



PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

for the project:

Conservation and Sustainable use of Liberia's Coastal Natural Capital

FY22

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

(Year 2)

Executing Partner

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Liberia



Project Information			
Project Title:	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Liberia's Coastal Natural Capital		
Country(ies):	Liberia	GEF ID:	9573
GEF Agency(ies):	Conservation International	Duration In Months:	65
Executing Agency(ies):	The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Actual Implementation Start Date:	February 1, 2020
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity and Land Degradation	Expected Project Completion Date:	June 30, 2025
GEF Grant Amount:	US\$ 3,944,220	Expected Financial Closure Date:	December 31, 2025
Expected Co-financing:	US\$ 11,194,248	Date of Last Steering Committee Meeting:	April 5, 2022
Co-financing Realized as of June 30, 2022:	US\$ 5,186,196	Mid-Term Review-Planned Date:	October 1, 2022
Date of First Disbursement:	February 1, 2020	Mid-Term Review-Actual Date:	TBD
Cumulative disbursement as of June 30, 2022:	US\$ 1,114,196	Terminal Evaluation-Planned Date:	April 1, 2025
PIR Prepared by:	Emmanuel T. Olatunji and George Ilebo	Terminal Evaluation-Actual Date:	TBD
CI-GEF Project Manager:	Charity Nalyanya	CI-GEF Finance Lead:	Susana Escudero

Minor Amendment Categories	Minor Amendment Justification
	Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have a significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase in the GEF project financing by up to 5%. Please select the box that is most applicable for FY22 and include an explanation for the minor amendment request.
Results framework <input type="checkbox"/>	-
Components and cost <input type="checkbox"/>	-
Institutional and implementation arrangements <input type="checkbox"/>	-
Financial management <input type="checkbox"/>	-
Implementation schedule <input type="checkbox"/>	-
Executing Entity <input type="checkbox"/>	-
Executing Entity Category <input type="checkbox"/>	-
Minor project objective change <input type="checkbox"/>	-
Safeguards <input type="checkbox"/>	-
Risk analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic was included as a new risk

Minor Amendment Categories	Minor Amendment Justification Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have a significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase in the GEF project financing by up to 5%. Please select the box that is most applicable for FY22 and include an explanation for the minor amendment request.
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5% <input type="checkbox"/>	-
Co-financing <input type="checkbox"/>	Not Applicable
Location of project activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There were some changes in locations due to accessibility and mangrove density – see section VI: project geocoding
Other <input type="checkbox"/>	-

MINOR AMENDMENT RESPONSE FROM CI-GEF

There are no changes/amendments as outlined in the table above

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

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

- Section I: Project Implementation Progress Status Summary:** provides a summary of the project as well as the implementation status and rating of the previous and current fiscal years;
- Section II: Project Results Implementation Progress Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards achieving the project objective and outcomes, the implementation rating of the project, as well as recommendations to improve the project performance, when needed;
- Section III: Project Risks Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards managing and mitigating project risks, the project risks mitigation rating reassessment as needed, as well as recommendations to improve the management of project risks;
- Section IV: Project Environmental and Social Safeguards Implementation Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards complying with the Environmental & Social Safeguards and the Plans prepared during the PPG phase, the safeguard plans implementation rating, as well as recommendations to improve the project safeguards;
- Section V: Project Implementation Experiences and Lessons Learned:** describes the experiences learned by the project managers and the lessons learned through the process of implementing the project; and
- Section VI: Project Geocoding:** documents the precise and specific geographic location(s) of activities supported by GEF investments based on information available in project documentation

SECTION I: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS SUMMARY

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Conservation and Sustainable use of Liberia's Coastal Natural Capital Project commenced on 1st February 2020 and is expected to end on 30th June 2025 (65 Months). The objective of this project is: *To improve the conservation and sustainable use of Liberia's coastal natural capital by mainstreaming the value of nature into Liberia's development trajectory.* This project has three components, namely: (i) Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) in coastal ecosystems, (ii) Innovative financing schemes for conserving coastal natural capital, and (iii) Community incentives to conserve and sustainably manage natural capital in coastal ecosystems.

In Liberia, the greatest threats to mangroves include land degradation; overexploitation through hunting, firewood collection, charcoal production, and timber extraction; pollution of water, air, and soil from unregulated waste disposal and chemicals from agriculture and mining; and climate change. Although there has been some policy recognition of the importance of mangrove ecosystems e.g., the declaration of Lake Piso, Mesurado, and Marshall wetlands as Ramsar sites and the identification of several mangrove areas for eventual inclusion in Liberia's formal protected area network, the value of coastal ecosystems is not yet fully recognized by decision-makers, thus, the true costs of Liberia's natural resources are not accounted for in national planning and development decision-making.

To address the above, the Conservation and Sustainable use of Liberia's Coastal Natural Capital Project will: account for the value that mangroves provide and help decision-makers understand the unpriced costs of development (externalities) to improve consideration of impacts and tradeoffs of development decisions; build the capacity of key development and statistical agencies to collect, analyze relevant data and include this information in decision making; and empower policymakers to develop long-term policy frameworks that support and incentivize private sector actors to value and report on their use of Liberia's natural capital.

PRIOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS (FY21)

Project Set-Up

Project Management Unit (PMU) staff were recruited, and a virtual inception workshop was held on June 16th, 2020. Twenty (25) participants (3 female and 22 male) attended the inception workshop. A [virtual grants management training](#) was held on July 6th, 2020. In addition, a joint BOP-NCA Project Steering Committee (PSC) comprising 19 members (17 men and 02 women)¹ from government ministries, agencies, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and academic institutions were established to oversee project implementation. Additionally, a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) comprising of seven (7) members (all male), from different government Ministries and Agencies was established and is operational. The TAC was constituted to facilitate synergy and coordination between the NCA project and other government initiatives.

Component 1: Natural Capital Accounting in coastal ecosystems

A scoping exercise resulted in the establishment of an [Analytical Framework](#) that supported the selection of priority NCAs. Five (5) priority natural capital accounts were selected, namely: The Ecosystem Extent, Ecosystem Condition, Ecosystem Services (crop provisioning, wood provisioning, wild fish and aquatic biomass, climate regulation, soil erosion control, coastal protection, and recreation-related services), Monetary Asset and Thematic Accounts (focusing on biodiversity and species accounts). The analytical framework follows the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) guideline and describes the methods for the implementation of a complete set of coastal accounts, including extent, condition, ecosystem services, monetary assets accounts as well as biodiversity thematic accounts.

An [ecosystems extent map](#)² was developed together with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The map shows Liberia's diverse ecosystem types – such as lowland forests, montane grasslands, mangroves, and freshwater ecosystems. The map

¹ At the beginning of the project, the PSC was composed of 10 members (10 men and 0 women). However, the EPA recommended that one PSC is created for all CI Liberia projects. As a result, the NCA and Blue Oceans Programme (BOP) were merged to form one PSC hence the 19 members. The joint NCA and BOP PSC has 19 members.

² United Nations. (2021, March 25). African NCA Community of Practice Webinar: Leveraging Earth Observations for Ecosystem Accounting: A NASA-CI Effort to Pilot Ecosystem Mapping in Liberia. Retrieved from United Nations System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (UN SEEA): <https://seea.un.org/events/african-nca-community-practice-webinar-leveraging-earth-observations-ecosystem-accounting>

serves as a critical step in Liberia's effort to implement a series of ecosystem accounts following the United Nations SEEA, a statistical standard that helps put natural capital at the forefront of economic decision-making.

Component 2: Innovative financing Schemes for conserving coastal natural capital

In FY21, CI-Liberia secured US\$ 600,000 (24%) funding from Turing and Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation for the gazettelement of Marshall wetlands as a Protected Area. With regards to establishing revenue streams to support long-term sustainability, the project developed two (2) concept notes to source philanthropic support for carbon credits with emphasis on the co-benefits of coastal carbon. Lastly, this project seeks to establish a small grants mechanism called the Liberia Conservation Action Fund (LCAF) which will support small-scale interventions that promote good stewardship of natural resources. To achieve this, the project established the TAC composed of seven persons (all male) from seven (7) institutions from government agencies and ministries including EPA, FDA, LLA, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP), Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA), LISGIS, and the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA). A meeting was organized by the TAC to nominate non-state actors and ensure the issue of female participation in the TAC is addressed. The TAC will oversee the LCAF.

Component 3: Community incentives to conserve and sustainably Manage Natural capital Ecosystems

Funding (US\$ 600,000) was secured from Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and Turing Foundation for the gazettelement of Marshall wetlands as a Protected Area. This will ensure that 12,168 Hectares of mangroves are protected.

Risks and challenges: The key risk experienced in FY21 was the Impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19). Its ripple effect such as the movement restriction that was imposed to curb the spread of the Coronavirus impeded stakeholder engagement and the execution of project activities at the community level hence project delays.

Environmental & Social Safeguards Compliance: Monitoring and reporting of safeguards were undertaken quarterly as covered in section IV.

CURRENT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS (FY22)

Component 1: Natural Capital Accounting in coastal ecosystems

Outcome 1.1: In both FY22 and FY21, 87% of output indicators under outcome 1.1 are pending completion. In addition, FY22 has registered a 13% improvement in that, no output indicators are delayed/overdue whereas in FY21, 13% of output indicators were reported delayed/overdue.

The NCA has been integrated into the NDC Implementation Plan (Coastal, Forest, and Agriculture sectors). The project prioritized five (5) priority natural capital accounts namely: Ecosystem Extent, Ecosystem Condition, Ecosystem Services Flow (crop provisioning, wood provisioning, fisheries resources, climate regulation, soil erosion control, and coastal protection), Monetary Assets, and Thematic Accounts (focusing on biodiversity and species accounts). In FY22 the project made significant progress towards completing the technical development of a coastal natural capital account. In FY22, a total of 25 (18 men and 7 women) government officials were trained on how to collect NCA and catalogue data the shared data on the government.

Component 2: Innovative financing Schemes for conserving coastal natural capital

Outcome 2.1: In both FY22 and FY21, 100% of output indicators under outcome 2.1 are on track/under implementation.

In FY22, blue carbon feasibility assessments were conducted in the Lake Piso and Marshall landscapes, and these form the basis for the development of a blue carbon prospectus. Market assessment and value chain analysis of conservation-friendly enterprises were also conducted. In addition, a Multi-Agency Steering Committee (MASC) – renamed the **Small Grants Appraisal Committee (SGAC)** as per the recommendation of the PSC was established to oversee the implementation of the Liberia Conservation Action Fund (LCAF). The SGAC will comprise of members from 11 Institutions (Government, Private sector, and Civil society). The nomination of the members (male and female) for the SGAC is on-going. Nomination of members (men and women) is on-going. The objective of the SGAC is to oversee the disbursement of small grants to Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to roll out conservation agreements and support conservation-friendly enterprises.

