

## **UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2023**

1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

**Duration months** 

## 1- Identification

## 1.1 Project details

GEF ID

**Project Short Title** 

Project Title

Project Type

Parent Programme if child project

GEF Focal Area(s) Project Scope

Region

Countries

GEF financing amount

Co-financing amount

Total disbursement as of 30 June Total expenditure as of 30 June

10285

Jaguares Panama

SMA IPMR ID Grant ID

Umoja WBS

84379

S1-32GFL-000713

GFL-11207-14AC0003-SB-017721

Conservation of wildcats and prey species through public-private partnerships and human-jaguar conflict management in Panama

Medium Sized Project (MSP) Global Wildlife Program Child Project Biodiversity

National

Completion Date

Planned

Age

Planned -original PCA

Revised - Current PCA

48

28.0 months

18-Aug-25

N/A

✓ Latin America and the Caribbean

Panama US\$ 1,784,862.000

US\$ 16,122,550.000

US\$ 744.306.40

US\$ 491,738.03

Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval

UNEP Project Approval Date (on Decision Sheet)

Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force)

Date of First Disbursement

Date of Inception Workshop, if available

Midterm undertaken?

Actual Mid-term Date, if taken

Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken

**Expected Terminal Evaluation Date** 

**Expected Financial Closure Date** 

April 2021

17 August 2021

28-May-21

27 December 2021

23-24 Febraury 2022

No

September /October 2023

August 2025

February 2026

# 1.2 EA: Project description

Project objective: To strengthen jaguar conservation capacity and connectivity between core protected areas in the Chagres National Park-Darien National Park complex Components:

1. Conserve jaguar and prey species through connectivity promotion and human-wildlife conflict management

Component 1 seeks to promote biological/jaguar connectivity in the Chagres National Park-Darien National Park Complex, via environmental offsetting by the infrastructure sector, which requires the incorporation of biodiversity considerations into public and private investment projects. In addition, Component 1 focuses on strengthening institutional capacity for jaguar data collection, monitoring, and management in three protected area. Component 1 is equally dedicated to addressing jaguar-human conflicts. Jaguar anti-predation strategies will be incorporated into farm management plans distributed through-out the project intervention area.

2. Generate scientific knowledge, build national capacity and promote regional commitments on wildcat conservation
Component 2 supports the set-up of the 'Wildcats Conservation and Research Centre of Panama' as a 'go to' resource for scientific data, capacity building, and knowledge dissemination on jaguar conservation and HWC management. Component 2 further focuses on regional knowledge sharing by promoting regional exchanges on jaguar conservation.

Executing Agency: Yaguará Panamá Foundation.

Main government/ other partners involved: Ministry of Environment (MIAMBIENTE), National Secretariat of Science, Technology, and Innovation (SENACYT), City of Knowledge Foundation (CDS), AES Panamá and CEMEX Panamá.

## 1.3 Project Contact

Division(s) Implementing the project

Name of co-implementing Agency

TM: UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)

TM: UNEP Task Manager(s)

TM: UNEP Budget/Finance Officer

TM: UNEP Support/Assistant

UNEP, GEF Biodiversity and Land Degradation Unit Ecosystem Division

vision

N/A Names of Other Project Partners

Executing Agency(ies)

EA: Manager/Representative

EA: Project Manager

EA: Finance Manager

Ersin Esen

Tea Garcia-Huidobro

Rachel Kagiri

Racilei Ragiii

Gloritzel Frangakis

Yaguará Panama Foundation (YPF)

Ministry of Environment, National Secretariat of Science, Technology and Innovation (SENACYT), City of Knowledge Foundation (CDS), AES Panamá and CEMEX Panamá.

RICARDO MORENO

ELBA CORTES

ARTURO PUERTES

### 2- OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

TM: UNEP Current Subprogramme(s)

TM: PoW Indicator(s)

EA: UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages

Nature Action
Output 2.3 Indicator (iv)

TM: UNEP previous Subprogramme(s)

EA: Communications lead, if relevant

N/A

Panamá UNSDCF/UNDAF 2021-2025.

Result 3.

Impact Area 3: Integrated Environmental Management and Disaster Risk Reduction.

By 2025 Panama is resilient and has environmental policies in place for climate change adaptation and mitigation, land degradation neutrality, biodiversity protection, integrated environmental management and disaster risk reduction and health crises, with a human right, gender, intercultural, life course and territorial approach.

P PoW & UN

М

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FY 2022

1st PIR

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During this PIR period, the Project Office carried out various activities in accordance with the Work Plan. The implementation has been extraordinary, due to good organizational capacity and execution we have strengthened our work scheme and are on track to achieve our objectives of jaguar and forest conservation. This joint effort is being conducted in conjunction with the communities and institutional support from the Ministry of the Environment. In that sense the project has completed the activities on the cattle ranches with anti-predation measures to reduce the jaguar incidents, tracking and monitoring of them and significantly reducing jaguar deaths (880% below the baseline). We can also highlight the work that has been done around the communities involved, the support that has been received from them, makes the joint work with cattle ranches more integral, with ownership from local stakeholders at the project sites. Results have effectively demonstrated cost-effective human-wildlife conflict (HWC) prevention measures and generated proof of concept for concept for occept for concept for occept for paguar-livestock coexistence in productive landscapes. To do so, the project will help cattle ranches adopt sustainable management plans that include site-specific anti-predation measures such as electric fences, fodder and protein banks, safe conditions and areas for maternity and calf raising, fencing of wooded areas, pasture management, and health management. In addition, technical assistance and training for strategies in anti-predation measures were reinforced. Furthermore, the project completed 99,000 hectares of the first National Census of Jaguar and Terrestrial Mammals, and the evaluation of approximately 2,876,915 hectares related to forest carbon stocks, based on emission factors derived from the national inventory, to prepare a baseline of emissions and removals for the country. Emission and removal flux maps have been constructed. This pioneering effort would enable the integration of jaguar data in

The field management by the technicians, students and community makes the results more evident. The strengthening of capacities in the field, as well as in the framework of our strategic partners within the project, is vital to be able to achieve effectiveness in the implementation of the project. The training was focused on data collection, monitoring and management of wildlife in preparation for the National Census of the Jaguar and Terrestrial Mammals. This process involved environment ministry officials, rangers from MIAMBIENTE and STRI; University of Panamá, Autonomous University of Chiriquí; and also, Ecological Police staff, who accompanied the monitoring team for security reasons and were able to receive field training at the same time. On the other hand, was local people work as community monitoring group and as a field guide in support of Census. The communities included were Agua Buena, Filo del Tallo and Boca de Cupe in Darién; La Bonga, Santa Librada and La Linea in Chagres National Park, Emberá of Pijibasal Indigenous Community and the Guna Indigenous Community.

The information of the workshops can be found in section 2.8. KM/Learning below.

The approved project document outlines two key components and outcomes that establish the high-level results expected from the use of GEF investment/financing and the efforts of the public and private institutions involved as part of the project implementation.

The key project achievements for the reporting period are as follows:

**EA:** Summary of status (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Component 1. Conserve jaguar and prey species through connectivity promotion and human-wildlife conflict management

Outcome 1.1: Proof of concept of jaguar-centric connectivity between Darien and Chagres National Parks demonstrated through privately financed environmental offsetting programs.

Output 1.1.1: A plan to direct environmental offsetting investments on restoration to wildlife corridors in the Chagres-Darien National Parks complex in line with the Alliance for One Million Hectares and the National REDD+

Strategy.

• The Integrated Landscape Plan is in progress, developing a geospatial plan to direct future environmental compensation investments in "multi-species" biological corridors linking priority jaguar population sites in the Chagres National Park-Darien National Park complex, including criteria for prioritizing restoration sites based on GIS data and forest carbon stock and flow data as an indicator of jaguar habitat status, and the potential to contribute to the National Forest Restoration Program 2021-2025 and the REDD+ Strategy. The evaluation of approximately 2,876,915 hectares has been completed (changes in land use, deforestation, degradation, carbon stock, others). However, the integration of information on jaguar populations and their prey depends on the results of the Jaguar Census, which has not yet been completed.

Output 1.1.2: 3 environmental offsetting projects integrate jaguar-centric restoration and wildlife connectivity in their design and implementation in sites located within (i) the Panamá Centro – Chagres complex; (ii) the Panama Este-Chepo complex; and (iii) the Rancho Frío – Darien complex.

• The evaluation of carbon stocks in approximately 2,876,915 hectares related to jaguar populations and their habitat has been completed related to forest carbon stock which start from the emission factors based on the national inventory, to prepare a baseline of emissions and removals for the country. Emission and removal flux maps have been constructed. However, the information on jaguar populations and habitat depends on the results of the Jaguar Census, which has not yet been completed. The purpose is to evaluate the carbon stocks related to jaguar populations and their habitat. The evaluation of the areas based on the forest carbon stock will allow designing more specific measures to incorporate biodiversity conservation within the five (5) activities of the REDD+ strategy. Furthermore, in this way, the impact of REDD+ on biodiversity conservation can be evaluated, while at the same time measuring the effectiveness of the implementation of the National Forest Restoration Program 2021-2025 in the restoration of habitats and biological corridors. However, the integration of information on jaguar populations and their prey depends on the results of the Jaguar Census, which has not yet been completed.

