASIC PROJECT DATA
2.	PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING PROJECT OBJECTIVE(S) (DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE)
3.	IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS (IP)15
4.	SUMMARY ON PROGRESS AND RATINGS
5.	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS (ESS)
6.	RISKS
7.	FOLLOW-UP ON MID-TERM REVIEW OR SUPERVISION MISSION (ONLY FOR PROJECTS THAT HAVE
CON	DUCTED AN MTR)
8.	MINOR PROJECT AMENDMENTS
9.	STAKEHOLDERS' ENGAGEMENT
10.	GENDER MAINSTREAMING
11.	KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES
12.	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES INVOLVEMENT
13.	CO-FINANCING TABLE
ANN	EX 1. – GEF PERFORMANCE RATINGS DEFINITIONS
ANN	EX 2. GEO LOCATION INFORMATION
ANN	EX 3. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS

1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	Latin America and the Caribbean				
Country:	Panama				
Project Title:	Sustainable land management land and restoration of productive				
	landscapes in river basins for the implementation of national targets Land				
	Degradation Neutrality (LDN) in Panama.				
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/PAN/005/GFF				
GEF ID:	10588				
GEF Focal Area(s):	Land Degradation				
Project Executing Partners:	Ministry of Environment (MiAmbiente), CATHALAC and				
	Natura Foundation				
Initial project duration (years):	3 years				
Project coordinates:	[Projects in a) and b) categories should indicate YES here and provide the				
This section should be completed	geocoded data in Annex 2]				
ONLY by:	YES				
a) Projects with 1st PIR;	• Chiriquí Viejo: -8 2.94805,8.93687 y -82.53367,8.80498 (NO – SE,				
b) In case the geographic coverage of	WGS84 – EPSG:4326)				
project activities has changed since	,				
last reporting period.	• Santa María: -81.27072,8.63706 y -80.47037,7.92960 (NO – SE, WGS84				
	– EPSG:4326)				
	 La Villa: -80.83235,8.01770 y -80.34621,7.54656 (NO – SE, WGS84 – EPSG:4326 				

Project Dates

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	3 June 2021
Project Implementation Start	01 March 2022
Date/EOD :	
Project Implementation End	15 November 2023
Date/NTE ¹ :	
Revised project implementation End	28 February 2025
date (if approved) ²	

¹ As per FPMIS

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

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	1,867,808
Total Co-financing amount (USD) ³ :	17,508,517
Total GEF grant delivery (as of June	
30, 2023 (USD):	304,752
Total GEF grant actual expenditures	
(excluding commitments) as of June	251,295
30, 2023 (USD) ⁴ :	
Total estimated co-financing	3,508,609
materialized as of June 30, 2023	
(USD)⁵	

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

⁴ The amount should show the values included in the financial statements generated by IMIS.

⁵ Please refer to the Section 13 of this report where updated co-financing estimates are requested and indicate the total co-financing amount materialized.

M&E Milestones

Date of Last Project Steering	September 8, 2022
Committee (PSC) Meeting:	
Expected Mid-term Review date ⁶ :	Does not apply to this project
Actual Mid-term review date (if	Does not apply to this project
already completed):	
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date ⁷ :	January 2025
Tracking tools (TT)/Core indicators (CI)	Yes
updated before MTR or TE stage	
(provide as Annex)	

Overall ratings

Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall implementation progress	Moderately Satisfactory
rating:	
Overall risk rating:	Moderate

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	Moderate
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Status

· · ·	
Implementation Status	
(1 st PIR, 2 nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):	1 st PIR

Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
Project Coordinator (PC)	Enrique Vargas Fanuco	enrique.vargas@cathalac.int
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GEF Operational Focal Point (GEF OFP)	Raul Pinedo	Planning Analyst, Ministry of Environment.
Lead Technical Officer (LTO)	Raixa Llauger	Raixa.Llauger@fao.org
GEF Technical Officer, GTO (ex Technical FLO)	Nadia Mujica	Nadia.Mujica@fao.org

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)

Project or Development O Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term TargetMid- term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level (and %) at 30 June 2023	Progress rating ¹¹
Outc	tcome 1: Streng	gthened governanc	e to achieve the implementation of	LDN goals			
enab envir impr decis maki facili imple n and moni LDN	engthened abling vironment to prove cision king and ilitate the plementatio	Indicator 1.1.1: # policy, legal and regulatory instruments developed (target: at least 3)	There is no land law. Water law dates from 1966 (obsolete) Other laws that regulate water and soil: -Law 1 of 1994 (forest legislation) -Law 44 of 2001 (Integrated Watershed Management) -DE 283 of 2013 (OTA) -Law 24 of 1992, modified in 2005) (reforestation) -Law 24 of 1995, revised in 2005) (wildlife) -DE 25, 2007	 Land law proposal prepared Disclosure, information and review of the water law (pending in the Assembly of Deputies. 	 Water law proposal, reviewed and approved by Ministry of Environment (MiAmbiente). PNSH 2010- 2050 disclosed in the 3 areas of execution Agreements reached with the private sector for the recovery of degraded areas in the prioritized basins. Regional dialogue table on water instituted, with broad participation from all sectors (private, producer, public, community, local 	 (25% Cumulative Progress) The Ministry of Environment as part of its co-financing hired a legal consultant to elaborate a Land Law Draft Proposal, that is been reviewed at its legal department The Water Law proposal is still been reviewed by MiAmbiente Legal Department. After COVID -19 pandemic, this project has supported the Committee to Combat Drought and 	MS

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

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ Please report on results obtained in terms of Global Environmental Benefits and Socio-economic co-benefits as well.

¹¹ 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). Refer to Annex 1.

				governments, civil society and academia).	 Desertification (CONALSED) <i>reactivation</i> <i>to contribute to the</i> <i>achievement of LDN goals</i> The Chiriqui Viejo, La Villa and Santa María river basin committees have been strengthened by the project on NDT. 	
	Indicator: One (1) consolidated agri- environmental information system	There are multiple public, international, and private computer systems that operate in a nonintegrated manner, even though many report environ mental, climate, and agricultural information.	 Design, development and installation of the Agri environmental information system integrated between Ministry of Environment (MiAmbiente), Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA) and Agricultural Research Institute of Panama (IDIAP) 	 Agri-environmental information system displayed on a web site simultaneously linked to the web sites of (MIAMBIENTE, MIDA and IDIAP). The project website will be an agri-environmental platform that will be available before the first semester of the project and will be evolving in content and capabilities until the final phase of the project. Topics: water, soil, forests, climate and climatic events, disaster risks, agricultural information, SLM / CSA / GCI / LDN techniques, prices, markets, seeds, technology, alerts for droughts and rains, etc. 	 (25% Cumulative Progress) The conceptual design of the agri-environmental information system was carried out. Instead of a website the project efforts will be aimed at strengthening MiAmbiente's SINIA existing platform and improving the information management capacities at the regional level. 	MS
1.2 Integration of LDN, SLM and CSA in the land use planning of the selected basins	Indicator1.2.1: At least one territorial plan for each basin that integrates	In the project execution areas, it has been confirmed that there are: - Management plans for the Santa Maria and Chiriqui Viejo basins -La Villa Land Use Plan -3	 The three sub-basin plans' goal is completed according to the planning priorities agreed with the basin committees. 	 Sub-basin management plans Methodology for integrating LDN into 	 (33% Cumulative Progress) Basin diagnostic analysis conducted including land degradation. 	S

	better LDN, SLM and CSA Indicator: 30% of producers participating in the capacity building and experience exchange program are women, and 15% are young people	Basin Commit tees -7 subbasin committees 50 Producer organizations (cooperatives, group associations, etc.) with legal status -29 women's organizations receiving assistance from MIDA through the Rural Women Program	 Agreed methodology for the future design of land use plans that integrate LDN. Training completed of various actors (men and women) in the use of territorial planning tools. Increased capacities in the basin committees to assume the basins' governance, with the support of the municipal governments, once the project is completed. 	approved land use plans	 Producers were identified (Men/Women ratio), analyzed and pre-selected in order to benefit from the project interventions. 	
1.3 LDN Indicator Monitoring System is established	Indicator: Standardized methodology established to harmonize the LDN baseline with its indicators, to monitor and report to the national LDN targets until 2030.	LDN Goals: -Goal 1: By 2030 the forest cover has increase d by 26% -Goal 2: By 2025 reduce the convers ion of 18,000 ha of forests into stubble and shrubs and / or agricultural soilsGoal 3: By 2030, increase the productivity of 62,000 ha of agricultural land and 12,000 ha of scrubland and grasslands with decreasing productivity and early stages of deterioration.	 Activities and agreements on the technologies to be used to measure Changes in LDN according to FAO recommendations 	 Standardized and harmonized methodology to measure and monitor LDN goals that is used until the final LDN goal by 2030. Reports on changes in land use and reports on the reduction of degradation in the execution areas and in other areas of the country. 	 (33% Cumulative Progress) The criteria to establish the Base Line, LDN indicators and the methodology have been prepared. For the definition of the NDT Targets, three basic indicators were used. 	S
	Indicator: # of LDN Goal reports at the local level (Target: at least 3)	The LDN baseline must be validate d at the basin level in the execution areas.	 The tools for weighing and validating the LDN baseline in the execution basins have already been defined, and 	 Weighing (3) reported during project execution. Selection and adoption of tools for weighing the changes achieved with 	 (33% Cumulative Progress) Nine tools have been reviewed. The project has chosen Kobo Tool box created by 	S