Component 3: Community incentives to conserve and sustainably Manage Natural capital Ecosystems

Outcome 3.1: In both FY22 and FY21, 50% of output indicators under outcome 3.1 are on track/under implementation and 50% have not started execution/are on track

Six (6) conservation agreements have been signed between CI and six (6) local communities namely, Sarwein, Bleewein, Nyangba in Grand Bassa County and, Falie, Mandoe, and Bendu in Grand Cape Mount County to conserve and protect the coastal

ecosystems. To this end, a total of 2,449.67 ha of mangrove ecosystems have been put under protection and a total of 4,159.74 ha of terrestrial forest ecosystems under sustainable management in coastal areas.

Risks and Challenges: In FY22 Q1 and Q2, the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) caused delays in the implementation of field activities, and stakeholder engagement, and undermined the project’s ability to meet some deliverables on time due to several measures that the Government of Liberia (GoL) instituted. Examples of these measures are the declaration of a health emergency, restriction of movement, and social distancing. As a result, field activities that involved face-to-face meetings were suspended, and staff had to work from home. The team adopted virtual tools for activities that could be done remotely and revised the work plan and budget. Unfortunately, the use of virtual tools was also impeded by poor/limited internet connectivity in certain areas/locations.

Environmental & Social Safeguards Compliance: Monitoring, and reporting of safeguards were undertaken quarterly as covered in section IV.

SUMMARY: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS

PROJECT PART	PRIOR FY21 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	CURRENT FY22 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING ³	RATING TREND ⁴
OBJECTIVE	HS	HS	Unchanged
COMPONENTS AND OUTCOMES	HS	HS	Unchanged
ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS	S	HS	Increasing

PROJECT RISK RATING⁵

PROJECT PART	PRIOR FY21 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	CURRENT FY22 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	RATING TREND
RISKS	H	H	Unchanged

³ **Implementation Progress (IP) Rating:** Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Moderately Satisfactory (MS), Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). For more details about IP rating, please see the Appendix I of this report

⁴ **Rating trend:** Improving, Unchanged, or Decreasing

⁵ **Risk Rating:** Low (L), Moderate (M), Substantial (S), High (H)

SECTION II: PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS AND RATING

This section describes the progress made since the start of the project towards achieving the project objective and outcomes, the implementation progress rating of the project, as well as recommendations to improve the project performance. This section is composed of four parts:

- a. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective: this section measures the likelihood of achieving the objective of the project
- b. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Outcomes (by project component)
- c. Overall Project Results Progress Rating, and
- d. Recommendations for improvement

a. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective:

This section of the report assesses the progress in achieving the objective of the project.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:	To improve conservation and sustainable use of Liberia’s coastal natural capital by mainstreaming the value of nature into Liberia’s development trajectory
---------------------------	---

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END-OF-YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator a: Number of national development policy instruments explicitly incorporating Natural Capital Accounting (NCA)	<p>1 (one) national development policy instrument has explicitly incorporated Natural Capital Accounting (NCA). See below:</p> <p>a. This NCA project has contributed to the development of the updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for Liberia. The information generated from the ecosystem extent account was integrated into Liberia’s NDC Implementation Plan.</p>	IS	<p>The NCA has been integrated into the NDC Implementation Plan (Coastal, Forest, and Agriculture sectors). Specific activities from the NCA that support the policy targets that were set in the revised and submitted NDC include: developing mechanisms for sustainable community management of mangrove areas key for local livelihoods and sustenance; and establishing a national system to monitor land-use change dynamics and track emissions from coastal ecosystems zones, through the establishment of air emission, land (land cover and land use), and ecosystem accounts, to be implemented by LISGIS, and coupled with the national forest inventory system, the REDD+ MRV system, and the national greenhouse inventory process.</p> <p>During the development of the NDC implementation plan, a National Gender Dialogue was held in Gompa City, Nimba County. under the theme “Women leading for climate action; a catalyst for Liberia’s NDC ambition.” The goal was to incorporate gender inclusiveness in Liberia’s NDC for an effective and efficient implementation. The main objectives included to champion the advancement of women’s economic empowerment and participation in the implementation of Liberia’s NDC; ensure that women remain an integral part of Liberia’s NDC implementation; and ensure inclusiveness in environmental planning</p>

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

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END-OF-YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
			and decision-making. The Gender Dialogue targeted civil society groups promoting gender equality and women empowerment, gender coordinators across Liberia's 15 political sub-divisions, as well as the private sector and community-based groups supporting women's empowerment. A Consultancy has been advertised for the development of a National Strategy and Action Plan for the implementation of Natural Capital Accounting in Liberia.

OBJECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION
HS	<p>This section is rated Highly Satisfactory because 100% of the indicators are under implementation/on track. The rating for both FY22 and FY21 is the same.</p> <p>The information generated from the ecosystem extent account was integrated into Liberia's NDC Implementation Plan. The project has also initiated the process of recruiting a consultant to develop a National Strategy and Action Plan for the implementation of Natural Capital Accounting in Liberia.</p>

b. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Outcomes (by project component).

COMPONENT 1		Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) in Coastal Ecosystems		
Outcome 1.1:		Decision-making improved in coastal ecosystem governance by mainstreaming natural capital accounting (NCA) into the Government of Liberia (GOL) development strategy, policy, and planning		
OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END-OF-YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁷	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<p>Outcome Indicator 1.1.a: Number of natural capital accounts established and embedded in key government policies and plans</p>	<p>At least one natural capital account (mangroves) established and embedded in at least five (5) key government policies and plans</p>	<p>Zero (0) natural capital accounts are embedded in key government policies and plans; the project is in progress towards achieving the outcome indicator.</p> <p>The project prioritized five (5) priority natural capital accounts namely: Ecosystem Extent, Ecosystem Condition, Ecosystem Services Flow (crop provisioning, wood provisioning, fisheries resources, climate regulation, soil erosion control, and coastal protection), Monetary Assets, and Thematic Accounts (focusing on biodiversity and species accounts).</p> <p>The first iteration of several ecosystem services flow accounts is also completed. The findings will be presented to individual government agencies and stakeholders for feedback and policy dialog in the upcoming trip to Liberia (16-22 July 2022).</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>In FY22 the project made significant progress towards completing the technical development of a coastal natural capital account:</p> <p>a) An in-depth and comprehensive assessment of data and gaps completed: A Data Management Plan was developed for the project to adhere to Conservation International's Research Ethics Policy. In addition, a draft MoU (Memorandum of Understanding)/Cooperative framework agreement was developed to facilitate NCA data sharing between relevant government ministries and agencies.</p> <p>b) Measurements and modeling work for the development of NCA continued as planned</p> <p>c) Primary data collection efforts ongoing: Preliminary fieldwork was conducted at a few coastal sites to assess ecosystem conditions (e.g., using drones) and engage local communities, and collect inclusive and gender-sensitive socioeconomic data. In addition, fieldwork activities for primary data collection were delayed in FY22Q3 due to COVID19-related international travel restrictions. This activity will now take place in FY23.</p>

⁷ O= Overdue; D= Delayed; NS= Not started on schedule; IS= Under implementation on schedule; and CA= Completed/Achieved

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END-OF-YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁷	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<p>Outcome indicator 1.1.b: Number of government officials and other relevant stakeholders trained on the technical aspects of NCA</p>	<p>At least fifty (50) (10 women and 40 men)⁸ government officials and other relevant stakeholders trained on the technical aspects of NCA</p>	<p>To-date (FY21 and FY22), trainings were provided to a total of 41 personnel (31 men and 10 women). This value has eliminated double counting.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further extensive training is planned for FY23 through a consulting agreement • Training provided to Agencies Knowledge Brokers on how to collect and catalogue NCA data using international standards. <p>Breakdown of the trainings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In FY22, a total of 25 government officials (18 men and 7 women) were trained on how to collect NCA and catalogue data the shared data on the government. • In FY21, government officials 16 (13 men, 3 women).
<p>Outcome indicator 1.1.c: Number of decision-makers trained on how to use NCA results for the conservation and sustainable use of globally important biodiversity</p>	<p>At least fifty (50) (10 women and 40 men)⁹ decision-makers trained on how to use NCA results for the conservation and sustainable use of globally important biodiversity</p>	<p>To-date (FY21 and FY22), the total number of decision-makers who received trainings on policy application of NCA is 58 (47 men and 11 women). The breakdown is provided below:</p> <p>FY22, 20 government officials (12 men and 8 women) were trained. Note that this number has eliminated double counting i.e., the 20 government officials who received training in FY22 were part of those who received training in FY21</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>A one-day long training was provided to Agencies Knowledge Brokers on how to collect and catalogue NCA data using international standards (see attached report). The training was provided to a total of 20 participants (12 men and 8 women).</p>

⁸ The sex disaggregated information is similar to Output 1.1.3

⁹ The sex disaggregated information is similar to Output 1.1.3

COMPONENT 1 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
HS	<p>Component 1 is rated Highly Satisfactory because 100% of the target indicators are under implementation/on track.</p> <p>Due to movement restrictions imposed by the Government of Liberia because of the Coronavirus pandemic, coupled with delayed activities in FY21 that were carried forward to FY22, stakeholder engagement, trainings, and field activities were delayed further at the onset of FY22. Nevertheless, the execution of activities under this Component are picking up steadily – although slowly. For instance, in FY22, significant progress was made towards completing the development of coastal natural capital accounts and the technical trainings have taken place as planned. Notably, FY22 has reported a 6% increase in the number of trainees (beneficiaries). Nevertheless, there is a need to put in place measures that will increase the number of female trainees. For instance, as of FY22, 99 people have been trained of which only 21% are women.</p>	Unchanged

COMPONENT 2	Innovative Financing Schemes for Conserving Coastal Natural Capital
--------------------	---

Outcome 2:1:	Funding sources for sustainable management and restoration of coastal ecosystems increased
---------------------	--