Output 1.2.1. We continue with the first National Jaguar and terrestrial mammals Census designed covering 3 protected areas (33,000 ha) in support of conservation planning and improved management of human-wildlife

• 66,000 new hectares have been completed in 6 monitoring polygons in this period for the National Census of Jaguars and Terrestrial Mammals (Portobelo-Chagres National Park, Nargana Wildlife Protected Area, Cana in Darién National Park, Filo del Tallo Canglón Hydrological Reserve, Bahía Piñas-Jaque and Chucunaque in Darién) and has started the process in the polygon of Punta Patiño in Darién. With this a total of 88,000 hectares of the jaguar census were completed with 512 camera traps in 266 monitoring stations. Of the 512 cameras used in total, 438 were purchased by the Project and 74 were part of the counterpart contribution of the Yaguará Panama Foundation. The presence of jaguars has been recorded in most of the polygons, with the exception of the Soberania National Park. Although data analysis is in progress.

• A total of 371 people participated in the Jaguar Census training, methodology, monitoring, and data analysis (Authorities, technical staff, academic and research institutions, and local stakeholders from communities).

To increase local wildlife management capacity, the Census also included participatory community monitoring with camera traps monitored by a trained group from the community of Filo del Tallo with 31 residents (16 women

- To increase local wildlife management capacity, the Census also included participatory community monitoring with camera traps monitored by a trained group from the community of Filo del Tallo with 31 residents (16 women and 15 men) trained from the Sansón Arriba Association of Environmental Defenders (ADASA) and the Miranda Family Ecological Organization (OEFAM), two community-based organizations (CBOs) in Darién. In the workshop they also learned about the characteristics of the jaguar, what is the status in Panama and throughout its distribution area, why they are disappearing and how together we can help the jaguars and the people who coexist with them, for a win-win. (August 27 and 28, 2022). Three (2 man and 1 woman) of those trained participated as field support for the jaguar Census accompanied by 2 from the Emberá of Pijbasal indigenous community located in the buffer zone of the Darién NP, who also participated as field support for the Darién National Park. Also, 13 local people (6 women and 7 men) participated in the training for community-based jaguar monitoring with camera traps on cattle ranches in the Agua Buena-Chucunaque community in Darién, as part of the National Census of Jaguars and Terrestrial Mammals.
- To ensure that the training-maintained gender-sensitive with the overall gender mainstreaming objectives of the project, 60 of women trained in monitoring of jaguar and prey species and participating in census; and the monitoring team of 5 polygon also included women from of the first monitoring group made up exclusively by women that led the monitoring team in one of the Census polygons in Soberania National Park as an area of influence of the Charres National Park.
- To get local groups at the frontline of the project implementation activities, we collaborated with the Guna General Congress to train Guna Park rangers in the Narganá Protected Wildlife Area as part of the National Jaguar and Terrestrial Mammal Census. This was the first monitoring group led by a Guna biologist (Elliot Brown) and made up of community members, including the first Guna woman (Genesis Archibold) to participate in monitoring jaguars and their prey (tapirs and peccaries) using camera traps.
- We also held two (2) meetings with the CEMACO General Congress in the in the community to establish a cooperation agreement for jaguar monitoring in the region that borders the community of Agua Buena of Chucunaque where SMP are implemented with anti-predation measures on cattle farms; as part of the National Jaguar and terrestrial mammals Census, obtaining in this way the community scientific permit for these project activities.
- Develop technical standards, training and data analysis for the National Census of Jaguar and Terrestrial Mammals, is currently being prepared. The protocol to begin the information collection process to feed the Jaguars' documentation regarding the Census was completed. Also, the data analysis process has been completed in 3 of the 9 polygons, and the data processing of the remaining polygons continues. However, the information on jaguar populations and habitat depends on the results of the Jaguar Census, which has not yet been completed. The census will set new Technical Standard for the monitoring of the species, however, in order to standardize the methodology, it is necessary to complete the monitoring, data collection, analysis and interpretation activities that are being carried out.

Output 1.3.1: We continue working with the cattle ranches implement sustainable management plans inclusive of site-specific anti-predation measures, reduce jaguar attacks on livestock and incidents of retaliatory killings of wildlife.

- Work has been carried out in 695 hectares in of productive landscapes implement sustainable management plans and other anti-predation measures has been completed in 9 cattle ranches bordering the jaguars' habitat in Agua Buena-Chucunaque in Darién (457 hectares) and Buenos Aires in Chepo (238 hectares) to reduce HWC. The work of monitoring the effectiveness of the measures continues. The work to implement the management plan with anti-predation measures on the Bustamante Family farm (164 ha) was lost because of a fire on their property. No further work has been done on the property, since the family no longer lives on the farm, and this poses a risk due to the lack of vigilance to ensure the effectiveness of the implementation. We are evaluating how to proceed to complete the remaining 22 hectares related to the proposed goal. Despite exceeding the number of farms intervened by the project, they have fewer hectares than initially planned, limiting the achievement of the goal in hectares. Additionally, 2 ranches in Darién of 142 hectares and 2 ranches in Chepo of 190 hectares have management plans pending for implementation while the owners decide to continue with the process (in the case of the Chepo farms, they were sold to new owners).
- The project has applied innovative technologies for productive management to reduce the vulnerability of the farms to jaguar predation of cattle, while improving management to increase productivity. Sustainable management plans to minimize jaguar predation and consequently HWC, included paddock division with solar electric fences, lights and sound alarms, creation of safe conditions and areas for maternity and calf raising, fencing of wooded areas, implementation of production records system, cattle herd categorization, considerations for the establishment of improved pastures, establishment of fodder and protein banks and health Management, among others.
- Monitoring of all the 9 farms covering a total of 658 hectares of landscapes under improved practices continues to verify the efficiency of the measures. In this way, they received technical assistance and training to improve their production systems and reduce the HWC.
- A total of 5 field meetings and 26 field visits of technical assistance and training on strategies to reduce HWC were held between July 2022 and June 2023, which were carried out with community stakeholders, implementation of sustainable management plans with anti-predation measures and documenting changes in ranch conditions to reduce jaguar-livestock conflict by preventing jaguar attacks on livestock and incidents of retaliatory hunting; which was reinforced by exchanges at ranch Los Lagos between community residents and the team of biologists and veterinary doctors from Yaguará Panamá Foundation who were in the scientific camp in the area from February 4 to March 30, 2023 for the capture and marking of jaguars for satellite tracking.
- We have been organizing meetings with MiAMBIENTE and HWC Group for the antipredation measures. We are still pending the visit to the Agua Buena community to learn about the results of the implementation of sustainable management plans with anti-predation measures; although alternative dates have been given, they have been postponed. We expect to make the visit in the last quarter of 2023.
- Monitoring with camera traps in cattle farms with PM and anti-predation measures from 25th June to 20th November. Through the 24 camera traps installed on five (5) ranches of ABC community (Ranch of Erasmo De León, Luis-Yerena Gutiérrez, Rosa E. Reyna De León, Alexis Villareal y Ongly Cárdenas) with Yaguara's counterpart resources, three new jaguars have been recorded that roam the properties of the farms; making a total of 11 jaguars that register in the cattle farms of the ABC community, five of which with GPS collars for satellite tracking.

Component 2. Generate scientific knowledge, build national capacity and promote regional commitments on wildcat conservation.

Outcome 2.1: Improved information management system on jaguar and wildlife conservation

Outnut 2.1: The Wildrats Conservation and Research Centre (WCRC) is established as a 'go-to' knowledge resource for scientific data on wildrats

Output 2.1. The whiteats conservation and research centre (word) is established as a go-to-knowledge resource for scientific data on whiteats.

• The project team visited the Ibera project of the Rewilding Argentina Foundation in Argentina (June, 2022) and the Life+IBERLINCE project in Spain (October, 2022) as part of the capacity building, exchange of experience on technical aspects of wildlife conservation and technical assistance from both projects as models to replicate in the conservation programs of wild felines in Panama with the WCRC and define the needs for the Pilot Program on the Management, Rehabilitation and Reintroduction of Wildcat of small to medium size Wildcats (margays, jaguarundis and ocelots), particularly the operation of the breeding centers (Ex-situ), and on the other hand aspects related to their release to the environment and monitoring (In Situ).

Output 2.2: Project results are captured and inform regional jaguar conservation goals through regional coordination.