	productivity according to Land Productivity Dynamics in the selected sub-basins is: 54,400 ha Breakdown of hectares by type of production system:	 40% of the beneficiaries have 	 heds 500 ha of degraded lands were restored in the following areas: 200 ha with agroforestry 300 ha of riparian forests recovered 5,000 ha in the productive landscapes of the selected watersheds incorporated SLM/CSA practices. Distributed in the following areas: 4,600 ha of grasslands with silvopastoral systems and smart 	 (25% Cumulative Progress) Good practices have been identified and characterized. There is a preliminary list of 234 producers identified, segregated by gender and age in the three Basin areas as follows: (a) 67 producers in Chiriqui Viejo (55 Men and 12 Women); 70 producers in La Villa (55 Men and 15 Women); and 	n systems and MS
Core Indica 4.3: 5,000 ha o landscape		trained in the formulation and evaluation of investment projects.	livestock practices implemented. • 200 ha of Rice under SLM practices implemented • 200 ha of Corn under SLM practices implemented	 97 producers in Santa Maria (77 Men and 20 Women) Breakdown of hectares by type of production system in the preliminary list: Coffee = 150 ha Banana = 255 ha Rice = 216 ha Corn = 530 ha Livestock production = 1,688 ha (25% Cumulative Progress) 864 ha under SLM production system have 	

	tCO2e emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector						
					1		
	of beneficiaries are women					20% of the producers identified in the preliminary list are women, through MIDA's farm plans, the project goal is 40%.	
Outcome 3: Innova	ovative financial med	chanisms to promote SLM, with focu	s on CSA, CSL, and land resto	ration in order to achieve LDN.			
3.1 Financing mechanisms strengthened or established to mobilize resources to implement SLM practices, with a CSA and CSL approach, and support undertakings in the selected watersheds.	Indicator: At least USD2.5 million mobilized to strengthen the changes with (This Outcome contributes with CORE indicators 3.1 and 4.3. It will	There are financing options in public agricultural banking and private banking that require adjustments to include in the credit, the environmental variables that support the LDN goals. Public Banks: -Bank for Agricultural Development (BDA) -National Bank of Panama (BNP) Private Banks: -Global Bank -Capital Bank Others: -Water, Wildlife and Protected Areas Fund, Producers Cooperatives (plantain, coffee,	9 financing proposals prepared and presented to financial entities	 18 Producer organizations (at least one for each sub- basin) have investment plans submitted to the financing entities (two for each sub-basin). At least 40% of the investment plans from women's organizations. Investment plans prepared to present them for financing Technical assistance and information on credit portfolios and requirements 		(15% Cumulative Progress) The Ministry of Agricultural Development has shared 50 financial existing plans for producers of the priority crops identified in each of the three basin committees. The Project Coordinator and FAO technical staff have had a preliminary meeting with Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Authority (AMPYME) , in order to explore financing mechanisms such as seed Capital for small entrepreneurs and	MU

	and associations by basin with access to financial markets for SLM practices (goal by basin: 3; total goal: 9);			•	Men and women producers applying to the financing of the banking system Agreements for the Water, Wildlife and Protected Areas Fund to support the financing of investment plans of producer organizations Synergies with other projects in execution in the selected areas complementing the financing of producers who are not beneficiaries of the	•	capacity building in financial plan formulation among other alternatives. The project has had Nine (9) capacity building meetings in the La Villa and Santa Maria Basin Committees, including information and resources generated by MIDA, MiAmbiente's Climate Change Direction	
3.2 Strengthening of organizational capacities for access to markets and certification mechanisms for agricultural	Indicator: At least one association / cooperative in each basin demonstrating reduction of the carbon footprint and water footprint	Legally established producer organizations, including women's organizations that develop products that can be certified Use in the country of International Certifications such as ISO 14067 for carbon and ISO 14046 for water footprint that is	Application protocols to certify the carbon footprint in livestock and rice Information has been generated to establish a baseline for reducing the water and/or carbon footprint in the	•	GEF LDN Panama project. Support basin committees to improve the availability of resources Training and information to beneficiaries Producers/entreprene urs recognized for their management in the basin and actions against climate change. Application of the necessary eco-labeling	•	(25% Cumulative Progress) The project purchased and coordinated the Installation of <i>water</i> <i>consumption meters</i> on agricultural farms for the measurement of the water footprint	MS

products from areas with SLM(goal per basin: 1; total goal: 3)not always accessible to small producers and entrepreneurs.project execution areas.to access financing for this type of initiative.There is a report of the training workshopand restored areas.# of• There is a report of the training workshop• At least one• Information generatedaddressed to producers,
and restored # of training workshop
areas cooperatives • At least one • Information generated • addressed to producers
and women's producer to establish a baseline Climate Change
associations The country is building its own organization for reducing the water Directorate (DCC)
with access to carbon and water certification certified in and/or carbon technicians, and Ministry
markets for the system through the Reduce Your accordance with the footprint in the project of Agricultural
certification of Corporate and Product Footprint certification execution areas. Development (MIDA)
key crops in program. protocols for carbon technicians on
SLM areas and and/or water the Global Protocol for
restored areas. footprint by other Emission Inventories
(Total goal: 2 certification systems Greenhouse Gases
per basin) Protocol Product Standard
3 women's methodology
organizations have
been trained in the There is a report on the
preparation of the
This Outcome investment plans Category rules for
contributes and low-emission selected products in this
with CORE products to request workshop, the
indicators 3.1 financing methodologies that the
and 4.3. It will program is using and how
also be an are developed with
important emphasis on the
factor in methodology of the GHG
reaching the Protocol preparation of
goal of product category rules
beneficiaries (SPC).
(4,000 in total).
• The Project has a
document report on
environmental labels with
the findings identified
from research conducted
by the RTH Products-
Carbon team.
Outcome 4: Knowledge management, evaluation and project report
4.1Indicator: AtThere is no communication• Communication• Integration of entities• (25% Cumulative Progress)MS
Communication least 3 strategy on SLM at the basin level Strategy designed related to SLM / CSA /
strategy on institutions and implemented CSL and LDN Ministry • The communication
SLM, CSA, CSL reporting on of Environment strategy was developed,

and restoration of degraded lands developed.	SLM, CSA and CSL (This Outcome contributes to: Goal 4 of the LDN: By 2020, improve coordination between the different institutions, civil society, unions, and promote participatory mechanisms.)					(MiAmbiente), IGN (Tommy Guardia National Geographic Institute), Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA), Agricultural Research Institute of Panama (IDIAP), National Secretariat of Science and Technology (SENACYT), Ministry of Trade and Industry (MICI), Electric Transmission Company (ETESA), National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC) that generate and provide information on the topics of interest of the project and the	•	which will allow the dissemination of messages aimed at changing bad practices into good practices, increasing the lands under sustainable management and the restoration of productive landscapes in the selected sub-basins. The implementation stage of the communication strategy on SLM is related to the productive components and will begin in the next fiscal year.	
	Indicator: A systematization of lessons learned and best practices with a gender equality approach	There is no systematization of lessons learned and best practices	•	Record of experiences with beneficiaries	•	producers. Systematization, publication and dissemination of lessons learned and good practices with a gender equality approach.	•	(25% Cumulative Progress) Some previous good practices have been identified in the diagnostics and producers needs assessment made at the Basin Committees, the project is gathering the information with a gender equality approach.	MS
4.2 Monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the progress and results of the project.	Indicator: A Monitoring, reporting and evaluation system unified of the progress	There is no Monitoring, reporting and evaluation system unified to report progress among stakeholders.	•	Inception workshop Initial report (referring to the inception workshop)	•	Final evaluation Audits	•	(33% Cumulative Progress) In August 2022, the inception workshop was attended by technical and managerial staff of the	S

and results of		Manitarian of the		Ministry of Environment
the project	•	Monitoring of the		(MiAmbiente), the
the project		baseline and		Ministry of Agricultural
		indicators		Development (MIDA) and
	•	Monitoring of		the Agricultural Research
		project indicators		Institute of Panama
		(progress and		(IDIAP), linked to the
		performance		different components of
		indicators and		the Project and basins
		objective,		committees' members,
		monitoring tools)		155 attendees (95 men/60 women)
	•	Incorporate the		womeny
		indicators of the	•	There is a document
		Gender Action Plan		prepared of the inception
		in the monitoring		workshops
		system of LDN		
		indicators and final		
		evaluations of the	•	The project has prepared progress reports and
		project		gathered supportive
	•	Semi-annual report -		information as means of
		APR and annual		verification
		report -PIR		
	•	Project progress	•	FAO contracted a
		reports and other	1	Monitoring and Evaluation
		reports (quarterly)		Specialist to assist the first PIR preparation for Fiscal
	•	Evaluation and		Year 2022-2023, and
		monitoring missions		design a unified M&E
	•	Meetings of the		System for progress follow
		Steering Committee		up.
		Technical Committee	1	
		and Project		
		Management		
			1	

Measures taken to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings on Section