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END-OF-YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome indicator 2.1.a: Financial resources (USD) available for the sustainable management and restoration of coastal ecosystems	Financial resources for the sustainable management and restoration of coastal ecosystems increased by 50% (USD 2.5 million over the lifetime of the project).	24% (US\$ 600,000) received from Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and Turing Foundation.	IS	<p>In FY22, no financial resources were secured for the sustainable management and restoration of coastal ecosystems. The US\$ 600,000 was secured in FY21.</p> <p>In FY22, a blue carbon feasibility assessment in the Lake Piso landscape and Marshall wetlands was conducted. Based on the findings of the blue carbon feasibility assessment, concept notes and proposals to secure support from voluntary/philanthropic sources for carbon credits, with emphasis on the co-benefits of coastal carbon (i.e., benefits relating to local human wellbeing and biodiversity) will be developed in FY23.</p>

¹⁰ O= Overdue; D= Delayed; NS= Not started on schedule; IS= Under implementation on schedule; and CA= Completed/Achieved

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END-OF-YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<p>Outcome indicator 2.1.b: Number of revenue streams to support the long-term sustainability of coastal ecosystems</p>	<p>At least two (2) new revenue streams to support the long-term sustainability developed.</p>	<p>One (1) revenue stream from the Embassy of Sweden has been secured (US\$ 2 million secured).</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>A concept note for US\$ 2 million on mangrove conservation along the coast of Liberia was submitted to Swedish Embassy in Liberia. The concept note was approved and now the development of a full proposal is ongoing, and funding is expected to be received in FY23.</p>
<p>Outcome indicator 2.1.c: Number of local organizations receiving small grants for coastal conservation</p>	<p>Small grants provided to at least three local organizations.</p>	<p>Zero (0) local organizations receiving small grants for coastal conservation.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>A small grant mechanism called the Liberia Conservation Action Fund (LCAF)¹¹ has been established to support small-scale interventions that promote good stewardship of natural resources. A Multi-Agency Steering Committee (MASC) (renamed the Small Grants Appraisal Committee)¹² with a Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) and ToRs was established to manage the LCAF under the guidance of the PSC and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which comprises of 7 members (5 men and 2 women)</p> <p>The Small Grants Appraisal Committee (formerly MASC) comprises 11 institutions, namely: EPA, LLA, MFDP, LMA, LISGIS, NaFAA, MIA, UL, Private sector (ArcellorMittal – AML), CSO (National Civil Society Organization of Liberia), and FDA. A grants manager was recruited for this LCAF.</p> <p>The Small Grants Appraisal Committee (SGAC) (formerly MASC) is developing a roadmap for integrating LCAF into Liberia Conservation Fund Inc. There are plans to incorporate ESMF and gender considerations in this roadmap.</p> <p>The three beneficiary local organizations will be selected in FY23 by the Small Grants Appraisal Committee (with guidance from the TAC and PSC).</p>

¹¹ The funding for the Liberia Conservation Action Fund (LCAF) or the small grants will come from GEF funding. Criteria for selection of the beneficiary local organizations will take into consideration environmental and social safeguards and DEI

¹² Nomination of the members of the SGAC, and actual number of men and women will be determined after the nominations close in FY23

COMPONENT 2 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
HS	<p>Component 2 is rated Highly Satisfactory because 100% of the target indicators are under implementation/on track.</p> <p>Great progress has been made under Component 2. For instance, one revenue stream from the Embassy of Sweden has been secured (US\$ 2 million secured); the process of setting up structures to operationalize the Liberia Conservation Action Fund (LCAF) is progressing well and the selection of the beneficiary local organizations (grantees) will be undertaken in FY23.</p>	Unchanged

COMPONENT 3	Community Incentives to Conserve and Sustainably Manage Natural Capital in Coastal Ecosystems
--------------------	---

Outcome 3:1:	Community-level conservation and sustainable use of coastal resources improved through performance-based payments using conservation agreements
---------------------	---

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END-OF-YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹³	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome indicator 3.1.a: Area (hectares) of mangrove ecosystems under protection across Liberia	11,975 additional hectares of mangrove ecosystems under protection across Liberia.	2,449.67 ha	IS	<p>Six (6) conservation agreements were signed with six coastal communities in Grand Bassa (Sarwein, Bleewein, Nyangba) and Grand Cape Mount (Bendu, Mandoe, and Falie).</p> <p>Following the above, a total of 2,449.67 ha of mangrove ecosystems have been put under protection.</p>
Outcome indicator 3.1.b: Area (hectares) of terrestrial forest ecosystems under sustainable management in coastal areas.	5,000 additional hectares of terrestrial forest ecosystems under sustainable management in coastal areas.	4,159.74 ha	IS	<p>Six (6) conservation agreements were signed with six coastal communities in Grand Bassa (Sarwein, Bleewein, Nyangba) and Grand Cape Mount (Bendu, Mandoe, and Falie) whose terrestrial forest size is 551.09 ha.</p> <p>Following the above, a total of 4,159.74 ha of terrestrial forest ecosystems are under sustainable management in coastal areas.</p> <p>When the LCAF is operationalized in FY23, additional hectares will be put under some form of protection.</p>

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

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END-OF-YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹³	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome indicator 3.1.c: Income (USD) within coastal and mangrove communities targeted by the project	Income within coastal and mangrove communities targeted by the project improved by 50%.	0%	IS	<p>Six (6) conservation agreements have been signed with six coastal communities of Sarwein, Bleewein, and Nyangba in Grand Bassa County and Bendu, Mandoe, and Falie in Grand Cape Mount County.</p> <p>Baseline socio-economic assessments have been conducted, and the improvements in local communities' income will be assessed in FY23.</p>

COMPONENT 3 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
HS	<p>Component 3 is rated Highly Satisfactory because 100% of the target indicators are under implementation/on track.</p> <p>The performance of Component 3 is exceptional despite the slow start of FY22 – which was caused by movement restrictions that were put in place by the Government of Liberia to curb the spread of the Coronavirus. The movement restrictions resulted in delays to undertake field activities and commencement of community engagements.</p> <p>The key achievements under this Component are (a) signing of the six (6) conservation agreements between CI and six coastal communities that have resulted in a total of 2,449.67 ha of mangrove ecosystems being put under protection and 4,159.74 ha of terrestrial forest ecosystems in coastal areas being placed under sustainable management. In addition, the baseline socio-economic assessments were conducted.</p>	Unchanged

c. Overall Project Results Rating

OVERALL PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION RATING		
OVERALL RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND ¹⁴
HS	<p>The FY22 overall project results rating is Highly Satisfactory.</p> <p>The project has made significant progress toward realizing all the outcome indicators. This is despite the slow start of FY22 which was caused by the effects of the Corona Virus pandemic. For instance, movement restrictions imposed by the Government of Liberia to curb the spread of the Corona Virus, coupled with the ripple effect of delayed activities in FY21 further delayed the commencement and execution of stakeholder/community engagements, trainings, and field activities. Nevertheless, 100% of the target outcome indicators are under implementation/on track</p>	Unchanged

d. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
1. Put effort to increase the number of female direct beneficiaries e.g., trainees, beneficiaries from communities, etc.	CI-Liberia and EPA	30 th June 2023
2. Due to the unpredictable variables surrounding the coronavirus, the team should be ready to adapt to changes in normal working arrangements if movement and congregation restrictions are put back in place due to the Coronavirus. This includes conducting online trainings, conducting virtual stakeholder engagement, issuing airtime support to stakeholders to facilitate continued interactions amongst sectors and enabling them to purchase data bundles to join online meetings and trainings, etc.	CI-Liberia and EPA	30 th June 2023

¹⁴ Rating trend: Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

SECTION III: PROJECT RISKS STATUS AND RATING

a. Progress towards Implementing the Project Risk Mitigation Plan

This section describes the activities implemented to manage and reduce high, substantial, modest, and low risks of the project. This section has three parts:

- a. Ratings for the progress towards implementing measures to mitigate project risks and a project risks annual reassessment
- b. Recommendations for improving project risk management.

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

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁶
Risk 1: Insufficient political will to adopt and mainstream NCA	Work on developing NCA will be done in close collaboration with government counterparts to promote buy-in.	The NCA project is socialized among key government institutions and key government technicians. Policymakers are also involved in the implementation of the project	IS	The GoL is represented and involved in the PSC, TAC, and Small grants appraisal committee (SGAC).	Modest	Low	Decreasing
	Project delivery will emphasize capacity-building within relevant government agencies.	In FY22, the capacity of a total of 25 government officials (18 (72%) men and 7 (28%) women) was built. In FY21, 58 (47 men and 11 women) received capacity building.	IS	The capacity building provided to government officials was on integrated data management and conservation agreement model. The total number of government staff who have received training in FY21 and FY22 is 58 (47 men and 11 women) implying that the 25 government officials trained in FY22 were part of those trained in FY21.			
	Continued consultations will solicit input and cultivate support on an ongoing basis.	Consultations were held with 38 institutions including government, local communities, private sector, civil society, and academia	IS	36 engagement meetings were held on the design and negotiation of conservation agreements, TAC, PSC, integrated data management system for the NCA; knowledge brokers'			

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

¹⁶ **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁶
		where a total of 834 (369 female and 464 male) attended.		training on data inventory and cataloging, community resource mapping.			
	The evolution of the NCA framework will be guided by Government priorities.	<p>Priority government policies have been identified and one national development policy instrument explicitly incorporated Natural Capital Accounting (NCA).</p> <p>The information generated from the ecosystem extent account was integrated into Liberia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Implementation Plan</p>	IS	<p>An initial set of priority policies have been identified including the NDC, greening Liberia's national development plan (PAPD), Climate mitigation, cross-sectoral planning, and decision-making, supporting monitoring and reporting on international commitments.</p> <p>A Consultancy has been advertised for the development of a National Strategy and Action Plan for the implementation of Natural Capital Accounting in Liberia.</p>			
	Demonstrate to the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP) that NCA will better capture Liberia's economic status and trends and help attract investor and donor support for sustainable development.	<p>MFDP is represented at the PSC and TAC.</p> <p>A Consultancy has been advertised for the development of a National Strategy and Action Plan for the implementation of Natural Capital Accounting in Liberia.</p>	IS	The MFDP is represented in the decision-making and planning of the NCA activities implementation. MFDP is also a key player in Liberia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Implementation Plan.			
Risk 2: Political instability undermines work with government	Investment in building and embedding technical expertise in government has proven effective ever since 2004, regardless of changes in	A total of 37 (9 female and 28 male) government staff have been trained on technical aspects of NCA integrated data management and data inventory and cataloging.	IS		Low	Low	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁶
	administration. This project will devote explicit attention to applying this lesson, which also serves as means to mitigate the impact of the first risk listed.						
Risk 3: Investor/donor confidence insufficient for adequate contributions to sustainable financing mechanisms	Careful site/intervention selection under the project to maximize demonstration impact.	Six sites where Conservation Agreements have been signed were included in the concept note to the Swedish embassy.	IS	A concept note of US\$ 2 million was submitted and approved by Swedish Embassy in Liberia. A full proposal is being developed which will see mangrove conservation enhanced along the coast of Liberia	Low	Low	Unchanged
	Build on previous successes with small grants to scale up.	Lessons learned from UNDP's implementation of small grants projects were used to develop a guiding document for the Liberia Conservation Action Fund (LCAF).	IS	The LCAF small grant appraisal committee has been established. The committee consists of 11 institutions, including (MoFD, EPA, FDA, NaFFA, LMA, LLA, LISGIS, MIA, UL, Private sector, and CSO). The PMU has developed the operational manual and the SoP of the committee, and the PSC has approved it.			
	Align project with wider national sustainable conservation finance efforts.	The integration of the LCAF with the Liberia Conservation Fund (LCF) process has been initiated.	IS	The LCAF small grant appraisal committee has been constituted. The committee will lead the engagement with the LCF board to develop a road map and develop an MoU.			
Risk 4: Enterprise development fails or is not adopted by local Communities	Leverage the proven viability of existing conservation-friendly enterprises.	Site-level market assessment and value chain analysis of conservation-friendly enterprises were conducted.	IS	A consultant was hired to conduct a market assessment and value chain analysis of on and off-farm Micro, Small and Medium Conservation Friendly Enterprises in six coastal counties of Liberia to ascertain the status and viability of existing value chains and potential markets; and to determine and recommend at least three value chains that hold promise	Modest	Modest	Unchanged
	Focus community-based development on activities with which they already						