Presentation of the results of the project in global and regional coordination forums

The Project has maintained an active participation in the Global Wildlife Program (GWP) Platform; 8 calls for coordination, webinars and events that have also served to share and disseminate the results of the Project and work collaboratively to conserve wildlife, including virtual participation in the annual GWP Conference. We highlight the following:

- Gender Training Workshop for Latin America with the "GWP Panama Project Gender Advisory Board: Sharing Goals and Experiences" and exchange with Farm Owners on Participation of Women in Jaguar Conservation (March 21-24, 2023) Gender Training Workshop for Latin America (worldbank.org)
- Knowledge Exchange on Conservation Technology with the project presentation on "How Technology Helps Coexistence between Humans and Jaguars in Panama" (March 1, 2023) Virtual Knowledge Exchange on Conservation Technology (kaltura.com)
- Monitoring visit by the Vice Minister of Environment Diana Laguna to the project intervention area in the province of Darien to learn about the project, learn about the area of jaguar movements and exchange with the families of the beneficiary cattle ranches (March 16-17, 2023).
- The visit of Ginger Deason, Program Officer, Central America U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to share the experiences and lessons learned through field visits to the impact areas of the project (March 13-15, 2023).
   Visit of the CEO-GEF to Panama. A working meeting was held with Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, CEO of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to share the progress of the project being implemented with GEF funding, such as
- Visit of the CEO-GEF to Panama. A working meeting was held with Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, CEO of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to share the project being implemented with GEF funding, such as the Special Innovation Fund for Big Cats led by Fundación Yaguará Panamá within the framework of the GEF/UNDP Small Grants Program. In addition to analyzing possible resource opportunities for the continuation of the Project (nov 12, 2022).
- Official visit by Ms. Sonja Leighton-Kone, Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Mr. Juan Bello, Director of the Regional Office in Panama. A working meeting was held with the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Sonja Leighton-Kone, and the Director of the UNEP regional office, Juan Bello, who were interested in learning about the progress of the Jaguars Panama Project, as well as the scope and achievements obtained during these first years of implementation.

#### • CITES CoP19 Side Events:

olaguars: Iconic Indicators of Biodiversity. A Roadmap for Conserving Latin America's Biggest Cat to Benefit People and the Planet. Ricardo Moreno moderates the panel with the representatives of the countries in the range of the jaguar (18 Latin American countries). During its participation, it positioned its commitment to the green agenda, in addition to promoting a collaborative space with representatives from 18 Latin American countries within the jaguar's range from Mexico to Argentina, who evaluated local, regional, multisectoral and multilateral cooperation tools that collectively enable the implementation of environmental actions aimed at the conservation of jaguars and their habitats. This side event is sponsored by France, Panama and the members of the Jaguar 2030 agenda coordination committee: Costa Rica (Chair), UNDP, UNDP,

• Why Gender in CITES? Gender and Illegal Wildlife Trade: Overlooked and Underestimated. A discussion around the relevance of gender for CITES and steps forward. Elba Cortés from Yaguará Panama participates as a speaker and panelist to present the importance of women's participation in jaguar conservation within the framework of the GEF project "Conservation of cats and prey species through public-private partnerships and conflict management between humans and jaguars in Panama". Panama presents together with Tanzania and Indonesia, the event is organized by the Global Wildlife Program executed by the World Bank and financed by the GEF, and WWF. It will have the participation of the Vice Minister of Environment. At this event, the emphasis was placed on the importance of promoting the gender equality and gender mainstreaming in wildlife conservation, presenting the experience with the inclusion of the gender perspective in the conservation of the jaguar. It was highlighted the strong component of research and generation of scientific information, areas of work with little participation of women. For these reasons, the project strengthens its integration of a gender perspective at all levels of intervention. Increasingly benefiting the women of the communities in decision-making for jaguar conservation (November 15, 2022)

oBig Cat Side Event. Conservation of big cats and illegal wildlife trafficking. Ricardo Moreno from Yaguará Panama will participate as a jaguar expert making a presentation and being a panelist in the discussion. The cases of South Africa and Laos on crimes against wildlife will be presented. The event will address how non-compliance with existing Tiger-related Decisions and Resolutions has implications for all big cats. The event is organized by FOUR PAWS International and will have the participation of the Ministry of the Environment. The issues of illegal wildlife trafficking, crimes and offenses against big cats and the challenges within CITES decisions were addressed. Several cases were presented during the event, for example, it will be discussed how the lack of implementation of CITES Decisions and Resolutions in South Africa is aggravating the decline of all big cats worldwide. To close the circle, it was addressed how this lack of application of Decisions and Resolutions of other big cats may be affecting the demand and commercial pressure on jaguar populations in Central and South America (November 21, 2022).

#### Key challenges

In the case of risks, some have been identified in addition to certain threats within the Project, such as the issue of climate change, which could affect their execution, as well as extreme weather events, such as excessive rains, floods, flooding of rivers, or droughts, which can negatively affect the project's execution capacity, especially the actions related to the national census of jaguars and terrestrial mammals and those of restoration and reforestation. The weather conditions have limited the entrance to the project sites, such as in the case of the Census, forcing the cancellation of tours or extending the number of days planned to conduct the work.

Another risk identified at the beginning of the project was the lack of appropriation by the community, ranchers, and community-based organizations around the benefits of the project, which may delay the results and management plans on the farms. The communities have remained interested and supportive of the project; local people have been working as a community monitoring group and as a field guide to support the Census. The communities included were Agua Buena, Filo del Tallo, and Boca de Cupe in Darién; La Bonga, Santa Librada, and La Linea in Chagres National Park; Emberá of the Pijibasal Indigenous Community, and the Guna Indigenous Community. In addition, in the surrounding communities, communications activities are being carried out so that the people who live within the polygons, along the middle basin of the Chucunaque River, are aware of the work being done, receive technical advice, and are aware that they are in an area inhabited by jaguars, so that they can carry out other activities.

EA: Planned Co-finance

EA: Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges.

16,122,550

EA: Actual to date:

1,078,093.01

On the part of the execution partners, the project has a base donation provided in-kind of US\$ 157,223,427, which translates as technical collaboration within the project, this means that they are already existing funds from other projects and collaborations from officials of the institutions involved. All this investment is known as support in kind, no money donations are received as such.

In addition, concerning to the co-financing for the period 2022-2023 in terms of reforestation, maintenance, technical and operational management, we have an estimated investment of US\$. 262,804.58 on behalf of our Project Partners. For a total of US\$. 569,252.93 to date (306,448.35 for the period 2021-2022). In addition, investments made by the Ministry of the Environment for reforestation activities for the amount of US\$ 506,860 are included.

We would like to highlight that the accounting and administration of the project has often been executed at the end of the project, since the institutions close their financial processes at the end of the year. However, the project has the information on time since it is updated and reported periodically. We are currently in the phase of calculating all the in-kind contributions and all the contributions made by our partners, both private and public institutions, in order to really reflect all the support, they have given us for the implementation of this project. This means that part of our GEF funds is being executed in the other activities, so that we can make good use of our resources and obtain additional funding for a better implementation of the project.

**EA:** Date of project steering committee meeting

23-May-23

**EA:** Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

The commitment of key stakeholder's ha continued, guaranteeing that all the activities that have been conducted are complete and with the presence of all those involved. During the Steering Committee (SC), Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Gender Advisory Group (GAG) meetings, the participation of all the actors involved was evident, showing their support for the project, the partners promote dialogue, cooperation and joint participation of all for a good development of the project. The emphasis on multisector and multi-stakeholder collaboration was extended to all opportunities for the search for future initiatives to be implemented in relation to the project. This year we mobilized support on technical aspects from: Ministry of Environment, National Secretariat of Science, Technology and Innovation (SENACYT), Panama Canal Authority (ACP), National Border Service (SENAFRONT), University of Panama (UP), University of Chiriquí (UNACHI), United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Small Grants program GEF/UNDP, Secretariat for the Enforcement of Environmental Legislation Trade Promotion Treaty United States and Panama (SALA), Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI), AES Panamá, CEMEX (local and regional), among others. In the case of the Jaguar Census, the support of partners has been significant in terms of mobilization and logistics, such as the Smithsonian Institute, in the Soberanía polygon; MIAMBIENTE and ACP, in the Chagres and Portobelo polygon; and the Tropical Star Lodge, in the Bahía Piñas-Jaque polygon. In the case of Punta Patiño, which is about to begin the pre-tour phase, it is expected to have the support of the National Association for the Conservation of Nature (ANCÓN), a strategic partner of the Project. This has made it possible to expand the census area with the same budgeted allocation within the Project, through a logistical configuration in the field, and the support of these entities has been valuable, he emphasized. Another relevant value of the census is that it included trained community groups from the Emberá communities of Pijibasal, Comarca Guna Yala, Filo del Tallo and Agua Buena de Chucunaque. A total of 15 people were trained to participate in the Jaguar Census, in the polygons of Pirre and Filo del Tallo, cattle area (ABC, Quebrada Espejo and Bella Vista) and Cana, in this case, together with residents of Boca de Cupe, Darien, he said. In the case of Portobelo-Chagres, residents of the communities of La Bonga, La Línea and Santa Librada participated. The jaguar census has become a powerful tool to facilitate the work with the communities. The owners of the cattle ranches have facilitated access to the land during the pretour phase and have participated in the selection of the sites for the location of the camera traps and in the training sessions, he pointed out. The jaguar census has proved to be a more friendly way to address the jaguar-livestock conflict, he said. The groups that have been formed include different local stakeholders, including members of the communities, which facilitates the approach to this sensitive issue. This project highlights the good level of progress and execution to date. The commitment of all stakeholders to the integration and interaction within the project is recognized. As well as the continuous training in the different topics to be addressed for its implementation, this implies that each implementing partner can learn technical and relevant aspects, recognizing their ability to cooperate with the project. Many of our activities are carried out jointly, promoting teamwork in a comprehensive and coordinated way.