	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Outcome			
1.1 Strengthened enabling environment to improve decision making and facilitate the implementation and monitoring of LDN at the national level.	Retake Project Steering Committee and Technical Committee new alternative strategies to promote faster results and contr achievement of NDT goals. Generate Periodic Meeting Agenda Strengthen the agreements and commitments made by the ir Formalize the development of the inter-institutional space in support the expected Project outputs of Component 1 actions Cooperation Agreements) Redefine the spectrum and coverage and procedures to integ technological tools MIAMBIENTE's National Environmental Int (SINIA)	ribute to the committee (PSC) Member and Project Technical Committee Members (PTC) and follow up by Project Coordinator the CONALSED to s (Regional Table and rate existing	a. July 2023, after first PIR b. Quarterly Meetings c. July 2023, after first PIR d. August 2023, after PIR e. August 2023, after PIR
2.1 Innovative practices and technologies implemented in the sustainable management and restoration of degraded lands in productive landscapes	Redefine the strategy in order to accelerate the implementati	ion of this outcome. Project Technical Committee provides feedback to the Project Steering Committee; follow up by Project Coordinator	a. August 2023
 3.1 Financing mechanisms strengthened or established to mobilize resources to implement SLM practices, with a CSA and CSL approach, and support undertakings in the selected watersheds. 3.2 Strengthening of organizational capacities for access to markets and certification mechanisms for agricultural products from areas with SLM and restored areas. 	Redefine the strategy in order to find alternatives and include AMPYME, IPACOOP, INADEH Identify some financing actions that can be replicated in our t according to diagnosis and previous experiences in Panama to Involve other public and private financial actors in SLM with C Include as a new partner and formalize agreements with Micr Enterprise Authority (AMPYME) to strengthen the capacities o Business Plan Formulation	hree basins, promote NDT goals SA and CSL approach o, Small and Medium	a. August 2023 b. August 2023 c. September 2023 d. September 2023
4.1 Communication strategy on SLM, CSA, CSL and restoration of degraded lands developed.	 a. Support the efforts of actors such as Ministry of Agricultu (MIDA) and Agricultural Research Institute of Panama (ID of communication material incorporating project related CSA, CSA, LDN) and to generate a clear and synchronized inter-institutional efforts and contribute to country NDT b. Design the knowledge management plan, and its implem interinstitutional collaboration: Ministry of Environment Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA), Agricultura of Panama (IDIAP) 	DIAP) for reproduction l information (SLM, l criteria to add up goals mentation, in a close (MiAmbiente),	c a. August 2023 c b. October 2023

3. Implementation Progress (IP)

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

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
Outcome 1.1 Strengthened enabling environment to improve decision making and facilitate the implementation and monitoring of LDN at the national level.			Detailed in Table 2 Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s)	
Output 1.1.1 1.1.1 Analysis of gaps and harmonization of policies, legal and regulatory frameworks between sectors to facilitate the planning, execution and monitoring of SLM with a landscape perspective.	Indicator 1.1.1: # policy, legal and regulatory instruments developed (target: at least 3)	 (1) Report of activities of the Regional Dialogue Table with at least 5 institutions Participants. (2) Report with the comments and final corrections to the Draft Law document of Soils. Minutes and list of attendees at the last 	 (1) After the COVID -19, it was important to reactivate the activities in person and back to field activities, for that reason during the Project life, the GCP/PAN/005/GFF Project Supports the Committee to Combat Drought and Desertification (CONALSED) reactivation to contribute to the achievement of LDN goals. The outcome roadmap of the meeting with CONALSED members includes the following necessary actions: (1) to identify the involvement of the Directorate of Forestry, Climate Change of the Ministry of Environment with CONALSED (2) CONALSED will promote the articulation of intergovernmental execution. (3) Modify the composition of the river basin committees, in a broader term and largely made up of producers and NGOs with action and residence in the basins. (4) The project has identified that there is a contradiction between the incentive laws Law 29 of the MIDA and Law 69 of the Ministry of Environment, in the 	 Project Start and related activities started later than scheduled. However, once started, the activities have been completed at a good pace.

¹² Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

achievements)

¹³ 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

¹⁴ Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
		validation workshop.	 <i>importance of recognizing actions aimed at the</i> <i>environmental restoration of the ecosystems of productive</i> <i>landscapes.</i> (5). There is an opportunity to support the monitoring system of the Forest Directorate of reforestation at the national level for the reporting of the NDCs. 6. Similarly, the opportunity to support the national agroclimatic system of MIDA, with the agroclimatic tables. (7). The NDT project will support CONALSED meetings during <i>its lifecycle</i>. The committee is composed by a representative of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, a representative of the Ministry of Agricultural Development, a representative of Environment, a representative of IDIAP, a representative of SENACYT, a representative of IDIAP, a representative of SENACYT, a representative of IDIAP, a representative of SENACYT, a representative of the University of Panama, a representative of the College of Agricultural Engineers, a representative of ETESA and two representatives of NGOs. (2) There is a Report of the systematization of the process of the preliminary draft of the law of soils by MiAmbiente, pending approval at legal department. (3) The workshop was attended by technical and managerial staff of the Ministry of Environment (MIAM and the Agricultural Research Institute of Panama (IDIAP), linked to the different components of the Project, but also members of the respective basins, representatives of the productive sector and local governments 155 attendees (95 men/60 women) MiAMBIENTE undertook, at the suggestion of the project coordination, to replicate the committee at the level of the regional offices with competence in the basins selected by this project. 	

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
Dutput 1.1.2 National Environmental Information System (SINIA) consolidated between MiAMB IENTE, MIDA and IDIAP, and accessible to external users with information on the use and degradation of land, soil, biodiversity, water, early warning systems, agrochemicals in critical crops and pastures and emissions (GHG).	Indicator: One (1) consolidated agri- environmental information system	 (1) Work plan clearly identifying the activities and times of execution. (2) Document with the lifting of the technical requirements of the system that include an Excel document with the report that the system will generate validated by the Ministry of Environment (3) Document 	 The coordinator, on behalf of the project, pledged to continue supporting the strengthening of the Committee's agenda, capacity building and dissemination of knowledge. Name of the document delivered: Product 1.1.1.1. Report in support of strengthening the CONALSED agenda. Name of the document delivered: Product 1.1.1.2. Report on the process for the preparation of the proposed Law on Integral Land Management. (1) Computer System Consultant prepared a Work Plan for the consolidation of the National Environmental Information System. (2) There is a document with the Technical Requirements of the National Environmental Information System. Summary and Detailed Flowchart of the National Environmental Information System designed. (3) A Data dictionary of the databases and a diagram describing how the different Institutions and Entities' databases relate among themselves was produced.	
Outcome 1.2 Integration of LDN, SLM and CSA in the land use planning of the selected basins		with dictionary database	Detailed in Table 2 Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s)	

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
Output 1.2.1 Up-to date river basin planning with LDN approach, proactive drought risk management approach, SLM/C SA guidelines, ecosystem restoration with basin committees, sub-basin committees, promotion of municipal co-management and the participation of other local actors	Indicator 1.2.1: At least one territorial plan for each basin that integrates better LDN, SLM and CSA	 (1) Prepare a diagnosis by subbasin (1 for each basin) on the state of the art of the Territorial Planning and the NDT approach Documented concrete actions (resolutions of conformation) that allow to constitute 3 committees of subbasins Set of digital land use maps and for discussions with producers and other users of the land at the local level to be defined. 	 (1) Document containing the Diagnosis of the Chiriqui Viejo River basin (Nacimiento Chiriqui Viejo, Caisan River and Divala River sub-basins) for territorial planning with a focus on Land Degradation Neutrality (NDT) elaborated and approved. (1) Document containing the Diagnosis of the La Villa River basin (Quebrada Pesé, Quebrada Piedras and Quebrada Salitre sub-basins) for territorial planning with a focus on Land Degradation Neutrality (NDT) elaborated and approved. (1) Document containing the Diagnosis of the Santa María river basin (Gatu, Cocobo, Las Guias and Lower Part sub- basins) for territorial planning with a focus on Land Degradation Neutrality (NDT) elaborated and approved. (2) There is a Report with the methodology and documentation of the process for the elaboration of the vulnerability map of the sub-basin of the source of the Chiriqui Viejo River. There is a base document to initiate a territorial planning process at the level of the 9 sub-basins of the project, with a focus on NDT, something unprecedented in Panama, where the land management processes have been carried out with arrangements for purposes totally different from that of the project. As part of the strengthening of the basin committees of the Chiriquí Viejo, Santa María and La Villa rivers, it has been possible for them to include in their Annual Operational Plan the adoption of specific activities for capacity building. The committees involve not only representatives of sectoral institutions, but also users of the basin and local governments located within these three basins. 	
LDN Indicator Monitoring System is established				

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
Output 1.3.1 National baseline and LDN targets (land productivity, land cover and soil organic carbon) validated and reported through SINIA	Indicator: Standardized methodology established to harmonize the LDN baseline with its indicators, to monitor and report to the national LDN targets until 2030.	 (1) Document describing selected criteria and indicators (2) Interventions in the territory with a survey of the initial state of indicators that may reflect changes in the life of the project (3) Document describing the process of selecting and implementing tools for Estimation of changes in CO2 stocks from interventions and others for measure the progress of project impacts. Coordinated closely with FAO. (4) Document describing the methodology for harmonizing the LB- NDT with its indicators (5) Document describing the process of selecting and implementing the tools for the NDT progress report (6) Document and database with the LB and NDT targets, SLM and CSA indicators, 	 (1) Criteria for the selection of Land Degradation Neutrality Baseline (LB-NDT) indicators established. Initial indicators for monitoring Land Degradation Neutrality (NDT) of the Chiriqui Viejo, La Villa and Santa María river basins designed and the three databases for each basin. (3) Process of selection and implementation of tools to estimate changes in CO2 stocks and the impact of project interventions established. (4) Methodology for harmonizing LB-NDT with NDT indicators prepared. (5) Process of selection and implementation of the tools for reporting the progress of the NDT elaborated. 	