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁶
	are familiar (e.g., agriculture, fisheries).			for conservation and improving the livelihoods of local communities in form of employment opportunities, product expansion, market viability, value addition, quality improvement and input availability.			
Risk 5: Community members are not interested in behavior change through commitments in Conservation Agreements (CAs)	Apply Rights-Based Approach to ensure appropriate communication, engagement, and participation processes, including Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC).	In FY22, six conservation agreements were negotiated through a rights-based approach	IS	During community engagement and in the design and negotiation of conservation agreements in project sites, the communities were sensitized to the FPIC principles and processes.	Low	Low	Unchanged
	Cultivate local champions (through Community-Based Organizations, traditional leadership, and local NGOs) to act as intermediaries	Traditional leaders were included in the Conservation Agreement Committees that have been established in six local communities - that so far have signed conservation agreements.	IS	Clan and paramount chiefs are part and parcel of conservation agreement committees that oversee the implementation of conservation agreements in the local communities.			
	Conduct site-level feasibility assessments to identify local appetite for participation in the project.	Site-level feasibility assessments were conducted in eighteen (18) local communities in NW Liberia and Southeast Liberia.	IS	Site level feasibility assessments were conducted in all the project sites, with overwhelming support for the project.			
	Tailor Conservation agreement (CA) benefit packages to address local needs and priorities.	CA benefits were tailored to address local needs and priorities including green jobs, access to credit, cold storage, Farming tools, sustainable fishing gears	IS	During the community engagement, and in the design and negotiation of conservation agreements, local needs and priorities were considered using a pair-wise comparison to rank the most pressing community needs and priorities.			

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁶
Risk 6: Other stakeholders such as local governments are reluctant to share planning and management responsibilities with communities	Consult and engage local government as key stakeholders in planning and executing CA initiatives.	During the Conservation agreement negotiation and signing, the PMU engaged local authorities, including County Superintendents, District Commissioners, Town Commissioners/chiefs, clan chiefs, chairpersons of local communities, etc.	IS	During the community engagement to finalize the negotiation of the conservation agreements with six communities in Grand Bassa and Grand Cape Mount Counties, the local government authorities including Town chiefs, Clan chiefs, chair ladies, and youth were consulted and engaged. Local government officials were involved and attended the conservation agreement signing ceremonies in Sarwein, Bleewein, Nyangba, Mandoe, Falie, and Bendu communities.	Modest	Low	Decreasing
	Ensure that capacity-building efforts include local government.	During the conservation agreement engagement meetings, local government staff were sensitized on coastal resource management.	IS	Local government staff including County Superintendents, District, and Township Commissioners, and town and clan chiefs were included in the sensitization of local communities on the importance of mangrove conservation and in the design and negotiation of the Conservation Agreement. The PMU emphasized the role of local governments in monitoring and enforcing relevant laws and regulations. During the feasibility assessments and community engagement in the 9 SE communities, local authorities were engaged and sensitized on the importance of coastal resources.			
	Emphasize the role of local government in monitoring and enforcement of	During the engagement with various local government staff including County Superintendents, District, and	IS	The role of the local government was delineated in the conservation agreements where 56 frontline conservationists from local			

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁶
	relevant laws and regulations.	Township Commissioners, the PMU emphasized the role of local governments in monitoring and enforcing relevant laws and regulations.		communities were selected and trained by FDA forest rangers on forest patrol.			
	Build awareness within local government of the advantages of working toward a green economy.	Local government representatives are sensitized in all engagement meetings about the advantages of working towards a green economy.	IS	<p>During the visits to the Southeast (Neegba, Seebeh, Lexington, Dioh, Panama, Down the mangrove, Sass town, Grandcess) the PMU made a presentation on the importance of Conservation Agreements and NCA in general to the communities and how it contributes to green economy to improve their livelihood.</p> <p>During the CA signing ceremony with sarwein, Bleewein, Nyangba, Mandoe, Falie, and Bendu, the importance of project nature and its importance to the green economy was emphasized.</p>			
Risk 7: Institutional competition with respect to housing a national conservation agreement program and its associated funding streams	Conduct national program design in collaboration with a full range of stakeholder agencies.	A cross-sectorial body to oversee the LCAF and CA implementation was established	IS	11 institutions were consulted in the establishment of the ToRs and operational manual for LCAF and CA implementation	Modest	Low	Decreasing
	Jointly work toward a clear definition of roles and responsibilities for all concerned stakeholders.	An operational manual for operationalization of the LCAF has been developed and an appraisal committee established.	IS	LCAF small grants appraisal committee is composed of 11 institutions that constitute the NCA PSC. (EPA, FDA, LMA, MGCSP, LLA, LISGIS, NaFAA, MIA, MFDP, and UL).			
	Build on existing structures and forums for interagency coordination and	The NCA project is being represented by the Project Manager in the national environmental sector working group.	IS	The NCA project features in the Environmental Sector Working Group discussions.			

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁶
	collaboration (REDD+ working group; LCF; etc.).						
Risk 8: Impacts of climate change undermine project outcomes	Select sites that offer the maximum likelihood of weathering climate change impacts given project support.	Conservation agreements were signed in six coastal communities that offer the maximum likelihood of weathering climate change impacts.	IS	Climate hazard occurrence and mitigation/adaptation issues were taken into consideration in the selection of sites for Conservation agreements in the six communities of Mandoe, Falie, and Bendu in Grand Cape Mount County and Sarwein, Bleewein, and Nyangba in Grand Bassa County.	Substantial	Modest	Decreasing
	Prioritize early action on maintaining green infrastructure that buffers climate change impacts.	Fifteen (15) selected sites have mostly pristine mangrove ecosystems which support climate change mitigation measures.	IS	Project sites contain some pristine mangroves, and these have been included in the conservation agreements and will also be considered for conservation through the LCAF.			
	Ensure that land - and resource use planning takes into consideration climate change impacts.	Land and resource use planning will take into consideration climate change impacts.	IS	Community resource mapping was conducted in 13 sites – seven (7) in Southeast (Neegba, Seebeh, Lexington, Dioh, Panama, Down the mangrove, Timbo) communities, and six (6) in NW Liberia communities of Mando, Falie, and Bendu in Grand Cape Mount County and Sarwein, Bleewein, and Nyangba in Grand Bassa County.			
Risk 9: Implementation capacity is inadequate	Build-in extensive training opportunities	Capacity building on NCA was provided to a total of 20 government officials (12 male and 8 females on how to collect and catalogue NCA data In addition, 56 frontline conservationists were trained on the importance of protecting mangrove ecosystems, and sea turtles.	IS	Capacity building is being conducted as part of building the capacity of the government of Liberia on NCA.	Modest	Low	Decreasing

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁶
	Design implementation processes such that they contribute to capacity-building	International consultants were hired for capacity building on NCA and SEEA integration in national planning. Also, during the CA community engagement, capacity-building gaps and needs were identified.	IS	In the six CAs signed with communities, periodic bespoke trainings and capacity-building activities were incorporated. Also, consultancies to conduct capacity building and development of national strategy and action plan for the implementation of NCA were advertised, and successful consultants have been selected.			
	Rely on local partners to ensure cost-effectiveness	The LCAF was launched and the small grants appraisal committee that will oversee the roll-out of the LCAF that will provide small grants to local organizations has been established.	IS	A RfP to solicit proposals from local partners has been developed, and LCAF multi-agency steering committee comprising 11 institutions has been established to oversee the operationalization of the LCAF small grants program.			
	Align with complementary programs to design mutually reinforcing investments (e.g., LFSP, WA -BiCC)	NCA activities are integrated into the NDC implementation plan.	IS	The NCA activities were integrated into the NDC implementation plan in 3 sectors (Agriculture, Forestry, and Coastal sectors).			
Risk 10: Impacts of COVID-19	Revise the work plan to identify activities that can be undertaken remotely	FY 22 annual work plan revised	IS		High	High	Unchanged
<i>Baseline risk rating: High</i>	Follow and abide by the Government regulations and measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic	Physical distancing and face masks were used during all face-face engagements.	IS	Physical distancing was ensured in all meetings. Masks were provided to all participants during meetings.			
	Create awareness of the COVID-19	Physical distancing and face mask.	IS	Physical distancing was ensured in all meetings.			

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁶
	pandemic and provide Personal protective equipment (PPE) to project communities			Masks were provided to all participants during meetings.			