Also, during the reported period the Project Office prepared several meetings and conferences, among them:

- First meeting of the Project's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The same takes place on November 29, 2022, as established in the governance structure. This committee provides technical oversight, guidance, and support during project implementation, and is also responsible for reviewing and generating recommendations on methodological processes (technical quality) and project activities. In this sense, the objective of the meeting is to present progress in project implementation, as well as opportunities for collaboration and learning to achieve the objectives announced in the results framework established for the project.
- •Second and third Session of the Steering Committee (SC) within the framework of the Jaguars Panama Project. The purpose of this session was to inform the members of the Steering Committee of the progress made in the implementation of the project and the activities scheduled for the coming months, as well as the opportunities for collaboration and learning with the Global Wildlife Program. In turn, this Steering Committee is responsible for monitoring and following up on the achievement of the Project's objectives, focused on its results framework (December 6, 2022, and May 31, 2023).
- •The First Gender Advisory Group for Jaguar Conservation (GAG) was launched with the objective of applying gender analysis and incorporating a gender perspective in the project to improve its results focused on biodiversity conservation, while at the same time promotes gender equality and benefits for women. At this launch we were honored to have Dr. Joni Seager, Gender Advisor for the Global Wildlife Program, with her keynote presentation on: The Win-Win of Gender Integration: Amplifying the Success of Wildlife Conservation Projects by Promoting Gender Equality. This presentation served to strengthen the participation of women in the Project, as well as to create links and new synergies for all of them. The GAG will allow broad and diverse groups of women to provide us with guidance in addressing the gender perspective for jaguar conservation. The GAG is expected to become the pilot for the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy in Panama, and to facilitate the implementation of the gender resolution proposed by Panama and adopted by CITES at COP19.

TM: Does the project have a gender action plan?



Yes

The Panama project on conservation of wildcats and human-jaguar conflict management has embraced a mandate to include women as equal participants in all roles, especially those that stretch gender stereotypes, such as training women to participate in field censuses and in the collaring of jaguars. This brings employment opportunities to women and gives them training in fields from which they are usually excluded.

Actions have been defined to create safe spaces for women (e.g. safe field science), processes of calls and selection of work groups focused on women, governance structures led by women within the project and forms of communication that give greater visibility to the work of women so that they become references for the conservation of big cats.

- The first monitoring group was created, exclusively by women; these 7 women led the monitoring team in one of the Census polygons in the Soberanía National Park as an area of influence of the Chagres National Park. A gender-sensitive selection process was developed with the University of Panama (UP) and the Autonomous University of Chiriquí (UNACHI). And the group of women has been maintained in mixed teams in 8 of the 9 polygons of the Census.
- 37 women trained in monitoring of jaguar and prey species and participating in jaguar census. 38 women in communities benefiting from sustainable management plans that include anti-predation measures.
- Of the 5 ranches benefited, 2 are led by women (Rancho de Rosa E. Reyna De León and Rancho Luis-Yerena Gutiérrez). They received technical assistance and training to improve their production systems and reduce HWC.
- The First Jaguar Conservation Gender Advisory Group (GAG) was launched with the objective of applying gender analysis and incorporating a gender perspective in the project to improve its results focused on biodiversity conservation, while promoting gender equality and benefits for women. The GAG will allow broad and diverse groups of women to provide us with guidance in addressing the gender perspective for jaguar conservation.
- It is expected that the GAG will become the pilot for the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy in Panama, and that it will facilitate the implementation of the gender resolution proposed by Panama and adopted by CITES at COP19.

On the other hand, regarding the dissemination and communication of the Project, she explained that the gender approach of the Panama Project has been inspiring and exemplary within the GWP, since the lessons learned related to gender violence and illegal wildlife trafficking were presented in the webinars on gender by Dr. Joni Seager, which is satisfactory for the Project team. And Panama was selected to host the Regional Workshop on Gender in Jaguar Conservation (Panama, Belize and Ecuador), as well as the panel on the importance of gender mainstreaming at CITES COP19 together with GWP and WWF, she added as another highlight.

We are still working to close the gaps in the participation of women in the communities in aspects of jaguar community monitoring and HWC, a challenge that persists to incorporate more women in the project's activities.

TM: Was the project classified as TM: Have any new social and/or environmental moderate/high risk at CEO No risks been identified during the reporting period? No Endorsement/Approval Stage? TM: If yes, please describe the new risks, or TM: If yes, what specific safeguard risks were changes identified in the SRIF/ESERN? TM & EA: Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental A No impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period? TM & EA: If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including N/A the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken.

EA: Environmental and social safeguards management (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

The project has established measures and guidelines to guarantee environmental and social safeguards through the risk assessment and management framework, within the GEF and UNEP guidelines. On the other hand, the standards will be focused on resource management, Indigenous populations, sustainable development, prevention, and resource efficiency, as well as security measures to maintain a minimal impact within the forests.

**EA:** Knowledge activities and products (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

The process for generating and sharing information through events, workshops and communications. KM products and events in 2022-2023 were as follows:

Over 1,214 participants (570 women and 644 men) joined 12 events organized by the project and 7 events co-organized with strategic partners in 2022-2023 for training workshop, presentations, forums, conferences and educational talks for students (schools and/or universities) and the general public, either virtually or in person, to raise awareness of the project, the biology and conservation of the jaguar and other species. Haciendo un total de 2,339 (1,088 mujeres + 1,251 hombres) personas beneficiadas en ambos periodos (2021-2022 y 2022-2023).

IN-PERSON EVENTS

- 1. Training workshop for wildlife monitoring with camera traps for the National Census of jaguar and terrestrial mammals. Over 7 participants (4 women and 3 men) joined the topics discussed included workshop (June 23 24, 2023).
- 2. Presential Talk on "Realities about jaguars in Panama and their current situation", organized by AES Colón, in the framework of the Global Environment Day, attended by 46 participants (10 women and 36 men) (June 22, 2023).
- 3. Conversatory at the BIOMUSEUM as part of the March for Science, organized by the City of Knowledge and Science in Panama, attended by 30 participants (12 women) in the presentation "The importance of women in the conservation of the jaguar". (April 23, 2023).
- 4. Presential Talk "The Jaguar, the guardian of the forests", attended by 49 participants (8 teachers, 23 girls and 18 boys) at Casco School in the framework of Earth Day (April 20, 2023).
- 5. Training workshop on jaguar monitoring in forest matrix on cattle ranches in Darien. Over 12 participants (10 women and 2 men) joined the topics discussed included workshop (February 2 to 4, 2023).
- 6.Training in chemical containment method for capture, management and post-release monitoring of wildlife felines. Over 20 participants (16 women and 4 men) joined the training (February 4 to March 30, 2023).
- 7.The following were carried out 18 training workshops for wildlife monitoring with camera traps for the National Census of jaguar and terrestrial mammals. The workshop was directed to monitoring group formed by 77 (36 women and 41 men) biologists and biology students (Central Headquarters and Cocle Regional Center of University of Panama); and the Autonomous University of Chiriqui); these monitoring team worked in 8 of the Jaguars Census polygons. Also participating in the field training were 25 rangers from STRI and MIAMBIENTE; 2 ACP staff and 13 people from the Ecological Police staff. And 84 (82 men and 2 women) local people from 7 community participating as field support of the Jaguars Census.
- 8. Field training in community monitoring with camera traps with 13 local people (6 women and 7 men) from Agua Buena Chucunaque community in Darién organized in partnership with OBC AMBICHU (March 28, 2023); 16 participating as field support for the Chucunaque's polygon in Darién, as part of the National Census of Jaguars and Terrestrial Mammals.
- 9.A training workshop on Jaguar conservation was held for 20 teachers (12 women) from primary schools in Darien, organized in conjunction with MEDUCA (March 27, 2023).
- 10.A training workshop on Jaguar monitoring and wildlife conservation focused on terrestrial mammals was held for 39 rangers (14 women) from MIAMBIENTE Panama Oeste (January 20, 2023).
- 11.Metting with CEMACO National Congress, attended by 10 participants from the Embera indigenous community to establish a cooperation agreement for jaguar monitoring in the region bordering the community of Agua Buena de Chucunaque where SMPs are implemented with anti-predation measures on livestock farms: as part of the National Census of Jaguars and terrestrial mammals, thus obtaining community scientific permission for these project

activities (December 27, 2022).