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
<u>Output 1.3.2</u> Baseline and LDN targets, SLM and CSA indicators, established and monitored in the selected river basins	Indicator: # of LDN Goal reports at the local level (Target: at least 3)	Document database with baseline	 Land Degradation Neutrality Baseline (LB-NDT) of the sub- basins selected by the Sustainable Land Management and Restoration of Productive Landscapes in Watersheds Project for the implementation of the National Land Degradation Neutrality (NDT) Goals in Panama established. 	
Outcome 2.1 Innovative practices and technologies implemented in the sustainable management and restoration of degraded lands in productive landscapes			Detailed in Table 2 Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s)	
Output 2.1.1 Investment plans for selected SLM/CSA practices and climate smart livestock farming, formulated in a participatory manner with producer organizations and cooperatives, with a gender perspective.	Number of investment plans for specific SLM practices agreed upon in a participatory manner with local stakeholders under an integrated watershed management approach and with a gender perspective. (Interconnection with 2.2.1) Number of local men and women trained in the formulation and evaluation of investment projects	 Document describing the process for identifying project beneficiaries Document describing the process of identifying the financial institution and supporting the government for the financing of investment plans (2022 Workplan) 	 The project prepared a document containing the identification methodology and selection criteria of producers for measurement of the carbon and water footprint of the priority items in the river basins Chiriqui Viejo River, La Villa and Santa María of the GEF MST/NDT project. The project prepared a document that describes the methodology and the participatory process for the identification of local actors and producer groups for the elaboration of investment plans based on the work carried out by CATHALAC The project is working on a document describing the process of identifying the financial institution and supporting the government for the financing of investment plans 	
Output.2.1.2 SLM / CSA practices implemented in 3 agroecological systems (including corn, rice, plantain) with fertilizer reduction, small-scale water harvesting systems and efficient irrigation systems for dry seasons, etc.) with producer organizations and MIDA.	Number of hectares of rice incorporating SLM practices: Mechanized: Divola - Chiriqui Santa Maria (Lower part) "Chuzo" Traditional: Quebrada Pese	Document describing the process for identifying project beneficiaries	 The project has elaborated a document that contains the identification, selection criteria and best practices implemented by the target beneficiary producers of the sustainable land management and restoration of productive landscapes in watersheds for the implementation of the National Goals of Land Degradation Neutrality (NDT) in Panama project. 	

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical	Annual Target (As per the annual	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering
	Framework)	Work Plan)		outputs
	Quebrada Salitre Number of hectares of corn incorporating SLM practices: Quebrada Pese Quebrada Salitre Divala Cocobi-Las Guias Number of hectares of plantain incorporating SLM practices: Divala - Chiriqui (Interconnection with 2.2.1) Number of training activities for producers including field schools, exchange workshops. Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (A-WEAI) (IFPRI, 2015)		 The Selection Criteria includes the following: (1) Basin and sub-basin location sites (Chiriqui Viejo, La Villa and Santa Maria), (2) The surface (size) and the activity they develop: to. (a) Farms with a size not exceeding 50 hectares in livestock activities. (b) Farms of up to 15 hectares in agricultural activities. (c) Farms smaller than 5 hectares that qualify in the category of family farming. (3). Security of land tenure: (a) Ownership Title of the farm of the person who registers for the project. (b)Possessory right: legal figure under which the legal right of use and occupation of land is granted, as long as it is destined to fulfill the social function stipulated by the Agrarian Code. (4). Associations, cooperatives and community-based producer organizations (men and women) with legal personality. (5). Gender and rural youth: (a) Rural women's groups. (b)Rural Youth Network. Potential beneficiaries of farm management plans with a focus on NDT, MST, GCI and CSA were visited, with key support from MIDA technicians. 	
Output.2.1.3. Silvopastoral systems with sustainable grassland management and climate-smart livestock established in each basin (middle and lower part)	Number of hectares of grasslands with silvopastoral systems and smart livestock practices implemented. Quebrada Piedras Quebrada Salitre (La Villa) Caisan River – (Chiriqui Viejo) Gatu River River Cocobi– Las Guias (Santa Maria)	 Document describing the criteria used for the prioritization of GCI practices. Conducting seminars, courses and other trainings with producers on GCI and RECSOIL Lists of participants and 	 Document containing the Identification of good practices in Climate-Smart Livestock (CSL) in the sub-basins selected by the Sustainable Land Management and Restoration of Productive Landscapes in watersheds project, for the implementation of the National Land Degradation Neutrality (NDT) Goals in Panama, pending approval. Document containing Training Workshop for Livestock Producers in Good Livestock Practices adapted to Climate- Smart Livestock (<u>CSL</u>) 	

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
		reports with the tenor of the trainings and workshops carried out		
<u>Output.</u> 2.1.4 Natural and assisted restoration practices of agroforestry with permanent crops (coffee under shade on slopes of the upper and middle parts of the watersheds) and riparian forest buffers along the riverbanks and streams.		Document describing the criteria and identifying producers for Agroforestry identified based on secondary information and cabinet work	 The Project prepared a document containing Methodology for the selection of farms with good agroforestry practices in the sub-basins selected for the basins of the Chiriqui Viejo, Santa María and La Villa rivers. There are approximately 234 producers identified (see OD 2.1 for estimation of hectares) The project based on secondary information identified an <i>IDIAP's study of the characterization of horticultural farms in Cerro Punta, Chiriquí,</i> Panama was identified. This work allowed to identify the <i>good practices of sustainable land management (MST) and conservation agriculture (CSA)</i> developed by producers in the upper basin of the Chiriqui Viejo River. The summary of this paper presents the following indicators of (MST) and (CSA): (a) 48% of respondents are between <i>41 and 55 years of age</i>, with the predominant male gender with <i>84%</i>. (b) the level of education at the higher level was <i>39 per cent</i>, with <i>primary education</i> being more frequent (c) five people in average are living at home. (d) regarding basic services, 48% said they had complete satisfaction, while 52% lacked at least none. (e) as for the place of residence, the village predominated with 68%, while <i>32% reside on the same farm</i>; this could be related to the dissatisfaction of basic services. (f) regarding participation in organizations, <i>55% belong to producer associations</i>, 23% are in religious groups and 22% do not participate in any. (g) Regarding the economic dimension, the farms surveyed <i>totaled 606.43 ha</i>, predominantly farms with extensions of 1 – 5 ha in 42% of cases. (h) Additionally, <i>74% of farmers have land titles</i>. Regarding the area with crops, these represented <i>546.93 ha</i>, equivalent 	

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
Outcome 2.2 Strengthening of capacities and information services to support the planning, implementation and monitoring of SIM / CSU			 to 90% of the total area. (i) the five main crops were <i>potatoes, carrots, cabbage, lettuce and onions</i> and 26% of producers are raising animals. (j) as good practices implemented, <i>84%</i> of producers perform <i>equipment calibration, 32%</i> wash equipment in a designated location <i>away from bodies of water and 52% use full protective equipment</i>. (k) Regarding training, <i>68%</i> were trained in the <i>correct use of pesticides</i>. Detailed in item 2 Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s) 	
of SLM / CSA / CSL. Output 2.2.1 Capacity building program in SLM, CSA and CSL in local institutions and NGOs, cooperatives, community promoters and youth, with a gender focus, adopting a participatory teaching-learning methodology.		 The deliverable is extended to a Capacity Building Program in MST, CSA, CGI and pest management, aimed at local actors in the project basins. The Annual Forum was redefined to be part of the activities included in the basin committees' annual operating plan. 	 There is a Capacity Building aimed at both producers and technicians of the institutions with a presence in the basins. Name of the document delivered: Output 2.2.1 Training and capacity-building plan for producers and community-based organizations (CBOs) in the watersheds of the Chiriquí Viejo, Santa María and La Villa rivers. 	
Output 2.2.2 Innovative digital technological applications (agri-environmental and climate) developed to expand the extension and provide a reliable and timely consultation and information service to		This product is related to Product 1.1.2 so the documents that were developed in	• The development of innovative applications, integrated to the strengthening of the SINIA of MiAMBIENTE, enhances the consultation service offered to different users of the basins of the project. See Product Deliverables 1.1.2.	

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
producers (e.g., climate variability, early warning of droughts, advice on pests, etc.), in alliance with the private sector and research centers		that product extend to this product to avoid duplication of effort.		
Outcome 3.1 Financing mechanisms strengthened or established to mobilize resources to implement SLM practices, with a CSA and CSL approach, and support undertakings in the selected watersheds.			Detailed in Table 2 Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s)	
Output 3.1.1 Proposals for SLM projects with a CSA/GCI approach prepared and submitted to financial institutions		 Report and list of MST/CSA/GCI practices Explanatory document with detailed credit options and communication strategy for disclosure. Explanatory document with detailed financing options and communication strategy for dissemination. 	 The Project has prepared a report and list of MST/CSA/GCI practices Natura is working on an explanatory document with detailed credit options and communication strategy for disclosure. Natura is working on an explanatory document with detailed funding options and communication strategy for dissemination 	
Output 3.1.2. Financial mechanisms for established basin committees		 Identify local actors and producer groups to develop the participatory process of preparing investment plans (consider 	 Document prepared that describes the methodology and the participatory process for the identification of local actors and producer groups for the elaboration of investment plans based on the work carried out by CATHALAC. The Ministry of Agricultural Development has facilitated 50 existing financial plans for producers of the priority crops identified in each of the three basin committees. 	