OVERALL RATING OF PROJECT RISKS	JUSTIFICATION	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁷
High	<p>The Risk Rating for FY22 is High.</p> <p>At CEO-Endorsement, 33% of the risks were rated Low and no risk was rated High whereas in FY22, 70% of the risks are Low and 10% are rated High. In comparison to FY21, FY22 has registered a 20% increase in the number of risks rated Low which is good progress. In addition, in both FY22 and FY21, 10% of the risks were rated High.</p> <p>Despite an increase in the percentage of Low risks in FY22, the <i>Impacts of COVID-19</i> caused delays at the start of FY22. Nevertheless, when the measures imposed by the Government of Liberia due to the Coronavirus were eased, field activities, community engagement, and trainings started picking up.</p> <p>Regardless of the improved project progress in FY22, the overall risk rating remains High since the variables influencing the Coronavirus are unpredictable, evolving and volatile and if the effects of the Corona Virus recur, there is a probability of greater than 75% of assumptions failing to hold or materializing which will adversely affect the project.</p>	Unchanged

Recommendations

MITIGATION AND CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
1. Due to the unpredictable, evolving, and volatile variables influencing the coronavirus, the team should be ready to adapt to changes in normal working arrangements, use creative modes of engaging stakeholders/communities, and put in place easily accessible and user-friendly platforms/channels for airing and resolving grievances/complaints.	CI-Liberia and EPA	30 th June 2023

¹⁷ Rating trend: Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

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

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

- a. Progress towards complying with the CI-GEF Project Agency’s ESMF
- b. Information on Progress, challenges, and outcomes on stakeholder engagement
- c. Information on the progress towards achieving gender-sensitive measures/targets
- d. Lessons learned and Knowledge Management products developed and disseminated
- e. Overall Project ESMF Implementation Rating
- f. Recommendations

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

MINIMUM ESMF INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END-OF-YEAR STATUS	CUMULATIVE STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁸	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
ACCOUNTABILITY AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM					
1. Number of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project’s Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	No target was set.	0 (zero)	0 (zero)	IS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Accountability and Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) was launched during the inception workshop. The Accountability and Grievance Redress Mechanism poster was developed and shared with EPA and other stakeholders as a poster and leaflet. The AGM (including the process, point of contact, how to reach the point of contact, how to report a grievance, etc.) is also continually explained to local communities in a language and channels that they prefer. The Accountability and Grievance Redress Mechanism was explained to local communities during the conservation agreement community engagement, negotiation, and

¹⁸ O= Overdue; D= Delayed; NS= Not started on schedule; IS= Under implementation on schedule; and CA= Completed/Achieved

MINIMUM ESMF INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END-OF-YEAR STATUS	CUMULATIVE STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁸	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	
					signing in Six (6) communities (Cape Mount and Grand Bassa counties).	
2. Percentage of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism that have been resolved	100% conflict and complaint cases resolved.	0%	0%	IS	0% as no conflict or complaint case has been received.	
GENDER MAINSTREAMING PLAN						
1. Number of males and females that participated in project activities (e.g., meetings, workshops, consultations)	No target set To avoid double counting, the project follows the target numbers under Activity 2 in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP).	Men 338	Women 345	Men 634	Women 411	IS So far, 1,045 [411 women (39%) and 634 men (61%)] have been involved in the project activities such as workshops, meetings, and consultations (cumulative). Progress (break down per year): FY22: 683 (338 women and 345 men) FY21: 362 (73 women and 289 men)
2. Number of males and females that received benefits (e.g., employment, income generating activities, training, access to natural resources, land tenure or resource rights, equipment, leadership roles) from the project	No Target was set at CEO Endorsement Target set at the implementation phase: At-least 6,050 direct beneficiaries [2,904 female (48%) and 3,146 Male (52%)]	Men 329	Women 342	Men 526	Women 405	IS Total number of direct beneficiaries to date: 931 [526 men (54%) and 405 women (44%)] Progress (break down of direct beneficiaries per year): FY21: 260 (197 men and 63 women) FY22: 671 (329 men and 342 women) In FY22, a total of 671 people (327 male and 342 female) directly benefitted from project interventions

MINIMUM ESMF INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END-OF-YEAR STATUS	CUMULATIVE STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁸	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
3. Keep track of the number of men/women demonstrating leadership in project implementation.	No Target was set at CEO Endorsement The target set at the implementation phase: At least 150 people [105 Men (70%) and 45 Women (30%)] demonstrating leadership in project implementation.	Men Women 10 17	Men Women 43 23		Total number of men & women in leadership roles to-date: 66 [43 men (65%) and 23 women (35%)] Progress (break down per year): FY21: 39 (33 men and 6 women) FY22: 27 (10 men and 17 women)
4. Number of strategies, plans (e.g., management plans and land use plans), and policies derived from the project that include gender considerations (this indicator applies to relevant projects)	No Target was set at CEO Endorsement. Target set at the implementation phase: At least five (5) strategy documents that include gender considerations (where relevant) generated: at least 1 document generated per year).	One plan – NDC implementation plan	Three (3) strategy documents have been generated	IS	1. NCA was integrated into the NDC implementation plan (FY22) 2. The guiding document to establish and operate the Liberia Conservation Action Fund (FY21) 3. A Technical Analysis and Recommendations for linking Natural Capital Accounting to the design of Liberia's updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) demonstrating the utility of 14 Core indicators 11 target number is 6,050 participants (2,904 Female and 3,146 Male) 26 SEEA for monitoring and reporting of MEA in the country was developed (FY21).
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP)					
1. Number of government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, indigenous peoples, and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in the project implementation phase on an annual basis	No Target was set at CEO Endorsement Target set at the implementation phase: Cumulatively, at least 50 institutions involved (with representation from Government, CSOs, local communities,	Five (5) stakeholder groups (government ministries and agencies; local communities. academic institutions; NGOs and CSO) have been active during the project implementation	5 stakeholder groups and 42 institutions were involved as outlined below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government – 15 • Local communities – 19 • Private sector – 2 • Civil society – 3 • Academia – 3 	IS	

MINIMUM ESMF INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END-OF-YEAR STATUS	CUMULATIVE STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁸	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
	Private sector, Media, and Academia).	phase. Forty-two (42) institutions have been involved in project implementation.			
2. Number of persons (sex-disaggregated) that have been involved in the project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	No Target was set at CEO Endorsement. To avoid double-counting, the project follows the target numbers under Activity 1 in the gender mainstreaming plan.	Men 338 Women 345	Men 634 Women 411	IS	So far, 1,045 [411 women (39%) and 634 men (61%)] have been involved in the project activities such as workshops, meetings, and consultations (cumulative). Progress (break down per year): FY22: 683 (338 women and 345 men) FY21: 362 (73 women and 289 men)
3. Number of engagements (e.g., meetings, workshops, consultations) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	No Target was set at CEO Endorsement. Target set at the implementation phase: At least 175 engagements held by the end of five years (35 engagements per year).	29 Engagements	69 Engagements	IS	Total number of engagements to date: 69 Breakdown: FY21: 40 Engagements FY22 Q1: 29 Engagements
PROCESS FRAMEWORK FOR RESTRICTION OF ACCESS TO NATURAL RESOURCES					
1. Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been voluntarily restricted	No Target was set at CEO Endorsement. Target set at the implementation phase: At least 1,100 [Male 700 (64%) and Female 400 (36%)] people's access to and use of natural resources has	A total of 2,278 people (1,062 male and 1,216 female) had their access to mangrove resources voluntarily restricted.	A total of 2,278 people [1,062 male (47%) and 1,216 female (53%)] whose access to mangroves was voluntarily restricted are from those communities where conservation agreements.	IS	A total of 2,278 people [1,062 male (47%) and 1,216 female (53%)] whose access to mangroves were voluntarily restricted are from those communities where conservation agreements were signed including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nyangba: 147 (65 male and 82 female) • Bleewein: 324 (150 male and 174 female)

MINIMUM ESMF INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END-OF-YEAR STATUS	CUMULATIVE STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁸	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
	been voluntarily restricted.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarwein: 240 (112 male and 128 female) • Bendu: 962 (428 male and 534 female) • Mandoe: 161 (80 male and 81 female) • Falie: 444 (227 male and 217 female)
2. Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been involuntarily restricted	<p>No Target was set at CEO Endorsement.</p> <p>Target set at the implementation phase: Zero (0) males and Zero (0) females have been involuntarily restricted to access and use of natural resources.</p>	0	0	IS	
3. Percentage of persons who gave their consent for voluntary restrictions	<p>No Target was set at CEO Endorsement.</p> <p>Target set at the implementation phase: 100% of persons involved have given their consent for voluntary restrictions.</p>	100%	100%	IS	100% (47% male and 53% female) of people have given their consent for voluntary restrictions. A consent form was signed on behalf of the towns in consent to sign the conservation agreement.
4. Percentage of persons who have received compensation for voluntary restrictions	<p>No Target was set at CEO Endorsement.</p> <p>Target set at the implementation phase: 100% of persons who voluntarily consented to restrictions to access and use of natural resources have received compensation.</p>	100%	100%	IS	100%: All the 2,278 people (47% male and 53% female) whose access to mangroves were voluntarily restricted were compensated through conservation agreement benefits.

MINIMUM ESMF INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END-OF-YEAR STATUS	CUMULATIVE STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁸	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
5. Percentage of persons who have received compensation for involuntary restrictions	No Target was set at CEO Endorsement. Target set at the implementation phase: 100% of persons who have been involuntarily restricted to access and use of natural resources have received compensation.	0%	0%	IS	0% as there are no involuntary restrictions.

b. Information on Progress, challenges, and outcomes of stakeholder engagement

A total of 42 institutions including government, local communities, civil society, private sector, and academia were involved in 29 engagements that resulted in the involvement and active participation of 683 people [338 women (49%) and 345 men (51%)] in the implementation of the project activities.

However, at the Project steering committee level, due to low amounts allocated for sitting allowances, it was difficult to get more high-level policymakers to attend quarterly PSC meetings as most of them send proxies who in most cases, do not have the decision-making powers and as a result, leading to delays in getting sign-off and or approvals for some of the key project activities and resolution of some issues. To overcome this challenge, the team opted to have joint PSC meetings for all its projects to raise a substantial amount for sitting allowances. Also, the PMU team explained to the PSC, the differences in sitting allowances between the different GEF Implementing agencies.

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

The GMP activities were implemented including the collection of sex-disaggregated data of project participants and beneficiaries where a total of 683 people [338 women (49%) and 345 men (51%)] participated in project activities; holding separate meetings with men and women in easily accessible venues and favorable time; provision of information about project activities to all beneficiaries on time; use of local interpreters during meetings and trainings; during conservation agreements, specific support to women's initiatives, such as village savings and loans were prioritized to provide access to credit for women groups or small-scale income generation activities as a way of socially and economically empowering them; and ensuring women were included in leadership positions in project structures such as the Conservation Agreement committees

The main challenge experienced in implementing the GMP is on ensuring that women's representation in project management decision-making bodies such as the PSC is not limited to nominal positions. In Liberia, there are very few women scientists, thus, it is difficult to have sufficient women participating in key decision-making. As a result, there is only one female in the PSC that has 10 PSC members.