- 12. Presentation of the conference: "The Jaguar on Panama, ecology and conservation", with 19 participants (8 women) at Tropic Star Lodge in Bahía Piñas (December 23, 2022).
- 13. Launching of the First Jaguar Conservation Gender Advisory Group (GAG) in person, within the framework of the GEF7 Jaguares Panama Project, 35 women attended and Dr. Joni Seager, gender advisor of the World Wildlife Program, participated (December 14, 2022).
- 14. Presential talk at the Biomuseo on "Jaguars and us; Yaguará Panama", attended by 33 participants (16 women and 17 men) (May 20, 2023).
- 15. First Meeting of the Project's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) in person, within the framework of the GEF7 Jaguares Panama Project, 18 participants (11 women and 7 men) attended (November 29, 2022).
- 16.Field training in participatory community monitoring with camera traps monitored with a group from the community of Filo del Tallo with 31 residents (16 women and 15 men) from the Sansón Arriba Association of Environmental Defenders (ADASA) and the Miranda Family Ecological Organization (OEFAM), two community-based organizations (CBOs) in Darién. In the workshop they also learned about the characteristics of the jaguar, what is the status in Panama and throughout its distribution area, why they are disappearing and how together we can help the jaguars and the people who coexist with them, for a win-win. (August 27-28, 2022).

#### VIRTUAL EVENTS

- 1. Virtual conference at the ZOOM Platform on Environmental Education and community-based organizations and the project: Management of the Human-Jaguar Conflict", attended by 25 participants (20 women and 5 men) organized by the Metropolitan University of Education, Science and Technology (UMECIT La Chorrera campus) (June 10, 2023).
- 2. Third Session of the Steering Committee (SC) virtual, within the framework of the GEF7 Jaguares Panama Project, 13 participants (6 women and 7 men) attended (May 31, 2023).
- 3.Second Session of the Steering Committee (SC) virtual, within the framework of the GEF7 Jaguares Panama Project, 11 participants (5 women and 6 men) attended and Christel Moller, Especialista en Manejo del Conocimiento y Coordinación of the World Wildlife Program World Bank, participated (December 6, 2022)
- 4. Webinar How can big cats be conserved with local communities in Panama? held at the National Geographic Society's Big Cats Week by Exploring by the Seat (EBTSOYP). Over 578 participants (303 females) from the United States (Minnesota, Texas, Virginia, Missouri, New York, Kansas, Arizona and North Carolina); and Canada (Alberta, Ontario and Saskatchewan) joined through Zoom platform (December 1, 2022).

To increase awareness on wildlife conservation, the project developed two (2) feature stories, 10 articles and 11 press releases; and nine (16) media interviews (television and radio). At the level of communities, the radio and television are key to broadcast wildlife importance to local people. Additionally, social media messages were promoted on Jaguar International Day, Wild Cats National Day and World Wildlife Day https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=03RfE4YkByw&t=4s

Feature stories:

1.Gender Training Workshop for Latin America held in Panama City

https://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2023/03/21/gender-training-workshop-for-latin-america

2.In wildlife conservation, gender equality brings win-win returns

https://blogs.worldbank.org/climatechange/wildlife-conservation-gender-equality-brings-win-win-returns

**EA:** Main learning during the period

This period has focused on the generation of information on jaguar populations, their prey and habitats, as well as the evaluation of information on land use changes, deforestation, degradation, forest carbon stock, calculation of emissions and removals of tCO2e, among others. This process has identified the need to expand the initial assessment area; thus we were able to know what is happening in the eastern part of our country. In addition, it is necessary to strengthen the capacities of wildlife specialists to integrate the information on the jaguar and its prey with the project's climate change focus in order to know the conservation status of habitats and connectivity. Aspects that need to be reinforced are linked to the data analysis work, the large amount of information generated by the camera traps during the Census, mostly videos, has not been possible to process with current artificial intelligence platforms. The project is exploring opportunities to create or adapt artificial intelligence platforms for collecting and processing CT data recorded on video. In addition, we are working to close knowledge and capacity gaps that integrate biodiversity and climate change. At the same time, we are identifying knowledge management resources for the publication of information to facilitate access to complex information and wider dissemination to different audiences. This process required an expansion of the initial area of 33,000 ha, which in the case of the Jaguar Census covered the current area of 99,000 ha; and in the case of land use changes and forest carbon stock, 2,876,915 hectares were evaluated, which corresponds to the entire area from the banks of the Canal to the border with Colombia.

### EA: Stories to be shared

(section to be shared with communication division/ GEF communication) The Project counted with the collaboration of a specialized journalist for the coverage and a photographer for the reportage, photographic documentation and storytelling of the communities living with jaguars in Darien. The story was published in National Geographic USA edition, also in spain edition and France edition.

To save jaguars, he acts like a jaguar. "In Panama, jaguars in fragmented territory have clashed with local ranchers and livestock. Now a National Geographic Explorer has a plan to turn the embattled species and ranchers into unlikely allies". National Geographic USA https://www.nationalgeographic.com/premium/article/panama-jaguars-conservation-threats

National Geographic Spain https://www.nationalgeographic.es/animales/2023/06/salvar-jaguares-comportandose-como-jaguares-explorer-national-geographic

National Geographic France https://www.nationalgeographic.fr/animaux/pour-sauver-les-jaguars-ricardo-moreno-se-met-dans-leur-peau#:∵:text=Les%20chercheurs%20d%C3%A9placent%20un%20jaguar,qu'il%20se%20r%C3%A9veille%20compl%C3%A8tement.

FEATURE STORY: "In Panama, a cattle rancher leads the way in resolving human-jaguar conflict" Resources for International Jaguars Day on 29th November to promote jaguar conservation and curb human-jaguar conflict. The report focuses on the experience of a group of cattle ranches in the Agua Buena community that are working to improve their productivity and reduce human-jaguar conflict. https://www.unep.org/ru/node/30648



#### 3. RATING PROJECT PERFORMANCE

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes	(Development Objectives: DO)

Mid-Term Target or End of Project period (numeric, percentage, or TM: Progress EA: Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June Project objective and Outcomes Indicator binary entry only) EA to fill To strengthen jaguar conservation capacity and connectivity between core protected areas in the Chagres National Park-Darien National Park complex. Outcome 1 The Integrated Landscape Plan is in progress. The evaluation of approximately 2,876,915 hectares has been completed (changes in land Final Integrated Landscape Plan (1) Current landscape Draft Integrated 1. # of Integrated landscape plans addressing jaguar connectivity plans do not address landscape Plan (1) use, deforestation, degradation, carbon stock, others). We are in the 91% HS needs between Darien and Chagres National Parks developed and process of integrating the information that is being generated by the jaguar connectivity developed adopted Jaguar Census on jaguar populations. Camera traps are being installed to prepare for the calculation and analysis 0.5-1.5/110 km2 in Baseline (+) 10% 2. Increase in jaguar population, as increase in density per convex Baseline (+) 5% of jaguar density. The data analysis process has been completed in 3 of the (2.6-3.5 /110 65% polygon (110 km2) \* (1.6-2.5 /110 km2) 9 polygons, and the data processing of the remaining polygons continues. area km2) 88,000 hectares of the Jaguars Census have been completed in 8 polygons (Chagres-Portobello, Soberania, Nargana, Darién NP (Serranía de Pirrey Cana), Filo del Tallo, Bahía Piñas-Jaque, Chucunaque) and the process has 3. Has. occupied by jaguar population 11.000 Ha 17.000 ha 33.000 ha 100% HS started in the polygon of Punta Patiño, Darién. The presence of jaguars has been registered in most of the polygons, with the exception of Soberanía National Park where data analysis is still in progress. Proof of concept of jaguar-centric connectivity between Darien and Chagres National Parks demonstrated through privately financed environmental offsetting programs and integrated Forest carbon stocks have been evaluated for approximately 2,876,915 landscape planning hectares to prepare a baseline for the country, based on the national emissions inventory. Emission and removal flux maps have been constructed. Forest carbon enhancement calculations are associated with 4. Forest carbon stock enhancement in land restored (t/C/ha) 0 t/C/ha #t/C/ha 13,800 t/C/ha the 100 hectares of land to be restored through environmental compensation programs (indicator 5, below). So far, 22 hectares have been covered by these programs, plus an additional 47.6 hectares by the Ministry of the Environment. The extent of forest carbon enhancement (in t/C/ha) in these lands still needs to be calculated. 22 hectares have been included in environmental offsetting processes, as 5. # of hectares of land restored in connectivity corridors through planned. Information is still being collected to report the total number of 100 hectares 25% 0 Hectares 30 hectares S environmental compensation programs hectares reforested through environmental compensation programs. In addition, 47.6 hectares were reforested by the Ministry of Environment. We are still working on the workshop with the gender team, and the first 6. # of trainings conducted by companies on gender equality and its workshop will be held in the fourth quarter of 2023. Companies have been 0% 3 25% s links with biodiversity integrated into 2 gender workshops: launch of gender advisory group and GWP regional gender workshop.