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
		strengths and weaknesses of men and women in their productive activities).		
Output 3.1.3 Water footprint measurement in raw materials		 Report of results of selection of project items. Report of results of the project coordination with the pertinent entities and producers of the priority items. Detailed report with production process of the 3 priority items of the project 	 The project has a list of practices for Sustainable Land Management (SLM), Agriculture, Climate-Smart (CSA) and Climate-Smart Livestock (GCI), which are linked to product 3.1.3 as a measure to reduce GHG emissions. There is a document describing the respective protocols developed for their respective application linked to the product 3.13, of the GEF NDT Project for carbon footprint and water footprint. The project has a document describing the methodologies for quantifying carbon footprint and water footprint. The project has a Report of the results of the project coordination with the pertinent entities and producers of the priority items. The project elaborated a Report of balance of matter and energy in the study system within the framework of ISO 14046: Water Footprint. There is a Methodology report developed for the evaluation of the water footprint of the 3 priority items. There is a Report with the results of dissemination of the contents of the program Reduce Your Footprint Products - Water. There is a Report of results of the measurement of the water footprint of priority items 	

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
			 Delivery of the revised and adequate document with experts, of the Accounting and Reporting Standard for the product cycle of the GHG Protocol. There is a Report of the training workshop (includes producer, DCC technician, MIDA) on the GHG Protocol Product Standard methodology and Report on the preparation of the category rules of the selected products. Report on the workshops carried out for the reproduction and dissemination of the measurement of the carbon footprint and containing the result thereof. 	
Outcome 3.2 Strengthening of organizational capacities for access to markets and certification mechanisms for agricultural products from areas with SLM and restored areas.			Detailed in item 2 Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s)	
<u>Output 3.2.1</u> Technical capacities of institutions to adopt carbon footprint and water footprint calculation tools for at least 2 key products strengthened (protocol developed for livestock and rice).		 Institutions Capacity Building increased to adopt carbon footprint and water footprint calculation tools 	 There is a Report on the workshops carried out for the reproduction and dissemination of the measurement of the carbon footprint and containing the result thereof There is a Report of the training workshop (includes producer, DCC technician, MIDA) on the GHG Protocol Product Standard methodology and Report on the preparation of the category rules of the selected products. 	
Output 3.2.2. Associations and cooperatives certified by the Reduce your Footprint Corporate and of products (sale of eco-labeled products).		Disclose certification requirements	 Written and audiovisual material prepared for the dissemination of the requirements based on the communication strategy (Leaflets and materials for the dissemination of the program reduce your footprint for producers and public services) There is a Report on the proposal of support for the different financial mechanisms that reduce the carbon footprint and/or may allow the adoption of an eco-labelling model. 	

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
Output 3.2.3 Technical and functional capacities of cooperatives or producer associations (with special emphasis on women's associations) strengthened to implement value-added ventures to products from SLM and restored systems and access markets.		 Support productive associations in the elaboration of project proposals with SLM, CFS and GCI practices in coordination with Component 2. 	 The Ministry of Agricultural Development has facilitated 50 financial plans for producers of the priority crops identified in each of the three basin committees. 20% are women producers who have SLM, CFS, and GCI practices 	
Outcome 4.1 Communication strategy on SLM, CSA, CSL and restoration of degraded lands developed.			Detailed in item 2 Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s)	
Output 4.1.1 Communication strategy on the project and on SLM-CSA and LDN based on new technologies and digital tools, developed and implemented for the dissemination and expansion of the process (scaling up).		 Document with Communication strategy of elaborated. 	 The project has a communication strategy, elaborated and organized according to each target group. Name of documents delivered: Product 4.1.1.1 Communication Strategy. 	
Output 4.1.2 Systematization, publication and dissemination of the lessons learned to support the expansion of LDN at the national level		 Document describing the Organization of information to be disclosed and by type of population. Report of Agreements made with broadcasters Broadcast premises and Radio 	 Product 4.1.1.2 Organization of the information to be disseminated and by type of population of the Communication Strategy 	

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
Outcome 4.2 Monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the progress and results of the project.			Detailed in item 2 Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s)	
Output 4.2.1 Project progress and achievements monitoring system.		 M&E system elaborated M&E Tools designed 	 The project hired a M&E Specialist to support the elaboration of the first PIR 2023, and to design a M&E System for tracking progress in order to improve the efficacy of the project through some recommendations to systematized information and sources of verification 	

4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

Please provide a summary paragraph on progress, challenges and outcomes of project implementation consistent with the information reported in sections 2 and 3 of the PIR (max 400 words)

The project started with **some delays** (administrative, first disbursement), and the activities originally planned to start in the second half of 2021 began their implementation at a faster pace after the first quarter of 2022, when key personnel and most of the consultants had been hired. The budget execution up to June 30, 2023 is **USD 298,504**, a disbursement rate of **55%** of planned budget for the reporting period of USD 547,625. The project may take some changes in the procurement process in order to improve the deliverable of the funds. Also in July 2022, there was a national wide strike affecting the country's economy for almost a month. The project has achieved a Stakeholder's co-financing of USD 3,508,609.40

Outcome 1: The Ministry of Environment hired a legal consultant to elaborate a Land Law Draft Proposal, that is been reviewed at its legal department. There could be political risks having a moderate to high impact on this legislation expected. The Water Law proposal is still under review. After the COVID -19, it was important to reactivate the activities in person and back to field activities, for that reason during the Project life, the GCP/PAN/005/GFF Project Supports the Committee to Combat Drought and Desertification (CONALSED) **reactivation** to contribute to the achievement of LDN goals. The project is supporting the National Committee to Combat Drought and Desertification. The committee is composed of a representative of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, a representative of the Ministry of Agricultural Development, a representative of the Ministry of Health, a representative of the Ministry of Environment, a representative of IDIAP, a representative of SENACYT, a representative of the University of Panama, a representative of the College of Agricultural Engineers, a representative of ETESA and two representatives of NGOs. The basin committees were strengthened with the accompaniment to their regular meetings and the internalization of NDT activities in the agendas of the Chiriqui Viejo, La Villa and Santa María river basins. There is a document with the Technical Requirements of the National Environmental Information System.

The project has elaborated three documents containing the **Diagnosis of the Chiriqui Viejo, Santa Maria and La Villa rivers and their sub-basins**. Criteria for the selection of Land Degradation Neutrality Baseline (LB-NDT) indicators established. Initial indicators for monitoring Land Degradation Neutrality (NDT) of the Chiriqui Viejo, La Villa and Santa María river basins designed and the three databases for each basin; also, the process of selection and implementation of tools to estimate changes in CO2 stocks and the impact of project interventions have been established; along with the methodology for harmonizing LB-NDT with NDT indicators prepared.

The Land Degradation Neutrality Baseline (LB-NDT) of the sub-basins selected by the Sustainable Land Management and Restoration of Productive Landscapes in Watersheds Project for the implementation of the National Land Degradation Neutrality (NDT) Goals in Panama established.

Outcome 2: The project has a **preliminary list of producers identified** in the three basins and their sub-basins, and their assessment of capacity building, and a strengthening plan was developed aimed at different target audiences, **men**, **women and youth**. In the next fiscal year, the project needs to implement the capacity building workshops in order to accelerate the progress of this outcome. The project prepared a document containing the identification **methodology and selection criteria** of producers for measurement of the **carbon and water footprint** of the priority items in the river basins Chiriqui Viejo River, La Villa and Santa María of the GEF MST/NDT project.

A Document that contains the identification, selection criteria and **good practices** implemented by the beneficiary producers of the project sustainable land management and restoration of productive landscapes in watersheds for the implementation of the National Goals of Land Degradation Neutrality (NDT), CSL in Panama has been elaborated.

Outcome 3: The project has **started the technical assistance** and gathering of information on credit portfolios and requirements; **some additional actions are needed** to incorporate new partners, to create synergies and information sharing on good practices and alternative strategies, in order to achieve expected results, to be addressed in the next quarter.

Outcome 4: The **communication strategy was designed**, which will allow the dissemination of messages aimed at changing bad practices into good practices, increasing the lands under sustainable management and the restoration of productive landscapes in the selected sub-basins. The implementation stage is related to the productive components and will begin in the next fiscal year. Some previous good practices have been identified.

Among the main **challenges identified** in this reporting period we can mention that: (a) the project needs to perform some **corrective actions** to achieve the effective **interinstitutional coordination**; (b) the project needs to have **regular Steering Committee meetings** supported by Technical Committee recommendations; (c) the project needs to **strengthen the monitoring and evaluation** of the outputs and **co-financing** in order to accelerate the proposed goals completion, in a quarterly reporting system.

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.

	FY2023 Development Objective rating ¹⁵	FY2023 Implementation Progress rating ¹⁶	Comments/reasons ¹⁷ justifying the ratings for FY2023 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator: Enrique Vargas Fanuco	S	S	Components 1, 2 and 4 and their activities could be developed with very few changes according to the Project Document Work Plan. The adjustments that were made are mainly due to aspects that could not be controlled by the Project, such as the initial disbursement of funds, political and institutional willingness and the social outbreak in Panama in July 2022 ¹⁸ .
Fanuco	:0	Component 3 is the one that showed the least progress, mainly due to the oversizing of its products and activities and the lack of financial facilities effectively available to implement it.	
Budget Holder: Adoniram Sanches	MS	MS	There are some delays according to the original execution plan due to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and strikes in July 2022, although some actions have been undertaken and activities are on track. The project budget amounts to USD 1,867,808 and the first disbursement was received on November 2021 (USD 250,000), a second disbursement was received on April 2022 (\$ 115,000) and a Third disbursement was received on April 2023 (\$1,502,808). While the project start date is July 2021 (originally), FAO and the Government of Panama formalized the project by signing an agreement to start implementation on 04 August 2021, nonetheless, project implementation started on 13 January 2022 after all the key staff and most of the consultants were hired. The budget execution up to June 30, 2023 is USD 298,504, a disbursement rate of 55% of planned budget for the reporting period of USD 547,625. After the COVID -19 pandemic restrictions were lifted, it was important to reactivate field activities, hence, the Project GCP/PAN/005/GFF Supports the Committee to Combat

¹⁵ **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.

¹⁶ **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.

 $^{^{17}\ \}mathrm{Please}$ ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

¹⁸ The national strikes in July 2022, was caused by the unstoppable rise in fuel prices since late February, which experts say impacted the already rising cost of food.