The PSC recommended that female alternates be nominated to the PSC to improve the representation and participation of women in the PSC. At the community level, the PMU team had to exercise flexibility and adaptability on the timing of the meetings and engagements and get a local translator to relay information to illiterate women. This was a trend in all the project sites. The increased participation of women resulted in women and men requesting conservation agreement benefit packages that are tailored to their needs.

At the community level, women were keen on taking on leadership positions, something the men are now beginning to appreciate despite their dominance. For instance, there are two female Frontline Conservationists (FCs), an area dominated by men.

The PMU will conduct a socio-economic assessment to determine the improvements in income between men and women following the implementation of conservation agreements. Also, deliberate attempts to have women nominated for various capacity-building activities will be made to various institutions.

d. Lessons learned and Knowledge Management products¹⁹ developed and disseminated

At the start of FY22, there was a very limited political and community buy-in for the project. However, after a series of engagements to sensitize the stakeholder about the project, through training workshops, PSC meetings, TAC meetings, and multiple engagements, there has been a remarkable increase in buy-in of the project. At the local level, awareness and sensitization on the conservation agreement model and mangrove importance were conducted, using local interpreters. This enabled the PMU to build trust with local communities. Thus, the lesson learned is that developing meaningful relationships with local communities based upon trust can be built through continuous exploration, and learning together is crucial for project buy-in.

Providing prior information about project meetings including time and venue as well as transport and sitting allowances for participants also encouraged active participation of men and women in project activities.

A brochure for the grievance redress mechanism was produced and distributed to all stakeholders during meetings and workshops. For those who were illiterate, the GRM was explained to them through a translator using the local dialect. All these helped develop trust and meaningful relationships with local communities. The brochure for the grievance redress mechanism is provided below.



NCA project
accountability and Gri

¹⁹ Knowledge Products are those that are both intended to transmit knowledge but at the same time enable action by their audiences. For example, a lesson learned report, compilation of good practices and recommendations, etc.

e. Overall Project ESMF Implementation Rating

SUMMARY: PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING BY TYPE OF PLAN		
ESMF PLAN REQUIRED BY THE PROJECT	CURRENT FY22 IMPLEMENTATION RATING	RATING TREND
Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	HS	Unchanged
Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP)	HS	Increasing
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	HS	Unchanged
ESS 3: Voluntary Resettlement Action Plan/Process Framework	S	N/A: There is no prior project implementation rating for the process framework. Implementation of the process framework commenced in FY22.

OVERALL PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING		
RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
HS	The project is implementing the AGM and this Fiscal Year (FY) has continuously socialized the mechanism with stakeholders, especially with communities. On the GMP, during this FY, the project increased the proportion of women participating and benefiting from the project. This also applies to the indicator of women and men demonstrating leadership, where women are outnumbering men. The project also advanced in developing a third strategy incorporating gender considerations and it is close to achieving the target of 5. For the SEP, the project is also on track and will likely overperform by the end of the implementation phase. Finally, the project followed the Process Framework and ensured that 100% of persons gave their consent for voluntary restrictions on access to natural resources via Conservation Agreements including providing compensations to communities that signed conservation agreements.	Increasing

f. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Considering that during the next FY the project will work on advancing activities linked to "Outcome indicator 2.1.c: Number of local organizations receiving small grants for coastal conservation", it is important for the project team to ensure grants provided and the designed mechanism, are compliant with the ESMF.	EPA and CI-Liberia (Project Management Unit)	30 th June 2023

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

Required topics

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

Several knowledge dissemination activities were carried out including the development of scientific tools and technologies related to NCA. Environmental Knowledge Management System (EKMS) <https://ekmsliberia.info/> – a knowledge management platform managed by EPA has been chosen as a platform to store, manage and disseminate data and other knowledge products. This platform will serve as the go-to hub for accessing raw and intermediate data products developed and used for NCA. Before that, a workshop was conducted with data managers from key government agencies to review existing data management platforms and their suitability for ecosystem accounting. A draft MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) was developed to facilitate data sharing between relevant agencies. A one-day training was provided to Agencies Knowledge Brokers on how to collect and catalogue NCA data using international standards.

Several research tools were either developed or are currently under development:

- Development and implementation tools for land cover and ecosystem extent mapping in Google Earth Engine
- Development and implementation of tools for Extent Accounting within Google Earth Engine (done), ArcGIS Pro and QGIS
- Development and implementation of tools for Extent Accounting within [ARIES for SEEA Explorer](#)
- Several Python scripts, modules, and apps are currently under development for analyzing ecosystem services including crop provisioning, fisheries, coastal protection, carbon storage, and firewood provisioning. These tools will facilitate the replication of analysis using similar programming and methodological standards.

Additional topics (please choose two)

2. Capacity building

In FY22, planning for national capacity building has been a major activity. Two detailed requests for proposal were developed and advertised to contract international consultants to achieve 2 main objectives: (1) to improve Liberia's capacity to implement and utilize Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) [Implementation of Capacity Building for compilation and use of Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) in Liberia' (GEF NCA-002)] and (2) to assist the government of Liberia to advance Natural Capital Accounting [Consultancy in support of the development of a National Strategy and Action Plan for implementation of Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) in Liberia.

Also, some training was conducted in the country with national knowledge brokers who were trained on how to collect and catalogue NCA data using international standards, and fifteen (15) local communities were sensitized on the FPIC process, and the concept of a conservation agreement, and how it will improve their livelihood through the project.

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

Accountability and grievance mechanism

During the project implementation in FY 22, the approach used to apply the accountability and grievance mechanism was to embed the procedure in the conservation agreement and conduct a sensitization meeting with the six (6) communities that signed the agreement. Furthermore, the community was provided a contact card that can be used to reach out to the relevant authority, in the event where redress is required. So far, there are no conflict and complaint cases.

Gender Mainstreaming

Gender mainstreaming is a key safeguard policy that was prioritized during FY22. In the previous year (FY21), a total of 362 people [73 female (20%) and 289 male (80%)] participated in project activities, while in FY22, a total of 683 people [338 women (49%) and 345 men (51%)] were involved in the implementation of project activities. In terms of direct project beneficiaries, in FY21, there were a total of 260 people [197 male (76%) and 63 female (24%)], while in FY22, there were a total of 671 [329 men (49%) and 342 women (51%)] that directly benefitted from project interventions. Thus, this shows that with deliberate efforts on gender mainstreaming, the active participation of project beneficiaries is achieved and enhanced.

Stakeholder consultation

Under this safeguard policy, all stakeholders were considered in terms of decision-making on the project. In FY22, an effort was made to include more research institutions (universities) and CSOs. As a result, in FY22, two new academic institutions (Cuttington University and Stella Maris Polytechnic) were engaged, and four new CSOs including SCNL, LHS, National Wasah Commission, and National Civil Society Council of Liberia.

SECTION VI: PROJECT GEOCODING

Geo Location Information of Project Location(s) for the current fiscal year

Geo Location Information	Location No. 1	Location No. 2	Location No. 3	Location No.3
CLASSIFICATION <i>Indicate whether the site is new or already existing in the previous PIR or indicate whether the site is included at CEO Endorsement/Approval or not. Please add more columns for projects with more than 3 locations.</i>	Already existing site included in the CEO Endorsement	Already existing site included in the CEO Endorsement	Already existing site included in the CEO Endorsement	Already existing site included in the CEO Endorsement
Note: Provide justification if the location is a new site in this line				
GEO NAME ID <i>Provide the location's Geo Name ID in a numerical format. IDs are available in the GeoNames' geographical database covering all countries and containing millions of placenames with free access at: http://www.geonames.org.</i>	2274324	Not available in GeoNames geographical database	2273189	Not available in GeoNames geographical database
LOCATION NAME <i>Name of the geographic locations in which the activity is taking place. In instance when a GeoNames ID is provided above, the name of the said ID should be reflected. Otherwise, the location name provided will be considered as an exact location.</i>	Butra	Karh	Webado Beach	Borkon Point
LATITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	4.75839	4.79769	4.53861	5.439581
LONGITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	-8.57048	-8.665086	-8.06606	-9.588465
LOCATION DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the location in which an activity is taking place, such as for example "mini-grid energy system" or "park ranger site".</i>	Mangrove community	Mangrove community		

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the activity taking place at the location, for example, "Installing a mini-grid energy system".</i>	No activity has been carried out at this site, because it has been replaced.	No activity has been carried out at this site, because it has been replaced.	No activity has been carried out at this site, because it has been replaced.	No activity has been carried out at this site, because it has been replaced.
--	--	--	--	--

Geo Location Information	Location No. 5	Location No. 6	Location No. 7	Location No.8
CLASSIFICATION <i>Indicate whether the site is new or already existing in the previous PIR or indicate whether the site is included in CEO Endorsement/Approval or not. Please add more columns for projects with more than 3 locations.</i>	Already existing site included in the CEO Endorsement	Already existing site included in the CEO Endorsement	Already existing site included in the CEO Endorsement	Already existing site included in the CEO Endorsement
Note: Provide justification if the location is a new site in this line		This has been replaced due to inaccessibility.		
GEO NAME ID <i>Provide the location's Geo Name ID in a numerical format. IDs are available in the GeoNames' geographical database covering all countries and containing millions of placenames with free access at: http://www.geonames.org.</i>	9891550	2278912	Not available in GeoNames geographical database	2597292
LOCATION NAME <i>Name of the geographic locations in which the activity is taking place. In the instance when a GeoNames ID is provided above, the name of the said ID should be reflected. Otherwise, the location name provided will be considered as an exact location.</i>	Neegba	Bame Town	Down The Mangrove	Greenville-Dioh Town
LATITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	5.4295	5.20583	5.016175	4.98694
LONGITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	-9.43562	-9.34139	-9.035279	-9.01389
LOCATION DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the location in which an activity is taking place, such as for example "mini-grid energy system" or "park ranger site".</i>				
ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the activity taking place at the location, for example, "Installing a mini-grid energy system".</i>	Conservation Agreement negotiation	No activity has been carried out at this site because it has been replaced.	Conservation Agreement negotiation	Conservation Agreement negotiation

Geo Location Information	Location No. 9	Location No. 10	Location No. 11	Location No.12
CLASSIFICATION <i>Indicate whether the site is new or already existing in the previous PIR or indicate whether the site is included in CEO</i>	Already existing site included in the CEO Endorsement	Already existing site included in the CEO Endorsement	New Site	New site

