



## Rural Corridors and Biodiversity (P114294)

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN | Argentina | Environment & Natural Resources Global Practice |  
Global Environment Project | Investment Project Financing | FY 2015 | Seq No: 10 | ARCHIVED on 25-Jun-2019 | ISR37420 |

Implementing Agencies: ARGENTINE REPUBLIC, APN - Administracion de Parques Nacionales

### Key Dates

#### Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date: 07-Apr-2015

Effectiveness Date: 09-Nov-2015

Planned Mid Term Review Date: 30-Nov-2018

Actual Mid-Term Review Date: 07-Dec-2018

Original Closing Date: 30-Nov-2020

Revised Closing Date: 30-Nov-2020

### Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The objective of the project is to increase the protection of vulnerable natural areas and conserve biological diversity within the Gran Chaco Ecosystem and the Patagonian Steppe and Coastal-Marine Ecosystems and, implement measures to enhance biodiversity resilience to climate change and protect forest carbon assets.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

### Components

Name

Component 1: Core Protected Areas:(Cost \$3.32 M)

Component 2: Conservation Corridors in the Gran Chaco and the Patagonian Steppe and Coastal-Marine Ecosystems:(Cost \$1.87 M)

Component 3: Collaboration for Corridors' Conservation:(Cost \$0.46 M)

Component 4: Management, Monitoring and Evaluation:(Cost \$0.63 M)

### Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Moderately Unsatisfactory	● Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Moderately Satisfactory	● Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	● Substantial	● Substantial

### Implementation Status and Key Decisions

The Project implementation performance has improved after Project restructuring and is achieving considerable progress on the ground. It is advancing in the procurement of professional services, civil works and equipment acquisition to support the management of key protected areas and the surrounding landscapes (i.e. within the biodiversity Conservation Corridors). During the last months, the management plan of the Copo National Park has been completed, and those for the Patagonia and El Impenetrable National Parks are being developed. The process to hire a firm



to develop those for Pampa del Indio, Fuerte Esperanza, Loro Hablador, and Copo Provincial Park, as well as the Copo Multiple Uses Reserve is advanced. New field equipment was also purchased and distributed among the referred provincial protected areas, adding on equipment acquired previously (i.e. camera traps, navigation equipment, etc.). On the civil works front, significant progress (17%) has been achieved in the construction of houses for park rangers at the Patagonia Austral Inter-Jurisdictional Coastal Marine Park (PIMCPA). In the Patagonia National Park, the bidding process to contract the construction of civil works has been launched.

The Project is also successfully fostering local participation in the implementation of conservation corridors and it is engaging with target beneficiaries. Sectorial plans for sustainable cattle ranching and beekeeping (including native bees) have been discussed with local stakeholders, as key components of the Chaco Humedo corridor strategic plan, which has been developed and formally presented to the Chaco Province authorities for their review and formal endorsement. Six sustainable development subprojects have been approved and are currently being implemented jointly with rural communities located in the Gran Chaco conservation corridors. In parallel, local capacities are being strengthened through the workshops on sustainable cattle ranching and beekeeping.

An additional contribution of the Project has been the reactivation of the Federal System of Protected Areas, a space to coordinate efforts between provinces and national Government regarding public policy, planning and management of protected areas. To support this system's operations, a knowledge product was finalized outlining the laws and regulations of Provincial protected areas; and a firm has been hired to create a public website to share information on existing protected areas across the country. Another noteworthy achievement of the Project is the strengthening of local capacities in provincial protected areas through national support. In December 2018 a training on protected areas management planning was provided to park rangers from almost all the Argentine Provinces.

Lastly, the PIU has put in place a highly-detailed project management tool to keep track of progress on tasks, identify and anticipate potential delays to determine actions. Having a closer and more detailed look at project implementation, has demonstrated to help accelerate progress and strengthened PIU's capacity on making informed decisions.

## Risks

### Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	● Moderate	● Moderate	● Moderate
Macroeconomic	● Moderate	● Substantial	● Substantial
Sector Strategies and Policies	● Moderate	● Moderate	● Moderate
Technical Design of Project or Program	● Moderate	● Moderate	● Moderate
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	● Substantial	● Substantial	● Substantial
Fiduciary	● Moderate	● Moderate	● Moderate
Environment and Social	● Substantial	● Moderate	● Moderate
Stakeholders	● Substantial	● Substantial	● Substantial
Other	--	--	--
Overall	● Substantial	● Substantial	● Substantial

## Results

### PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

To increase the protection of vulnerable natural areas and conserve biological diversity within the

► Areas brought under enhanced biodiversity protection (ha) (Hectare(Ha), Custom)