			Drought and Desertification (CONALSED) to contribute to the achievement of LDN goals. The initial coordination and the inception workshop were attended by technical and managerial staff of the Ministry of Environment (MiAmbiente), the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA) and the Agricultural Research Institute of Panama (IDIAP), linked to the different components of the Project and water-basins committees' members. However, in the new phase, the governance of the project and its mechanisms need to be strengthened. For instance, the Project need to have regular Project Steering Committee and Technical Committee meetings to review new alternative strategies to promote faster results in the field and contribute to the achievement of NDT goals. Moreover, new actors like AMPYME, IPACOOP, INADEH and public and commercial banking should be included it in order to promote SLM with CSA and CSL approach. Project interventions will also consider the strengthening of capacities of women in the organization and administration of community-based organizations and cooperatives, as well as specific training such as administrative skills. It is expected to include at least 40% of women in these activities and 15% young people. Those activities could ensure/increase/improve benefits for women and youth in the community.
GEF Operational Focal Point ¹⁹ : Raúl Pinedo	S	S	In the beginning, the problems of the financial management of the project were an initial burden, which managed to be overcome in weeks. The change of Project Managers also affected the first stage of the project; Steps were taken to stabilize the implementation of the project.
Lead Technical Officer ²⁰ : Raixa Llauger	MS	MS	Taking into account that at the beginning we were in the context of the pandemic, we focused on planning and other issues specifically related to the basin committees. In the new phase that we will enter, we will be able to advance with the field work. In addition, in the different exchanges that have been carried out in recent months, an effort has been made to advance with the purchasing processes and thus be able to achieve a better intervention in the field. It is very important to record the efforts that have been made at this stage, remembering that in this PIR report we must reflect the progress made to the donor at this stage of implementation. We hope then that the work in the field can be reflected in the next report.
GEF Technical Officer, GTO (ex Technical FLO): Nadia Mujica	MS	MS	The project design is ambitious (expected impact and outputs in 3 years). It is technically (land and water, climate adaptation) and politically complex (regulations, land interventions, communication). Health and social unforeseen events occurred at the beginning. Governance (horizontal and vertical) involves several actors (implementers, executors and counterparts); the governance mechanisms need to be strengthened. The

 ¹⁹ In case the GEF OFP didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.
 ²⁰ The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

	work with CATHALAC has improved and the one with NATURA Foundation will be strengthened, in order to increase the technical and budgetary execution.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

This section is under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

Please describe the progress made to comply with the approved ESM plan. Note that only projects with <u>moderate</u> or <u>high</u> Environmental and Social Risk, approved from June 2015 should have submitted an ESM plan/table at CEO endorsement. This does not apply to <u>low</u>-risk projects. Please indicate if new 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 Managem	ent			
1.3 Does the project include an irrigation system of more than 20 hectares or that extracts more than 1,000 m3 / day of water?	 According to FAOs ESS analysis This risk is rated as Moderate. During the Prodoc preparation, technical studies revealed the following mitigation measures: 1. The adoption of climate-smart agriculture practices with diversified cropping systems integrates best practices of water use. 2. Irrigation will only be used in small rice plots, under the melgas or complementary irrigation systems. 3. The water demand projections will be much lower than those provided in the PIF. The strengthening of local committees is foreseen to increase the governance of co- management of the water resources of the sub- basin so that there are no downstream impacts due to water use in the upper and middle part of the basin. Component 4 will facilitate access to information systems (agricultural, environmental, and agroclimatic) to support the updating of 	 The project is supporting the National Committee to Combat Drought and Desertification (CONALSED) initiative The project has active participation in the ordinary meetings of the Basin Committees (5 meetings) mainly in Santa Maria and LaVilla rivers The project has field visits memories of the trainings in each basin The data that demonstrate the water usage practices and the factors and the selection for each item by 	 Periodic reports systematized Number of producers trained on proper use of water Support to MIDA extension workers on risk mitigation 	MiAmbiente CATHALAC FAO MIDA

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
	management plans to use resources, mainly water.	hydrographic basin have been collected.		
1.5 Would this project aim to improve an existing irrigation scheme (without expansion)?	The project has taken into account the need to make better water use. It will only support small complementary irrigation systems for crops (rice, corn, vegetables) that are part of the project's good SLM practices. It has also planned that more producers adopt the melgas system in rice production after evaluating the soils to know if they have the infiltration speed required for this type of irrigation.	 The data that demonstrate the water usage practices and the factors and the selection for each item by hydrographic basin have been collected. The project has field visits memories 	 Project expense and investment reports Execution reports Reports of evaluation missions The project will include MIDA extension workers in awareness raising and education plans on water use and irrigation 	MiAmbiente CATHALAC FAO MIDA
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and	d Natural Habitats			
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for 3.2 Would this project provide seeds / planting material for cultivation?	Food and Agriculture The project will promote the use of seeds certified by IDIAP and the reproduction of native seeds (in the case of corn seed). IDIAP, for more than 40 years, has developed varieties of seeds (mainly rice, corn and beans) with tolerance to the main pests and diseases affecting the crop, thus avoiding the introduction of weeds and increasing the resilience to climatic events. 70% of the rice seed that is grown in each agricultural cycle corresponds to IDIAP certified seeds. The project will use this type of seed to avoid introducing non-certified genetic material in the country.	 Initial meetings with IDIAP, pending actions 	 Agreements made with IDIAP to mitigate risks relate to seeds provision Reports of beneficiary assistance Native seed reproduction projects to recover genetic material. Volume of certified seed provided by the project 	MiAmbiente IDIAP MIDA's Agencies Regional Directions Extension Agencies CATHALAC

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility			
			 Number of producers benefited with the use of certified seed Native corn seed reproduction projects. 				
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aqua	tic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agricultur	e					
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Managen	nent						
5.1 Would this project procure, supply and / or result in the use of pesticides on crops, livestock, aquaculture, or forestry?	Technical support will be provided to producers to implement the regulations established by MIDA regarding restricted and/or prohibited agrochemicals (Resolution No. ALP 074 ADM-97; Resolution No. ALP 006 ADM-99) and to use biopesticides and organic fertilizers in production systems. It will be coordinated with the Plant Health Directorate (MIDA) for the control and use of agrochemicals in the project execution areas.	Technical execution reports	 Involve Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA)'s extension workers and Ministry of Health (MINSA) to raise awareness among producers Training in the use of organic fertilizers and the use of natural pesticides Number of producers using organic fertilizers and bio-pesticides. Technical execution reports Model projects 	MiAmbiente IDIAP MIDA's Agencies Regional Directions Extension Agencies CATHALAC MINSA			
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement							

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility		
ESS 7: Decent Work						
ESS 8: Gender Equality						
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cult	tural Heritage					
New ESS risks that have emerged o	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:

Initial ESS Risk classification	Current ESS risk classification
(At project submission)	Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ²¹ . If not, what is the new classification
	and explain.
Moderate	This risk classification is still valid, due to the importance of good selection of producers involved, and the
	intersectoral coordination needed to mitigate it.

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.

No grievance or complains received during the fiscal year.

²¹ **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit (<u>Esm-unit@fao.org</u>) should be contacted. The project shall prepare or amend an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) or other ESS instruments and management tools based on the new risk classification (please refer to page 13 https://www.fao.org/3/cb9870en/cb9870en.pdf)

6. Risks

The following table summarizes risks identified in the Project Document and reflects also any new risks identified during the 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 ²²	Identified in the Prodoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	The technical assistance organization in the field by geographic units is separate from the key institutions (MIDA and MiAmbiente). For example, MIDA works at the level of regions (provinces) and MiAmbiente at the basins level, which can include several areas. The risk is that not all MIDA Regional Directorates have the same commitment and operational capacity to execute field activities, especially extension work. Directorates have the same commitment and operational capacity	Moderate	Y	 To reduce this risk, an extension strategy has been designed. It will include: Defining clear responsibilities regarding the scope, methods, and target population of extension activities. Share among the institutions the contents of the practices that will be developed in each area. Complement outreach activities with the Field Schools. Create a platform or downloadable App on cell phones or another digital tool for the remote extension to producers. 	 The project has field visits memories The project will include MIDA extension workers The project is designing the App/ Mobile Tools to improve extension work at the local level. 	

²² Risk ratings means a rating of 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 ²²	Identified in the Prodoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
	to execute field activities, especially extension work.					
2	The need for focus and approaches to LDN indicators and goals to be internalized and shared at the technical, managerial level between MiAmbiente and MIDA	Low	Y	 The project will mitigate this risk under Component 1, strengthening the intersectoral coordination mechanism to improve cooperation on LDN. The inter-institutional commitment around LDN will also be strengthened, with an ad hoc Technical Committee made up of various entities to make decisions on technical issues relevant to the project's implementation. The normative and programmatic framework related to land use and water use planning processes will be improved. 	 The basin committees have started a strengthening process with the accompaniment to their regular meetings and the internalization of NDT activities in the agendas of the committees of the Chiriqui Viejo, La Villa and Santa María river basins The project is supporting the National Committee to Combat Drought and Desertification (CONALSED) initiative; created by resolution AG- 0098-2004 and amended by resolution AG- 0040-2008. as an alternative intersectoral mechanism due to 	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²²	Identified in the Prodoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
					the lack of a Water and Soil legislation.	
3	Basin committees' weak capacity to guide the ordering of land and water use in their respective basins.	High	Y	 The project expects to mitigate this risk by strengthening technical and operational capacities and increasing the knowledge of the members of the basin committees in land use planning, water balances, meteorological and climate information, etc. Also, the feasibility of creating financial resource funds will be analyzed so that the basin committees can implement their action plans and management plans of their respective ones. 	• The basin committees have started a strengthening process with the accompaniment to their regular meetings and the internalization of NDT activities in the agendas of the committees of the Chiriqui Viejo, La Villa and Santa María river basins.	
4	The weak indebtedness capacity of small producers and family farmers to implement the practices proposed in the project.	High	Y	 The Social Evaluation and the Gender Analysis showed the low debt capacity of small producers and producers due to a lack of guarantees to guarantee loans, ignorance of the procedures to submit credit applications, lack of investment plans and very low profitability enterprises. To mitigate this risk, the project will support these producers with the preparation of investment plans, training, guidance to present financing requests, investment in demonstration activities that can be replicated in other areas or by other producer groups. 	• Some progress has been made in the technical assistance and information on credit portfolios and requirements; some actions to incorporate new partners and alternative strategies need to be addressed in the next quarter.	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²²	Identified in the Prodoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
				• Also, during the project's implementation, the feasibility of creating revolving funds administered by the producer organizations themselves to co-finance their associates will be analyzed and thus ensure that a more significant number of producers can apply the techniques that the project will promote.		
5	Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic	Low	Y	 The Project preparation stage was affected by mobility restrictions that Panama put into effect in 2020 and until the first quarter of 2021 to avoid COVID-19 infections. The main effect was to carry out the activities of consultation and discussion of topics virtually, but they were largely participatory. Another mitigation mechanism was the inclusion of joint teams of a foreign specialist with national specialist to develop project component to guarantee strengthen national capacity, guaranteeing also, country vision in all the proposals. Another effect was the reduction of funds for project stakeholders in 2020, due to the need to address the health crisis. Nevertheless, this did not affect the project in 2020, due to stakeholders' funds were not 	 Effective September 14, 2022, a new Presidential decree lifted all COVID-19- entry and quarantine related restrictions After the COVID - 19, it was important to reactivate the activities in person and back to field activities, for that reason during the Project life, the GCP/PAN/005/GFF Project Supports the Committee to Combat Drought and Desertification (CONALSED) reactivation to contribute to the 	