Strengthened institutional capacity to monitor jaguar and prey species conservation in 3 protected areas: (i) charger skutional Park, (ii) Darien National Park, and (ii) Nargana Wildliff Protected Area (33,00 ha covered by Census) through a gender-sensitive approach	7. Improved capacity to monitor Jaguar and prey species in protected areas	52 camera trap monitoring stations 50 Authorities, technical staff and local stakeholders trained	144 camera trap monitoring stations 75 Authorities, technical staff and local stakeholders trained	288 camera trap monitoring stations 150 Authorities, technical staff and local stakeholders trained	90%	We purchased 512 camera traps in 266 monitoring stations including the memory cards, video, and other special programs for monitoring the Jaguar in the forest areas. The last camera trap monitoring stations will be installed in the third quarter of 2023.  A total of 371 people participated (more than double the target) in the Jaguar Census training, methodology, monitoring, and data analysis. This involved authorities, technical staff, academic and research institutions, and local stakeholders from communities.	HS
	# of protected area management plans revised to include data on the status of jaguars covering 33,000 ha	0 management covering status of Jaguars.	1 management plan covering status of Jaguars	3 management Plan covering total of 33,000 ha.		Scheduled to start in 2024, after completion of the fieldwork and data analysis of the Jaguar Census	S
	9. # of women trained in monitoring of jaguar and prey species and participating in census	0%	10	20	100%	The first monitoring group was created in the previous PIR period, made up exclusively of women. Out of 32 women trained, 6 went on to lead the monitoring team in one of the Census polygons in Soberania National Park and were part of other mixed monitoring teams in the other polygons. In this PIR period, 60 more women have been trained in the monitoring of iguar and prey species and participate in the jayaus census. This brings to 92 women the total number trained in both reporting periods (2021-2022 and 2022-2023), more than 9x the mid-term target.	нѕ
	# 10.# of women's groups participating in the jaguar protection system linked to governance structures and management tools of protected areas	0%	1	2	65%	Gender Group . The First Gender Advisory Group for Jaguar Conservation (GAG) was launched and officially formed as part of the governance structure of the project. We began the formation of a group of women for the scientific monitoring of the Jaguar. We expect to connect the GAG with the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy in Panama, and the implementation of the gender resolution proposed by Panama and adopted by CITES COP19.	S
Outcome 3  Decreased incidences of human-wildlife conflict and increased benefits to communities through the implementation of anti-predation and sustainable management measures in 6 cattle-ranches in the (I) Panama Este-Chepo complex and (II) Rancho Frio - Darife complex through a gender sensitive approach	11. # of hectares of productive landscapes implement sustainable management plans inclusive of anti-predation measures	Hectares	200 Hectares	500 Hectares	100%	695 hectares in of productive landscapes implement sustainable management plans inclusive of anti-predation measures in 9 cattle ranches bordering the jaguars' habitat in Agua Buena-Chucunaque in Darien (457 hectares) and Buenoa Aires in Cheop (238 hectares) to reduce HVC.  The work to implement the management plan with anti-predation measures on the Bustamante Family farm (164 ha) was lost because of a fire on their property. No further work has been done on the property, since the family no longer lives on the farm, and this poses a risk due to the lack of vigilance to ensure the effectiveness of the implementation. We are evaluating how to proceed to complete the remaining 22 hectares related to the proposed goal. Despite exceeding the number of farms intervened by the project, they have fewer hectares than initially planned, limiting the achievement of the goal in hectares.  Additionally, 2 ranches in Darién of 142 hectares and 2 ranches in Chepo of 130 hectares have management plans pending for implementation while the owners decide to continue with the process.	нѕ
	12. % decrease in # of human – jaguar conflicts	44 expressed jaguars deaths annually	Baseline (-) 20%	Baseline (-) 40%	100%	7 jaguars deaths annually which represents a reduction of 84% with respect to the baseline, significantly surpassing both mid-term and end-of- project targets. The verification of reports is still ongoing	нѕ

0		13. # of women in communities benefitting from sustainable management plans inclusive of anti-predation measures	0%	600	1575	70%	677 women are benefitting from the improvement of productive systems with the implementation of sustainable management plans of anti-predation measures; transfer of knowledge and experience; and actions to raise awareness of the communities about women's roles in sustainability and ecological practices. In addition, capacities are being strengthened through training women to participate in jaguars censuses and the collaring of jaguars in the field. This brings employment opportunities to women and gives them field-based training from which they are usually excluded. A total of 1,072 women have benefited in both PIR periods (2022 2023 and 2021-2022).	нѕ
Oi	Accome 4 Improved information management system on jaguar and wildlife conservation	14. # of knowledge resources developed to support establishment and operation of the Wildcats Conservation and Research Centre	0 Needs assessments 0 institutional strengthening tools	At least one (1) needs assessment in support of Wildcats Centre 2 Institutional strengthening tools	At least one (1) needs assessment in support of Wildcats Centre Four (4) institutional strengthening tools in support of Wildcats Centre	10%	The timeline for the Wildcats Conservation Research Centre (WCRC) as an Output has changed, based on the new 2023 workplan and the project's operational start from January 2022. Some preliminary steps have nonetheless been taken. A review of information was initiated, in order to have a basis for the needs assessments that will support the WCRC. The project team visited the ibera project of the Rewilding Argentina Foundation in Argentina and the Life+IBERLINCE project in Spain, as models that could be replicated with wild felines in Panama, which provided insights for the needs assessment for the WCRC.	MS
		15. # ha of connectivity contributing to the Jaguar 2030 initiative	Oha	X ha	100 ha	25%	As planned, 22 hectares benefitted from environmental offsetting processes. Information still is being collected to report the total number of hectares reforested through environmental compensation programs. In addition, 47.6 hectares were reforested by the Ministry of Environment.	s
		16. % decrease of jaguar victims to Human Wildlife Conflicts as contribution to Jaguar 2030 initiative	44 expressed jaguars deaths annually	Baseline (-) 20%	Baseline (-) 40%	100%	7 jaguars deaths annually which represents a reduction of 84% with respect to the baseline, significantly surpassing both mid-term and end-of- project targets. The verification of reports is still ongoing	нѕ
		17. # of Wildcats Conservation and Research Centre knowledge resources with gender-sensitive content	0%	3	10		This work requires a procurement process to develop the knowledge products that will be available through the WCRC. We are still evaluating possible publications related to the results of the project that could become material in Indigenous language, for example preliminary results of the Jaguar Census where indigenous communities have participated or the guide of wild felines of Panama, since the communities have expressed interest.	MS

For joint projects with other agencies, and where applicable, ratings should also be discussed with the UNEP Task Manager of co-implementing agency.

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (	mplementation Progress: IP)	
	54	 E 4

			LA				
	Output	Expected completion date (according to latest Workplan)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%) (Towards overall project targets)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2023 (%) (Towards overall project targets)	EA: Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	1	TM: Progress rating
ι	nder Component 1						
	Output 1.1.1: A plan to direct environmental offsetting investments on restoration to wildlife corridors in the Chagres-Darien National Parks complex in line with the Alliance for One Million Hectares and the National REDD+ Strategy						
	Activity 1.Geospatial Planning for Future Environmental Offsetting in biological corridors that link the priority sites of jaguar population	30/11/2023	0%	91%	The Integrated Landscape Plan for Future Environmental Offsetting is in progress. The evaluation of approximately 2,876,915 hectares has been completed (changes in land use, deforestation, degradation, carbon stock, others). However, the integration of information on jaguar populations and their prey depends on the results of the Jaguar Census, which has not yet been completed.		s