<i>Endorsement/Approval or not. Please add more columns for projects with more than 3 locations.</i>				
Note: Provide justification if the location is a new site in this line			Accessible has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove) and terrestrial forests, performed well under previous CA signed under CI's GEF Mangrove project.	Accessible has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove) and terrestrial forests, performed well under previous CA signed under CI's GEF Mangrove project.
GEO NAME ID <i>Provide the location's Geo Name ID in a numerical format. IDs are available in the GeoNames' geographical database covering all countries and containing millions of placenames with free access at: http://www.geonames.org.</i>	Not available in GeoNames geographical database	2279055	2278712	2275149
LOCATION NAME <i>Name of the geographic locations in which the activity is taking place. In instance when a GeoNames ID is provided above, the name of the said ID should be reflected. Otherwise, the location name provided will be considered as an exact location.</i>	Togbawon	Turnata	Bendu	Mandoe
LATITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	5.107265	5.17306	6.76203	6.69294
LONGITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	-9.200296	-9.28361	-11.21253	-11.18691
LOCATION DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the location in which an activity is taking place, such as for example "mini-grid energy system" or "park ranger site".</i>			Located within a nature reserve, along the shores of Liberia's largest open water (Lake Piso)	Located within a nature reserve, along the shores of Liberia's largest open water (Lake Piso)

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the activity taking place at the location, for example, "Installing a mini-grid energy system".</i>	No activity has been carried out in this area, as it has been replaced due to inaccessibility	No activity has been carried out in this area, as it has been replaced due to inaccessibility	Implementation of Conservation Agreement	Implementation of Conservation Agreement
--	---	---	--	--

Geo Location Information	Location No. 13	Location No. 14	Location No. 15	Location No.16
CLASSIFICATION <i>Indicate whether the site is new or already existing in the previous PIR or indicate whether the site is included in CEO Endorsement/Approval or not. Please add more columns for projects with more than 3 locations.</i>	New site	New site	New site	New site
Note: Provide justification if the location is a new site in this line	Accessible, has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove) and terrestrial forests, performed well under previous CA signed under CI's GEF Mangrove project.	Accessible, has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove) and terrestrial forests, performed well under previous CA signed under CI's GEF Mangrove project.	Accessible, has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove) and terrestrial forests, performed well under previous CA signed under CI's GEF Mangrove project.	Accessible, has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove) and terrestrial forests, performed well under previous CA signed under CI's GEF Mangrove project.
GEO NAME ID <i>Provide the location's Geo Name ID in a numerical format. IDs are available in the GeoNames' geographical database covering all countries and containing millions of placenames with free access at: http://www.geonames.org.</i>	2277453	Not available in GeoNames geographical database	Not available in GeoNames geographical database	2274753
LOCATION NAME <i>Name of the geographic locations in which the activity is taking place. In instance when a GeoNames ID is provided above, the name of the said ID should be reflected. Otherwise, the location name provided will be considered as an exact location.</i>	Falie	Sarwein	Bleewein	Nyangba
LATITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	6.67729	5.830076	5.814727	5.789012
LONGITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic</i>	-11.20848	-10.016004	-10.00495	-9.972392

<i>coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>				
LOCATION DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the location in which an activity is taking place, such as for example “mini-grid energy system” or “park ranger site”.</i>	Located within a nature reserve, along the shores of Liberia’s largest open water (Lake Piso)	Coastal Community with rich ecosystems containing endangered species	Coastal Community with rich ecosystems containing endangered species	Coastal Community with rich ecosystems containing endangered species
ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the activity taking place at the location, for example, “Installing a mini-grid energy system”.</i>	Implementation of Conservation Agreement	Implementation of Conservation Agreement	Implementation of Conservation Agreement	Implementation of Conservation Agreement

Geo Location Information	Location No. 17	Location No. 18	Location No. 19	Location No.20
CLASSIFICATION <i>Indicate whether the site is new or already existing in the previous PIR or indicate whether the site is included in CEO Endorsement/Approval or not. Please add more columns for projects with more than 3 locations.</i>	This is a new site	This is a new site	This is a new site	This is a new site
Note: Provide justification if the location is a new site in this line	Accessible, has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove) and terrestrial forests, performed well under previous CA signed under CI’s GEF Mangrove project.	Accessible, has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove) and terrestrial forests.	Accessible, has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove) and terrestrial forests.	Accessible, has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove) and terrestrial forests.
GEO NAME ID <i>Provide the location’s Geo Name ID in a numerical format. IDs are available in the GeoNames’ geographical database covering all countries and containing millions of placenames with free access at: http://www.geonames.org.</i>	Not available in GeoNames geographical database	2273589	9977140	2274325
LOCATION NAME <i>Name of the geographic locations in which the activity is taking place. In instance when a GeoNames ID is provided above, the name of the said ID should be reflected. Otherwise, the location name provided will be considered as an exact location.</i>	Ben’s Town	Timbo Kru	Lexington	Panama
LATITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	6.182766	5.560943	5.39119	4.99318

LONGITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	-10.417478	-9.719325	-8.49794	-8.93804
LOCATION DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the location in which an activity is taking place, such as for example “mini-grid energy system” or “park ranger site”.</i>		Coastal Community with rich ecosystems containing endangered species		
ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the activity taking place at the location, for example, “Installing a mini-grid energy system”.</i>	Implementation of Conservation Agreement	Conservation Agreement negotiation	Conservation Agreement negotiation	Conservation Agreement negotiation

Geo Location Information	Location No. 21	Location No. 22	Location No. 23	Location No.8
CLASSIFICATION <i>Indicate whether the site is new or already existing in the previous PIR or indicate whether the site is included at CEO Endorsement/Approval or not. Please add more columns for projects with more than 3 locations.</i>	New site	New site	New site	
Note: Provide justification if the location is a new site in this line	Accessible has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove)	Accessible has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove), and coastal resources.	Accessible has a good community structure to work with, located close to dense mangrove ecosystem, has expressed interest in working with CI to manage their wetlands (mangrove), coastal and forest resources.	
GEO NAME ID <i>Provide the location’s Geo Name ID in a numerical format. IDs are available in the GeoNames’ geographical database covering all countries and containing millions of placenames with free access at: http://www.geonames.org.</i>	2597291	2276625	2274100	
LOCATION NAME <i>Name of the geographic locations in which the activity is taking place. In instance when a GeoNames ID is provided above, the name of the said ID should be reflected. Otherwise, the location name provided will be considered as an exact location.</i>	Seebeh	Grand Cess	Sass Town	

LATITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	4.99528	4.5689	4.66343	
LONGITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	-9.02917	-8.21999	-8.42819	
LOCATION DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the location in which an activity is taking place, such as for example “mini-grid energy system” or “park ranger site”.</i>		Coastal Settlement close to rich mangrove settlement		
ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the activity taking place at the location, for example, “Installing a mini-grid energy system”.</i>	Conservation Agreement negotiation	Conservation Agreement negotiation	Conservation Agreement negotiation	

(Geo Name ID: Location Name)

Justification: There were some changes in locations due to accessibility and mangrove density – see section VI: project geocoding

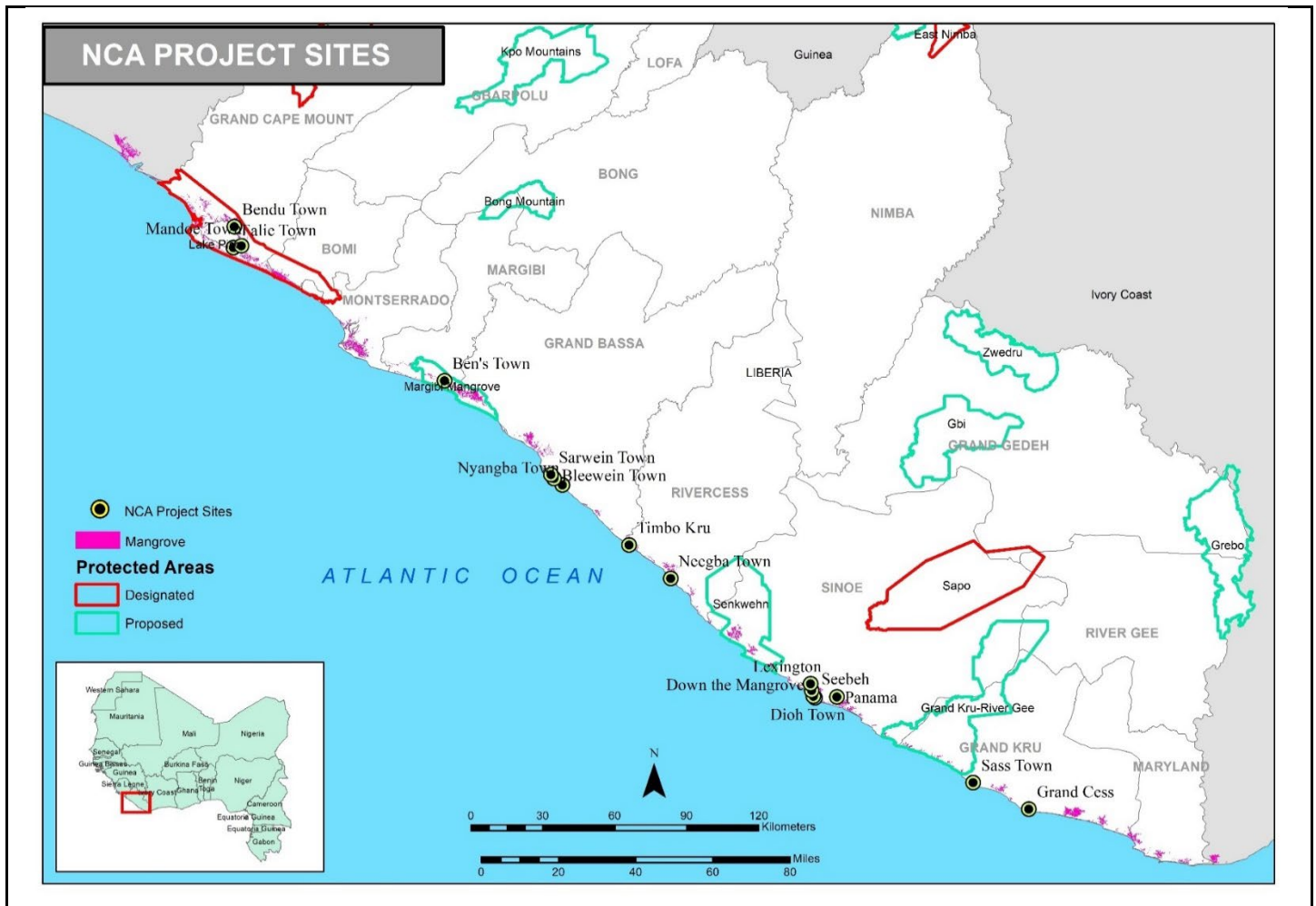
Project Map and Coordinates

(Geo Name ID: Location Name)



NCA_Project_Sites.zip

MAP:



APPENDIX I: PROJECT ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING

Rating		Overdue (O)	Delayed (D)	Not started on schedule (NS)	Under implementation on schedule (IS)	Completed/Achieved (CA)
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	HS		0%		100%	
Satisfactory (S)	S		20%		80%	
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	MS		40%		60%	
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	MU		60%		40%	
Unsatisfactory (U)	U		80%		20%	
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	HU		100%		0%	

- **Highly Satisfactory:** 100% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project. The project can be presented as an example of a “good practice” project,

- **Satisfactory:** 80% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; except for only 20% that are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Moderately Satisfactory:** 60% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 40% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Moderately Unsatisfactory:** 40% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 60% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Unsatisfactory:** only 20% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 80% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action, and
- **Highly Unsatisfactory:** 100% of the indicators: a) are overdue, and/or b) delayed in their implementation, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project.