Type of risk	Risk rating ²²	Identified in the Prodoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
			 required during project formulation phase. To prevent the risk of not having financing funds at the beginning of the project, MiAmbiente programmed in the national budget US \$ 500,000 for the first year. It is not expected significant budget cutting backs in stakeholder financing funds for COVID-19, since the country has initiated an aggressive vaccination program to prevent new outbreaks and maintains alerts of possible sources of contagion, including a biosecurity plan for the visitor entry to the country. In the future, if some other confinement take place at national level, it will be possible to consider to combine virtual workshops and trainings, in order to avoid project delays due to pandemic issues. 	 achievement of LDN goals At the beginning of the project the meetings were in virtual mode to advance in the planning process. 	

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

FY2022 rating	FY2023 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2023 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Moderate	Moderate	The overall risk rating is still continued to be moderate; the only positive change was that Panama effective September 14,
		2022, a new Presidential decree lifted all COVID-19-entry and quarantine related restrictions and the project started the
		basin committees and technical assistance to producers

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. (This Section does not apply for this project).

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented during this Fiscal Year
Recommendation 1:	
Recommendation 2:	
Recommendation 3:	
Recommendation	
Recommendation	

Has the project developed an Exit	
Strategy? If yes, please summarize	

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 Guidelines²³. 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	Indicate the timing of the	Approved by
	change	change	
Results framework	Outcome 1.1 Strengthened enabling environment to improve decision making and facilitate the implementation and monitoring of LDN at the national level. Indicator: One (1) consolidated agri- environmental information system Originally The project expected a website containing an agri- environmental platform that will be available before the first semester of the project Instead of a website the project efforts will be aimed at strengthening MiAmbiente's SINIA existing platform and improving the information management capacities at the regional level,	After first PIR in the next fiscal year	The Steering Committee
Components and cost			
Institutional and implementation arrangements			
Financial management			

²³ Source: https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/guidelines-project-and-program-cycle-policy-2020-update

Implementation schedule	One project extension has been approved	The new project implementation end date is February 28, 2025	The Steering Committee
Executing Entity			
Executing Entity Category			
Minor project objective change			
Safeguards			
Risk analysis			
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%			
Co-financing	Co-financing from partners has been significantly limited due to the inadequate record and reporting	After the first PIR the M&E Specialist will provide recommendations for the adequate record and reporting of co-financing	It will be presented to the Steering Committee in August 2023.
Location of project activity			
Other minor project amendment (define)			

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 <u>during this reporting period</u>.

Stakeholder name	Type of partnership	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement
Government institutions	1		
MiAmbiente	Partner	 MiAmbiente is participating of the Project Management as the highest authority in the environmental sector; therefore, it is the GEF's political and operational focal point and focal point for the UNFCCC, UNCCD CBD conventions in Panama and the implementation of the National LDN Strategy. It is the governing body of the environmental sector and the one responsible for the management, administration and use of water resources and hydrographic basins, including the constitution, training, supervision and advice of the Basin Committees / Subcommittees. It is responsible by Law (Law 44 of 1998 General of the Environment and Law 25 of 2015 created by the Ministry of the Environment) to establish and supervise compliance with the norms related to climate change, desertification, national goals of LDN, environmental regulation of the use of the land at the national, provincial, district and county levels and to present national communications regarding Panama's contributions on the reduction of GHG emissions before the UNFCCC. MiAmbiente has technical staff specialized in soil management, watershed management, climate change, among others, at the Ministry's Headquarters (Panama) as well as in Regional Offices and Local Agencies in each of the provinces (Chiriquí, Herrera, Coclé, Los Santos and Veraguas), where execution areas are located. Participation In August 2022, The inception workshop 	After the first PIR there should be some actions taken in order to improve project intersectoral coordination and renew the agreements stablished in PRODOC.

		 Participation in regular Steering Committee meetings and in the Basin and Sub-Basin meetings Participation in the CONALSED meetings to promote project goals 	
MIDA	Partner	 It has specialized personnel in the Central Headquarters (Veraguas), the Regional Offices in all the provinces of the selected basins, and 17 Extension Agencies and Sub-Agencies in the execution areas. The MIDA is a co-executor of applying the techniques of SLM-CSA-CSL, supervision, monitoring, training of field schools and provider of information for the in-person and digital extension system that the project will develop. Participation In August 2022, The inception workshop Participation in regular Technical Committee meetings and in the Basin and Sub-Basin meetings Participation in the CONALSED meetings to promote project goals 	 After the first PIR there should be some actions taken in order to improve project intersectoral coordination and renew the agreements stablished in PRODOC.
IDIAP	Partner	 IDIAP is a collaborator in the project's execution on the adaptation of the proposed techniques (SLM-CSA-CSL) and the information on producers' use on soils and means of transformation. Participation In August 2022, The inception workshop Participation in regular Technical Committee meetings and in the Basin and Sub-Basin meetings 	 After the first PIR there should be some actions taken in order to improve project intersectoral coordination and renew the agreements stablished in PRODOC.
Agricultural Development Bank (BDA)	Partner	 In managing this project, the bank will seek agreements to support the preparation of investment plans to request credits to finance good SLM practices that the project will promote. 	 After the first PIR there should be some actions taken in order to improve project intersectoral coordination and renew the agreements stablished in PRODOC.
Ministry of Education (MEDUCA)	Partner	 Needs to be involved in the training of youth who are students of Agricultural Institutes in the three Basin Areas 	 After the first PIR there should be some actions taken in order to improve project intersectoral coordination and renew the agreements stablished in PRODOC.

Ministry of Social Development (MIDES)	Partner	 Needs to be involved in the training of women producers who are beneficiaries of Social Cash Transfers Programs, Territory Networks in the three Basin Areas 	 After the first PIR there should be some actions taken in order to improve project intersectoral coordination and renew the agreements stablished in PRODOC.
REGIONAL / LOCAL LEVEL			
Local governments (mayors and municipal councils)	Partner	 Participation In August 2022, The inception workshop Participation in regular Basin and Sub-Basin meetings 	
Basin and sub- basin committees	Direct Beneficiary	 Participation In August 2022, The inception workshop Participation in regular Basin and Sub-Basin meetings 	
International Organization	•		
FAO	Direct Stakeholder	 FAO is the GEF agency and is actively participating as responsible for the supervision, technical support, and technical and financial supervision of the project's execution. Participation in regular Technical Committee meetings and in the Basin and Sub-Basin meetings 	 In order to improve project disbursement, it will be assisting the procurement process.
International Organizations (WB, GCF, CAF)	Partner	Need to be integrated to strengthen outcomes 2, 3 and 4	 To sign up cooperation agreements
NGOs ²⁴	-		- -
Water Centre for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean. Panama (CATHALAC)	Direct Stakeholder	 CATHALAC is actively involved in the co- execution of project activities through the coordination, management and administration of financial resources, project coordination, contracting, supervision, M&E, the LDN, and project monitoring system and the strategy Communication. Participation In August 2022, The inception workshop Participation in regular Steering Committee meetings and in the Basin and Sub-Basin meetings 	 It will be including new monitoring and evaluations tools to keep track of project progress.

²⁴ Non-government organizations

NATURA Foundation	Direct Stakeholder	 Participation in the CONALSED meetings to promote project goals Natura is collaborating with MiAmbiente to execute the project activities related to the 	It will be including new monitoring and evaluations
		 design of protocols, training, dissemination, evaluation and certification proposed in the RHT Corporate and product program for water and carbon measurement. Participation In August 2022, The inception workshop Participation in regular Technical and Steering Committees meetings and in the Basin and Sub-Basin meetings 	tools to keep track of project progress and reviewing business plans and financing methods strategies.
Private sector entities			
Panama Banking Association	Proposed New Partner	• Identified to Strengthen component 2 and 3, 4	 To Sign up Cooperation Agreements
Producer Associations Cooperatives in the 3 Basins	Direct Beneficiaries	 Participation In August 2022, The inception workshop Participation in regular Basin and Sub-Basin meetings 	 To Sign up Cooperation Agreements
Producer associations, cooperatives and organizations (gender)	Direct Beneficiaries	 Participation In August 2022, The inception workshop Participation in regular Basin and Sub-Basin meetings 	To Sign up Cooperation Agreements
National Association of Cattle Ranchers (ANAGAN)	Direct Beneficiaries	 It supports its members with training, information and technology transfer. In coordination with MiAmbiente and the Tropical Agricultural Research and Teaching Center (CATIE), developed the technical sheet used to prepare the Plan for the Environmental Improvement of Livestock in Panama (NAMA Livestock). This plan focuses on sustainable and productive development through low CO2 emissions and through sound practices of bovine livestock, consistent with CSL practices that the Project will develop. It will be a partner in the execution of activities in the field. Participation In August 2022, The inception workshop Participation in regular Basin and Sub-Basin meetings 	To Sign up Cooperation Agreements