Activity 2. Stakeholder consultations in national parks and buffer communities	30/09/2024	10%	10%	This activity is linked to the geospatial plan noted in Activity 1 and is scheduled for 2024. It first requires completion of the fieldwork and data analysis of the Jaguar Census, which is at the final stages, and the integration of the information on jaguar populations and their prey into the Geospatial Planning for Future Environmental Offsetting in biological corridors that link the priority sites of jaguar population. Once the first draft of the Plan is complete, and preliminary results are available, it will be possible to carry out consultations and informative sessions to facilitate the socialization of this planning instrument. The intention is to disseminate the results of the Census and the draft Plan in the communities. It should, however, be noted that the Plan is ultimately aimed at orienting public and private investments, especially company initiatives, in the areas that are important for jaguar populations.  The terms of reference were finalized, and the administrative processes for the selection and recruitment of the	MS
Activity 3 Secure services of Gender and Safeguards Specialist	31/12/2023	15%	20%	the terms of reference were finalized, and the administrative processes for the selection and recruitment of the consultant are being worked on.	S
Output 1.1.2: 3 environmental offsetting projects integrate jaguar-centric restoration and wildlife connectivity in their design and implementation in sites located within (i) the Panamá Centro – Chagres complex; (ii) the Panama Este-Chepo complex; and (iii) the Rancho Frío – Darien complex					
Activity 1. Conduct Planning for Environmental Offsets and Technical Assistance to Companies	31/10/2024	0%	10%	The terms of reference are being worked on.	s
Activity 2. Conduct Carbon Stock Assessments that are correlated with information on jaguar populations and habitat	30/11/2023	10%	80%	The evaluation of approximately 2,876,915 hectares has been completed related to forest carbon stock which start from the emission factors based on the national inventory, to prepare a baseline of emissions and removals for the country. Emission and removal flux maps have been constructed. However, the information on jaguar populations and habitat depends on the results of the Jaguar Census, which has not yet been completed.	HS
Activity 3. Integrate jaguar data and conservation measures in 3 Protected Areas Management Plans, develop or modify legal instruments to incorporate measures of biodwersty impact in the evaluation of development projects	05/01/2025	0%	0%	Scheduled for 2024 with the completion of fieldwork and data analysis of the Jaguar Census	S
Output 1.2.1: The first National Jaguar and terrestrial mammals Census designed covering 3 protected areas (33,000 ha) in support of conservation planning and improved management of human-wildlife conflicts					
Activity 1. Procurement of Camera Traps No Glow Black Flash, Camera Traps Low Glow Long Range, Surveillance and monitoring cameras, Laptops & rugged tablets, and 4 x 4 vehicle	31/12/2024	80%	85%	The purchase of the camera traps has been almost completed. However, more equipment is still required, and in addition, equipment is required to replace damaged or stolen equipment in the field.	HS
Activity 2. Develop Technical Standard and conduct data analysis for the National Census of Jaguar and Terrestrial Mammals (including monitoring and data of threat and conflict mapping)	30/11/2024	25%	40%	The Technical Standards includes the protocols, procedures, technical specifications, characteristics, requirements and other criteria needed to standardize the methodology for jaguar biological monitoring. The protocol to begin the process of collecting information to feed the Jaguars' documentation regarding the Census was completed. Also, the data analysis process has been completed in 3 of the 9 polygons, and the data processing of the remaining polygons continues. However, the information on jaguar populations and habitat depends on the results of the Jaguar Census, which has not yet been completed. The census will set new Technical Standard for the monitoring of the species, however, in order to standardize the methodology it is necessary to complete the monitoring, data collection, analysis and interpretation activities that are being carried out.	S
Activity 3. Conduct Training in Jaguar Monitoring and Data Collection - gender inclusive	30/06/2024	35%	50%	So far 18 training sessions were conducted in Jaguar Monitoring and Data Collection with camera traps for the Jaguar Census. The workshop was directed to monitoring group formed by 77 biologists and biology students [36 women and 41 men) that worked in 8 of the Jaguars Census obygons. Also participating in the field training were 64 rangers [14 women and 50 men) from STRI and MIAMBIENTE; 2 ACP staff and 13 people from the Ecological Police staff. And 84 (82 men and 2 women) local people from 7 community participating as field support of the Jaguars Census. Also, to increase local wildlife management capacity, we conduct two training workshops in community monitoring with camera traps with a group from the community of Filo del Tallo with 31 residents (16 women and 15 men) and 13 local people (6 women and 7 men) from Agua Buena — Chucunaque community in Darién. Trainings are expected to continue during 2023 and 2024.	S
Activity 4. Conduct jaguar census	30/04/2024	40%	80%	We completed the 88,000 hectares of the jaguar census in eight polygons. We are installing and removing camera traps in order to finish the jaguars census.	HS
Activity 5 Conduct Jaguar Census Data Interpretation and Presentation Workshops - gender inclusive	30/11/2024	0%	20%	In the process of organizing the first workshop to be held in July 2023. The technical documents and content of the workshop have been developed.	S
Output 1.3.1: 6 cattle ranches implement sustainable management plans inclusive of site- specific anti-predation measures, reduce jaguar attacks on livestock and incidents of retailatory killings of wildlife					

Activity 1. Procure seedlings and Supplies to Strengthened Live Fencing and other anti-predation measures on 6 Cattle Ranches	31/12/2023	55%	100%	Work to strengthened solar electric fences and other anti-predation measures has been completed in 9 cattle ranches (658 hectares) bordering the jaguars' habitat in Agua Buena-Chucunaque in Darién (454 hectares) and Buenos Aires in Chepo (204 hectares) to reduce HWC. The work of monitoring the effectiveness of the measures continues.	HS
Activity 2. Develop Technical Standard and conduct Training for Chemical Containment Methods and Veterinary Management of Wild Cats Pilot Program	04/01/2024	30%	75%	Technical Standard was development and we currently have a staff that is responsible for providing the necessary advice on veterinary issues. This will serve as a basis for the procedures for Veterinary Management of Wild Cats Pilot Program. Over 44 participants (26 women and 16 men) joined two training course for Chemical Containment Methods and Veterinary Management for capture, management and post-release monitoring of wild cats was held from February 4 to March 30 in 2022 and 2023. Another training is scheduled in 2024.	S
Activity 3. Provide Technical Assistance to 6 Cattle Ranches in On-Site Anti Predation Measures	31/12/2024	65%	75%	Technical assistance is being provided to 13 cattle farms in Darién and 3 in Chepo on a permanent basis and to other neighboring farms on a timely basis, as needed. As part of the Jaguar Census, work has begun in Quebrada Espejo and Bella Vista, neighboring communities of Agua Buena de Chucunaque in Darién.	HS
Activity 4. Conduct Training in Anti- Predation, Pasture Management and Health Management - gender inclusive	31/01/2025	25%	35%	A total of 5 field meetings and 26 field visits of technical assistance and training on strategies to reduce HWC were held between July 2022 and June 2023, which were carried out with community stakeholders, implementation of sustainable management plans with anti-predation measures; which was reinforced by exchanges at ranch to s Lagos between community residents and the team of biologists and veterinary doctors from Yaguará Panamá Foundation who were in the scientific camp in the area from February 4 to March 30, 2023 for the capture and marking of jaguars for satellite tracking.  We have been organizing meetings with MIAMBIENTE and HWC Group for the antipredation measures. We are still pending the visit to the Agua Buena community to learn about the results of the implementation of sustainable management plans with anti-predation measures; although various dates were given, they have been postponed. We expect to make the visit in the last quarter of 2023.	s
Activity 5. Meetings for management Plans and trained human resources to deal with the HWC - gender inclusive	31/01/2025	55%	60%	On-going assignment. We are counting on information and knowledge exchange. We are working on training and the development of know-how.	s
nder Component 2					
Output 2.1.1.: The 'Wildcats Conservation and Research Centre' is established as a 'go-to' knowledge resource for scientific data on wildcats					
Activity 2.1.1.1. Conduct Needs Assessment	31/12/2023	10%	45%	Review the information to have the assessments. The project team visited the libera project of the Rewilding Argentina Foundation in Argentina and the Life+HBERLINCE project in Spain as part of technical assistance from both projects as models to replicate in the conservation prosons of wild felines in Panama with the WCRC and define the needs assessment for the Center.	S
Activity 2. Procure architectural design of operational structures and basic infrastructure for the construction of the Wildcat Conservation and Research	30/06/2024	0%	0%	This activity is scheduled for the second quarter of 2024.	
Activity 3. Construct Wildcats Conservation and Research Centre	31/01/2025	0%	0%	This activity is scheduled for 2025	
Activity 4. Procure furniture and supplies for the Wildcats Conservation and Research Centre	31/01/2025	0%	0%	This activity is scheduled for 2025	
Activity 5. Procure Integrated Audio Visual, Video-Conferencing and Direct Surveillance System for the Wildcats Conservation and Research Centre	31/01/2025	0%	0%	This activity is scheduled for 2025	
Activity 6. Develop Start-up manuals, policies and Resource Mobilization Strategy for Wildcat Conservation and Research Centre	30/11/2024	0%	0%	This activity is scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2024.	
Activity 7. Develop Business and Financial Sustainability Plan for Wildcat Conservation and Research Centre	30/11/2024	0%	0%	This activity is scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2024.	
Activity 8. Implementation of Resource Mobilization Strategy and Business Plan	30/04/2025	0%	0%	This activity is scheduled for 2025	
Output 2.1.1.: Project results are captured and inform regional jaguar conservation goals through					
regional coordination Activity 2.1.1.1. Design of multimedia					
education and outreach campaigns Activity 2.1.1.2. Design of Information	31/12/2024	0%	10%	The terms of reference are being worked on.	S
management website platform	31/10/2023	0%	20%	On-going assignment. We are counting with the project logo and web templates design, and content generation.	S
Activity 2.1.1.3. Procure Knowledge Management Materials	31/12/2024	0%	0%	This activity is scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2024.	
Activity 2.1.1.4. Development and Training in KM and Communications Guidelines	30/06/2024	0%	0%	This activity is scheduled for the second quarter of 2024.	
Activity 2.1.1.5. Community Engagement & Knowledge Management Meetings - gender inclusive	30/04/2025	0%	0%	This activity is scheduled for 2025	