APPENDIX II: RISK RATINGS

Rating	
Low (L)	L
Moderate (M)	M
Substantial (S)	S
High (H)	H

- **Low Risk (L):** There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
- **Moderate Risk (M):** There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
- **Substantial Risk (S):** There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
- **High Risk:** There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.



APPENDIX III: PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING PROJECT EXPECTED OUTPUTS


INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END-OF-YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ²⁰	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome 1.1: Decision-making improved in coastal ecosystem governance by mainstreaming natural capital accounting (NCA) into the Government of Liberia (GOL) development strategy, policy, and planning				
Output Indicator 1.1.1: Number of NCA Steering Committees established	One (1) NCA Steering Committee	One (1) NCA Project Steering Committee (PSC) has been established.	CA	<p>The NCA Project Steering Committee is composed of 19 (19 male and 0 female).</p> <p>At the beginning of the project, the PSC was composed of 10 members (10 men and 0 women). However, the EPA recommended that one PSC is created for all CI Liberia projects. As a result, the NCA and Blue Oceans Programme (BOP) were merged to form one PSC hence the 19 members. The joint NCA and BOP PSC has 19 members.</p> <p>Representatives are from various government ministries and agencies, and academia including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Forestry Development Authority (FDA), Liberia Maritime Authority (LMA), Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSP), Liberia Land Authority (LLA), Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-information Services (LISGIS), National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA), Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP), and the University of Liberia).</p>







²⁰ O= Overdue; D= Delayed; NS= Not started on schedule; IS= Under implementation on schedule; and CA= Completed/Achieved

<p>Output Indicator 1.1.2a: Number of active mangrove ecosystem accounts</p>	<p>Target: 1.1.2a: One (1) Mangrove ecosystem account</p>	<p>Zero (0) Mangrove ecosystem account established.</p> <p>Five (5) priority natural capital accounts have been completed, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Ecosystem Extent, 2. Ecosystem Condition, 3. Ecosystem Services (crop provisioning, wood provisioning, wild fish and aquatic biomass, climate regulation, soil erosion control, coastal protection, and recreation-related services), 4. Monetary Asset Account 5. Thematic Account (focusing on biodiversity and species accounts). <p>Extensive technical work is in progress for the implementation of natural capital accounts in coastal areas.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>In FY22 the project made significant progress towards completing the technical development of a coastal natural capital account including the establishment of five (5) priority natural capital accounts. The findings will be presented to individual government agencies and stakeholders for feedback and policy dialogue in FY23.</p> <p>Other achievements include:</p> <p>a) An in-depth and comprehensive assessment of data and gaps has been completed and a Data Management Plan was developed for the project to adhere to Conservation International's Research Ethics Policy. They received instructions on needed datasets and how to catalogue them following the Data Management Plan. To this end, a draft MoU (Memorandum of Understanding)/Cooperative framework agreement was developed to facilitate NCA data sharing between relevant government ministries and agencies.</p> <p>b) Primary data collection efforts are ongoing where key project personnel participated in training and certification for Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR); preliminary fieldwork was conducted at a few coastal sites to assess ecosystem conditions (e.g., using drones) and to engage local communities and collect socioeconomic data; discussions held with key government stakeholders is in progress on fieldwork planning and survey protocols.</p>
---	--	--	------------------	---

<p>Output Indicator 1.1.2b: Number of policies and plans that include NCA results</p>	<p>Target 1.1.2 b: Five (5) Key government policies and plans</p>	<p>One (1) government policy has integrated NCA. See below:</p> <p>a. The NCA output contributed to the development of the updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for Liberia. The information generated from the ecosystem extent account was integrated into Liberia's NDC Implementation Plan.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The NCA has been integrated into the NDC Implementation Plan (Coastal, Forest, and Agriculture sectors).</p> <p>A Consultancy has been advertised for the development of a National Strategy and Action Plan for the implementation of Natural Capital Accounting in Liberia.</p>
<p>Output Indicator 1.1.3: Number of government officials and stakeholders that have participated in training events</p>	<p>Target 1.1.3: Fifty (50) people trained (10 female, 40 male).</p>	<p>To-date (FY21 and FY22), trainings were provided to a total of 58 (47 men and 11 women). This has eliminated double counting i.e., the 20 government officials who received training in FY22 were part of those who received training in FY21.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>Further extensive training is planned for FY23 through a consulting agreement.</p>
<p>Output Indicator 1.1.4: Number of operational frameworks</p>	<p>Target 1.1.4: One (1) operational framework</p>	<p>Zero (0) operational framework established for SEEA-compliant natural capital accounts.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>A Request for Proposal (RfP) to assist the government of Liberia to advance Natural Capital Accounting [Consultancy in support of the development of a National Strategy and Action Plan for implementation of Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) in Liberia (GEF NCA-001)] has been posted to inform the development of a National Strategy and Action Plan for implementation of SEEA.</p>

Output Indicator 1.1.5: Number of national planning instruments that incorporate NCA results	Target 1.1.5: One (1) national planning instrument (Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development) incorporates NCA results for assessing key indicators (forests' contribution to the economy)	Zero (0)	NS	This will be undertaken in FY23 .
Output Indicator 1.1.6: Number of reporting mechanisms for international commitments that incorporate NCA results	Target: 1.1.6: One (1) monitoring mechanism (Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development) incorporates NCA results for reporting progress on targets	Zero (0)	NS	This will be undertaken in FY23 .
Output Indicator 1.1.7: Number of roadmap documents for additional natural capital accounts	Target 1.1.7: One (1) roadmap document	Zero (0)	NS	This will be undertaken in FY23 .
Outcome 2.1 Funding sources for sustainable management and restoration of coastal ecosystems increased				
Output Indicator 2.1.1: Number of prospectuses for Blue Carbon demonstration/pilot project	Target 2.1.1: One (1) prospectus for blue carbon demonstration/pilot project	Zero (0) prospectus for blue carbon demonstration/pilot project.	IS	Site level blue carbon feasibility assessment which forms the basis for the development of a blue carbon prospectus has been conducted. The draft blue carbon feasibility assessment report has been produced and is under review.
Output Indicator 2.1.2: Number of conservation-friendly enterprises active in the project area	Target 2.1.2: One (1) enterprise	Zero (0)	IS	Market assessment and value chain analysis of conservation-friendly enterprises were conducted. Inception and draft reports have been produced. The draft report is being reviewed.  Inception Report_Market Asse  DRAFTR_1.DOC

<p>Output Indicator 2.1.3: Number of organizations receiving small grants</p>	<p>Target 2.1.3: Three (3) local organizations</p>	<p>Zero (0)</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>A small grant mechanism called the Liberia Conservation Action Fund (LCAF) has been established to support small-scale interventions that promote good stewardship of natural resources. A Multi-Agency Steering Committee (MASC) (renamed the Small Grants Appraisal Committee) with a Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) and ToRs was established to manage the LCAF. Nomination of SGAC members is ongoing. The SGAC will operate under the guidance of the PSC and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which comprises of 7 members (5 men and 2 women).</p> <p>The Small Grants Appraisal Committee (SGAC) (formerly MASC) comprises 11 institutions, namely: EPA, LLA, MFDP, LMA, LISGIS, NaFAA, MIA, UL, Private sector (ArcellorMittal – AML), CSO (National Civil Society Organization of Liberia), and FDA. A grants manager was recruited for this LCAF.</p> <p>The SGAC is developing a roadmap for integrating LCAF into Liberia Conservation Fund Inc. There are plans to incorporate ESMF and gender considerations in this roadmap.</p> <p>The three beneficiary local organizations will be selected in FY23 by the MASC (with guidance from the TAC and PSC).</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>LCAF Multi-Agency Steering committee</p> </div>
--	---	-----------------	------------------	--

<p>Output Indicator 2.1.4: Number of comprehensive design documents for national coastal conservation financing mechanism formally adopted by relevant government body/bodies</p>	<p>Target 2.1.4: One (1) design document</p>	<p>Zero (0)</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>A Request for proposal has been developed to recruit a consultant who will conduct a feasibility analysis and stakeholder consultations on developing either a stand-alone financing mechanism for mangrove conservation or as a subsidiary mechanism housed under the LCF Inc.</p> <p>The mapping of institutions to participate in the requisite institutional capacity building on financing mechanisms has been completed. Capacity building is expected to start in FY22 Q4.</p>
<p>Outcome 3.1: Community-level conservation and sustainable use of coastal resources improved through performance-based payments using conservation agreements</p>				
<p>Output Indicator 3.1.1: Number of Conservation Agreements signed with communities</p>	<p>Target 3.1.1: Ten (10) Conservation Agreements</p>	<p>Six (6) conservation agreements signed. To this end, a total of 2,449.67 ha of mangrove ecosystems have been put under protection and a total of 4,159.74 ha of terrestrial forest ecosystems under sustainable management in coastal areas.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>Six (6) conservation agreements were signed with the communities of Falie, Bendu, Mandoe, Nyangba, Sarwein, and Bleewein.</p> <p> Sarwein CA Final.pdf</p> <p> Nyangba CA .docx</p> <p> Mandoe Community Conserv</p> <p> FALIE_ Community Conservation agreeer</p> <p> Bleewein CA Final.pdf</p> <p> BENDU_ Community Conservation agreeer</p>
<p>Output Indicator 3.1.2: Number of national conservation agreement programs designed and established</p>	<p>Target: 3.1.2: One (1) national conservation agreement program</p>	<p>Zero (0)</p>	<p>NS</p>	<p>This output will commence in FY24 Q3.</p>