New stakeholders identified					
Small and Medium Enterprise Authority (AMPYME)	Proposed New Partner	•	Identified to Strengthen component 2 and 3, 4	•	To Sign up Cooperation Agreements
Ministry o Health (MINSA)	Proposed New Partner	•	Identified to Strengthen component 2 and 3, 4	•	To Sign up Cooperation Agreements
Panamanian Autonomous Cooperative Institute (IPACOOP)	Proposed New Partner	•	Identified to Strengthen component 2 and 3, 4	•	To Sign up Cooperation Agreements
Panama Banking Association	Proposed New Partner	•	Identified to Strengthen component 2 and 3, 4	•	To Sign up Cooperation Agreements
INADEH (National Institute of Human Development)	Proposed New Partner	•	Identified to Strengthen component 2 and 3, 4	•	To Sign up Cooperation Agreements

10. Gender Mainstreaming

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	 In the Identification methodology and criteria Selection of producers for Priority areas of the project there is information segregated by sex, age of preliminary list of producers (So far there is a preliminary list of 20% are Women) The project Goal is to achieve 40% participation of Women
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	Yes	• The project is making efforts to outreach Women Producers Organizations to include them as project beneficiaries. (So far there is a preliminary list of 20% are Women) The project Goal is to achieve 40% participation of Women
Indicate in which results area(s) the project project design stage):	is expected to	contribute to gender equality (as identified at
 a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources 	Yes	 The project is making efforts to outreach Women Producers Organizations to include them as project beneficiaries Through Capacity building (So far there is a preliminary list of 20% are Women) The project Goal is to achieve 40% participation of Women
 b) improving women's participation and decision making 	Yes	 The project is making efforts to outreach Women Producers Organizations to include them as project beneficiaries Through Capacity building (So far there is a preliminary list of 20% are Women) The project Goal is to achieve 40% participation of Women
 c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women 	Yes	 The project is making efforts to outreach Women Producers Organizations to include them as project beneficiaries Through Capacity building (So far there is a preliminary list of 20% are Women) The project Goal is to achieve 40% participation of Women
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Yes	 The project has gender and youth disaggregated indictors, the M&E Specialist

		 beneficiaries: 187 are Men and 47 are Women Producers 155 attendees of the Inception Workshop (95 men/60 women)
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	The Field Technical staff for each Basin are Women
Any other good practices on gender	Yes	 The project staff is aware of the importance of women involvement in all the project activities (So far there is a preliminary list of 20% are Women) The project Goal is to achieve 40% participation of Women

11. Knowledge Management Activities

The project has an internal reporting system. The project has proposed to the Ministry of the Environment the communication strategy, there are no successes stories yet, the challenges is to be able to get intersectoral coordination and add up efforts to maximize resources.
communication strategy, there are no successes stories yet, the challenges is to be able to get intersectoral coordination and add up efforts to maximize
nks to websites, social and media account: https://www.miambiente.gob.pa/conalsed-consolida-plan-nacional-contra- la-sequia/ https://cuencas.miambiente.gob.pa/mapas-de-cuencas/ https://www.prensa-latina.cu/2023/04/20/un-mejor-medio-ambiente- prioridad-de-fao-en-panama https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTOIMI7_W-k&list=PLzp5NgJ2- dK4sV075pIZdm_VCCWmIPppf&index=15 MiAMBIENTE valida propuesta de un nuevo proyecto de Manejo Sostenible de la Tierra (MST) - MiAmbiente Convocatoria de Manejo Sostenible de la Tierra y Restauración - MiAmbiente Manejo sostenible de la tierra y restauración de paisajes productivos en cuencas hidrográficas para la implementación de las metas nacionales de Neutralidad de la Tierra (NDT)" (miambiente.gob.pa) MiAmbiente presenta proyecto manejo sostenible en Chiriqui (ecotvpanama.com) Presentan proyecto Manejo sostenible de la tierra y Restauración de paisaje para tres sub cuencas de Chiriqui (miambiente.gob.pa) MiAmbiente presenta proyecto manejo sostenible en Chiriqui (radiomiapanama.com) MiAmbiente presenta proyecto manejo sostenible en Chiriqui (entiempopanama.com) MiAmbiente fortalecerá 250 hectáreas reforestadas

Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.	 plan-nacional-para-enfrentar-la-sequia-1223193 https://www.miambiente.gob.pa/realizan-jornada-de-reforestacion- en-cerro-la-cruz/ https://www.miambiente.gob.pa/panama-avanza-contra-la- desertificacion-implementando-medidas-de-manejo-sostenible-de-la- tierra/ CONALSED consolidates national plan against drought. Press Posted on 16 June, 2023 A Better Environment, FAO's priority in Panama, April 20, 2023, CDT07:56 (GMT)-0400By: Mario Hubert Garrido MiAMBIENTE validates proposal for a new Sustainable Land Management (SLM) project Press Posted on 19 February, 2021 MiAmbiente presents sustainable land management project in Chiriqui. El Siglo. August 18, 2022 by Delvis Castillo MiAmbiente presents sustainable land management project in Chiriqui. NATIONALS TELEMETRO REPORTS CHIRIQUI - August 18, 2022 - 10:44hs MiAmbiente will strengthen 250 hectares reforested. NATIONALS TELEMETRO REPORTS CHIRIQUI - AUGUST 24, 2022 - 10:08hs
Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point's name and contact details	Hiring in process of the Communication and knowledge management focal point, please contact project director: Enrique Vargas

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.

If applicable, please describe the process and current status of on-going/completed, legitimate consultations to obtain Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) with the indigenous communities.

Do indigenous peoples and or local communities have an active participation in the project activities? If yes, briefly describe how.

This Section does not apply for this project.

13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co- financing ²⁵	Name of Co- financer	Type of Co- financing ²⁶	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval (USD)	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2023 (USD)	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (Confirmed by the review/evaluation team) (USD)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project (USD)
Recipient	Ministry of	Grant	16,470,017.00	3,042,131.40		16,470,017.00
Country	Environment					
Government						
Recipient		In-kind	206,500.00			
Country	IDIAP					206,500.00
Government						
GEF Agency	FAO	In-kind	410,000.00	360,478.00		410,000.00
Civil Society		In-kind	422,000.00	106,000.00		422,000,00
Organization	CATHALAC	п-кши				422,000.00
		TOTAL	17,508,517.00	3,508,609.40		17,508,517.00

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

The Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist during and after the preparation of the first PIR 2023, is proposing a Monitoring and Evaluation System consisting of friendly digital forms to keep track and document the sources of verification and properly record of the co-finance, in order to facilitate this reporting to the main actors.

²⁶Grant, Loan, Equity Investment, Guarantee, In-Kind, Public Investment, Other (please refer to the *Guidelines on co-financing* for definitions

https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/GEF_FI_GN_01_Cofinancing_Guidelines_2018.pdf

²⁵Sources of Co-financing may include: GEF Agency, Donor Agency, Recipient Country Government, Private Sector, Civil Society Organization, Beneficiaries, Other.

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

Development Objectives Rating	g. 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	Project is expected to achieve its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its		
(MU)	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 Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most comp		
(MU)	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 will 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

Annex 2. GEO LOCATION INFORMATION

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as <u>OpenStreetMap</u> or <u>GeoNames</u> use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <u>https://coordinates-converter.com</u> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking here

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID	Location & Activity Description
<u>Chiriqui Viejo River</u>	-82.94805, 8.93687 (NO – SE)	-82.53367, 8.80498 (WGS84 – EPSG:4326)		<u>Water Basin</u>
<u>La Villa River</u>	-80.83235, 8.01770 (NO – SE)	-80.34621,7.54656 (WGS84 – EPSG:4326)		<u>Water Basin</u>
Santa Maria River	-81.27072, 8.63706 (NO – SE,	-80.47037, 7.92960 WGS84 – EPSG:4326)		<u>Water Basin</u>

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions are taking place as appropriate.

Annex 3. Project's Target Contributions to GEF 7 Core Indicators

Project Core Indicators		Expected at CEO Endorsement	Cumulative progress ²⁷ since project start Level (and %) at 30 June 2023
1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)		
2	Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)		
3	Area of land restored (Hectares) 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural land restored	500	 (25% Cumulative Progress) Breakdown of hectares by type of production system in the preliminary list: Coffee = 150 ha Banana = 255 ha Rice = 216 ha Corn = 530 ha Livestock production = 1,688 ha
4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas)(Hectares) 4.3. Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems	5,000	 (25% Cumulative Progress) 864 ha under SLM production system have been identified in the preliminary list of producers 535 ha with CSA 1,331 ha with CSL 1010 ha with others water conservation systems
5	Area of marine habitat under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)		
6	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric tons of CO2e) 6.1 Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in AFOLU sector	-138,068 tCO2-e emissions avoided	

²⁷ Please report on results obtained in terms of Global Environmental Benefits and Socio-economic co-benefits as well.

Project Core Indicators		Expected at CEO Endorsement	Cumulative progress ²⁷ since project start Level (and %) at 30 June 2023
7	Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management		
8	Globally over-exploited marine fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons)		
9	Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of		
	chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in		
	processes, materials and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)		
10	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point		
	sources (grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)		
11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	4,000	 (10% Cumulative Progress) 234 Potential producers
	Female	1,600*	identified as project
	Men	2,400**	beneficiaries: 187 are Men and 47 are Women Producers
			 155 attendees of the Inception
		* Including 300 Youth	Workshop (95 men/60 women)
		** Including 300 Youth	

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core

indicator targets are not provided.