### 4 Risk Rating

#### 4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

### Please refer to the Risk Help Sheet for more details on rating

#### Risk Factor EA's Rating TM's Rating Low : Well developed, stable Management Structure and Roles/responsibilities Low: Well developed, stable Management Structure and Roles/responsibilities are clearly 1 Management structure - Roles and responsibilities Y are clearly defined/understood. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on defined/understood. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery. the project delivery. Low : Steering Committee and/or other project bodies meet at least once a Low: Steering Committee and/or other project bodies meet at least once a year and Active year and Active membership and participation in decision-making processes. SC provides direction/inputs. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on membership and participation in decision-making processes. SC provides direction/inputs. Low 2 Governance structure - Oversight likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery. the project delivery. Moderate: Project progressing according to work plan and Adaptive management and regular monitoring. Moderate likelihood of potential Moderate: Project progressing according to work plan and Adaptive management and regular 3 Implementation schedule monitoring. Moderate likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery. negative impact on the project delivery. Moderate: Activities are progressing within planned budget and Balanced Moderate: Activities are progressing within planned budget and Balanced budget utilization y budget utilization including PMC. Moderate likelihood of potential negative 4 Budget including PMC. Moderate likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery. impact on the project delivery. Low: Funds are correctly managed and transparently accounted for and Audit Low: Funds are correctly managed and transparently accounted for and Audit reports provided regularly and confirm correct use of funds. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the 5 Financial Management reports provided regularly and confirm correct use of funds. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery. project delivery Moderate: Substantive reports are presented in a timely manner and Reports Low: Substantive reports are presented in a timely manner and Reports are complete and accurate are complete and accurate with a good analysis of project progress and implementation issues. Moderate likelihood of potential negative impact on 6 Reporting with a good analysis of project progress and implementation issues. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery. Moderate: Sound technical and managerial capacity of institutions and other Low: Sound technical and managerial capacity of institutions and other project partners and project partners and Capacity gaps were addressed before implementation or 7 Capacity to deliver during early stages. Moderate likelihood of potential negative impact on the Capacity gaps were addressed before implementation or during early stages. Low likelihood of

### If any of the risk factors is rated a Moderate or higher, please include it in Table B below

### 4.2 Table B. Risk-log

Implementation Status (Current PIR) 2nd PIR automatic formula!

project delivery

EA: Insert ALL the risks identified at CEO endorsement (inc. safeguards screening), previous PIRs (1, 2, 3, etc), current PIR, and MTR. Use the last row to propose a suggested consolidated rating.

potential negative impact on the project delivery.

	Risk affecting:			F	Risk Rating	)			Variat	tion respect to last rating
Risk	Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	PIR 6	Δ	Justification
Risk 1: Lack of coordination among the institutions and organizations contributing to the project	All outcomes/outputs	L	L	L					=	
Risk 2: Private companies do not carry through with reforestation efforts	All outcomes/outputs	L	L	L					=	
Risk 3: Lack of support from Cattle Ranchers	Output 2.3	М	М	М					=	
Risk 4: Impacts of Climate Change and Weather	All outcomes/outputs	М	М	М					=	
Risk 5: Gender Risk	All outcomes/outputs	L	L	L					=	
Risk 6: Indigenous Peoples	All outcomes/outputs	М	L	L					=	
Risk 7: Covid Pandemic	All outcomes/outputs	Н	L	L					=	
Risk 8: Wildcats Conversation and Research Centre	Output 2.1	Н	Н	Н					=	
able A - Risk 3: Implementation schedule	All outcomes/outputs			М						
Table A - Risk 4: Budget	All outcomes/outputs			М						
										This section focuses on the Variation. The
Consolidated project risk			L	M						overall rating is discussed in section 2.3.

### 4.3 Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period		Additional mitigation measures for the r	ext periods
	(PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)		What	When	By whom
Risk 3: Lack of support from Cattle Ranchers	Raise awareness about the benefits of collaborating with the project, including by showcasing examples of the Agua Buena ranch, which is more advanced	We are working with the communities in a way that we can reach them with benefits to their farms. Cattle ranches were selected using a robust criterion, including their specific interest and commitment to implementing mitigation measures, in exchange for enhancing management of cattle, with clear economic benefits to the ranchers, resulting from efficiencies in management, reduced predation from jaguars, and increased returns from cattle.	The project will continue to engage ranchers while advocating for the declared anticipated benefits for both rancher and jaguar, while making the best possible use of lessons learned from the management plans implemented before.	July 2023 to June 2024	Yaguará Foundation
Risk 4: Impacts of Climate Change and Weather	Ensure there is concerted weather monitoring during the rainy and dry season in Panama for an adaptive management strategy	We carefully examine historical rainfall data and monitor weather conditions to schedule the census and monitoring data collection within a conservative period to accommodate for early onset of rains or an extended rainy season. We also work to schedule the interventions in the area of cattle farms.	Ensure there is concerted weather monitoring during the rainy and dry season in Panama for an adaptive management strategy	July 2023 to June 2024	Yaguará Foundation
Risk 8: Wildcats Conversation and Research Centre	Seek alliances with the private sector as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility programs. Deliver a finance mobilization strategy. Work on strategic and business plans	We continue to work on the preparatory actions for the establishment of the Center which is scheduled for 2024. In this sense, the project will work closely with the companies that are implementing partners and are part of the governance structure of the project; as well as companies under the environmental compensation scheme. In this way, there will be a group of potential companies that can support as part of the options and possibilities of establishing and sustaining the Center.	Seek alliances with the private sector as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility programs. Deliver a finance mobilization strategy. Work on strategic and business plans	July 2023 to June 2024	Yaguará Foundation MiAmbiente
Table A - Risk 3: Implementation schedule		Set-backs with a fire on a property where anti-predation measures had been implemented affected ejecution and required risk management decisions. To better absorb any 'execution shocks', the project timeline is being reevaluated every year with each budget revision. An optimistic outlook is maintained on the work towards the Wildcat Conservation and Research Centre.	Continue applying risk/ adaptive management when facing execution obstacles. Pay attention to the WCRC as a risk to the projrct's co-financing.	January-June 2024	Yaguará Foundation
Table A - Risk 4: Budget		After seeing some delays due to Covid restrictions, the financial execution will need to accelerate from this period on.	Adaptive management may be needed to better ensure the project raises the required level of cofinance.	January-June 2024	Yaguará Foundation

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.

Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.

Moderate Risk (M): There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.





## Project Minor 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 Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines. Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate.

## 5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment (TM)

Minor amendments	Changes
Results framework	No
Components and cost	No
Institutional and implementation arrangements	No
Financial management	No
Implementation schedule	Explain in table B
Executing Entity	No
Executing Entity Category	No
Minor project objective change	No
Safeguards	No
Risk analysis	No
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%	No
Co-financing	No
Location of project activity	No
Other	

# Minor amendments

#### 5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions (TM)

Version	Туре	Signed/Approved by UNEP
Original Legal Instrument		
Amendment 1		
Extension 1		

Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision

### GEO Location Information: (EA)

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 OpenStreetMap (https://www.openstreetmap.org/imap=4/21.84/82.79) or GeoNames(http://www.geonames.org/) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: https://coordinates-converter.com Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking here(https://getportal.worldbank.org/App/assets/general/Geocoding%20User%20Guide.docx)

Location Name Required field	Latitude Required field	Longitude Required field	Geo Name ID Required field if the location is not an exact site	Location Description Optional text field	Activity Description Optional text field
Parque National Darien	7.812492	-77.740995			
Serranía de Pirre, Parque Nacional Darién	7.86413	-77.709796			
Cana, Parque Nacional Darién	7.754401	-77.674735			
Bahía Piñas - Jaque, Darién	7.57659	-78.140326			
Punta Patiño, Darién	8.249238	-78.261077			
Reserva Hidrologica Filo Tallo, Darién	8.42446	-77.971126			
Parque Nacional Chagres	9.391723	-79.419835			
Área Protegida Nargana	9.382597	-78.969093			
Buenos Aires, Cañitas, Chepo	9.244423	-78.81951			
Agua Buena de Chucunaque, Darién	8.631793	-77.95289			
Parque Nacional Protobelo	9.556829	-79.475582			
Parque Naciona Soberania	9.1464	-79.723467			

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

[\* Annex any linked geospatial file]