	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	318,519.00	440,044.00	882,000.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	<p>This is a proxy indicator that measures biodiversity protection as a result of the World Bank operation through formally converting an area into a protected area and establishing a functioning management system; or, improving the management effectiveness of an existing protected area. These improvements can be achieved through the development/update of the protected areas' management plans, the acquisition of equipment, and/or the construction of infrastructure, depending on local needs. The progress reported corresponds to the creation of and management improvements in two National Parks (El Impenetrable and Patagonia); in addition to the management improvements in the Patagonia-Austral Coastal-Marine Park.</p> <p>Additionally, this indicator captures the area put under enhanced biodiversity protection through the implementation sustainable Development Subprojects and Demonstration Subprojects (32.896ha, as of March 18, 2019).</p> <p>Expected progress for the coming months are: management plan for the Copo National Park approved, and acquisition of some equipment for the Provincial Parks in the Chaco Province.</p>			
►People in forest&adjacent community with monetary/non-monetary benefit from forest (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	150.00	1,200.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	<p>This indicator measures the number of local people that, as a result of the Project, have seen their livelihoods improved to some extent. This may cover both monetary income and non-monetary benefits, like improved and easier access to fuelwood as well as cultural and spiritual services. The baseline value is zero.</p> <p>In this case, the total number of beneficiaries reported correspond to people benefiting from sustainable development subprojects, as detailed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- "Caminando hacia una ganaderia sustentable..." subproject: Total: 38; female: 16; ethnic: 0 beneficiaries</li><li>- "Miel del Algarrobal" subproject: Total: 48; female: 19; ethnic: 48 beneficiaries</li><li>- "Impulso a la meliponicultura" subproject: Total: 64; female: 31; ethnic: 37 beneficiaries</li></ul>			
▲People in forest and adjacent community with benefits from forest-female (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	66.00	600.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
▲People in forest&adj. commy with benefit from forest-Ethnic minority/indigenous (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	85.00	600.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	18-Mar-2019	30-Nov-2020
To implement measures to enhance biodiversity resilience to climate change				
►Common Action Plan for corridors conservation between Federal and Provincial Authorities Adopted (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	No	No	Yes



Date	15-Sep-2015	07-Dec-2018	07-Dec-2018	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	This indicator tracks the elaboration and formal approval of an Action Plan for the SiFAP (Protected Areas Federal System).			
To protect forest carbon assets				
►Tons C eq. (aboveground) protected in Chaco forests (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	6,187,956.00	7,388,554.00	10,400,000.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	07-Dec-2018	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	The progress reported corresponds to the forest carbon stocks protected through the creation of the EI Impenetrable National Park. The implementation of the subprojects and improvements in the management of protected areas will also contribute to this indicator. The methodology to estimate these contributions in terms of carbon eq is being developed by the PIU.			

### Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

Component 1: Core Protected Areas				
►1.1 Increase of forests under improved forms of protection and conservation (Hectare(Ha), Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	128,000.00	252,199.00	376,624.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	This intermediate indicator contributes directly to the PDO Indicator 1; and the progress made so far corresponds to the creation and management improvements in the EI Impenetrable National Park. As communicated by the PIU, expected progress for the coming months are: management plan for the Copo National Park approved, and the acquisition of some equipment for the Provincial Parks in Chaco Province.			
►1.2 Increase of coastal, marine and steppe environments under improved forms of protection and conservation (Hectare(Ha), Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	157,623.00	211,234.00	279,000.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	This intermediate indicator directly contributes to the PDO Indicator 1; and the progress made so far corresponds to the creation of the Patagonia National Park and the update of the management plan of the Patagonia-Austral Coastal-Marine Park (PIMCPA).			
►1.4 Updated or Prepared Protected Areas- Management Plans that include climate change mitigation and adaptation measures (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1.00	2.00	9.00



Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	The management plan finalized and reported is the one for the Patagonia-Austral Coastal-Marine Park. The El Copo National Park management plan was completed. Approval by ANP's Conservation Direction was completed by May 2019.			
Component 2: Conservation Corridors in the Gran Chaco and the Patagonian Steppe and Coastal-Marine E				
►2.1 Framework for the implementation of Conservation Corridors endorsed by the Chaco and/or Santiago del Estero Provinces (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	This indicator's target has been achieved in 2017 through the Biodiversity Conservation Strategic Plan for the Chaco province; and through the Land Zoning of Native Forests in the Santiago del Estero province. No further progress is expected.			
►2.2 Rural Corridors Strategic Plans prepared/updated (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1.00	1.00	3.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	The strategic plan for the Humid Chaco corridor has been completed, but its approval by the Provincial and National authorities is pending. The strategic plan for the Dry Chaco corridor is under elaboration, and together with the Arid Patagonia Strategy are expected to be finalized by end of CY2019.			
►2.3 Proposal to expand conservation corridors to at least one new province of the Chaco region developed (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	No	No	Yes
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	Collaborative work between the PIU and the Cordoba province is being developed. This indicator is expected to be accomplished in CY2020. Letter on Intent signed with Government actors May 2019.			
►2.4 New areas outside protected areas managed as biodiversity-friendly (Hectare(Ha), Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	32,896.00	30,222.00	226,376.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	This indicator measures the implementation of subprojects in corridors. 1 Demonstration subproject and 6 Sustainable Development Subprojects have been approved and are already under implementation. The methodology for this indicator changed as part of the restructuring of the project. Only land areas that were added as protected areas are counted. Not the total area affected. For example lands that were converted to cattle ranching will not be counted under the new methodology. Because of this, the hectareage dropped from March to May 2019.			
►2.5 Demonstration subprojects completed (Number, Custom)				



	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	One demonstration subproject has been approved and is under implementation. However, this indicator tracks subprojects finalization, which is expected by CY2020.			
►2.6 Sustainable Development Subprojects Completed (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	20-Nov-2020
Comments:	6 Sustainable Development subprojects have been approved by authorities. However, the indicator tracks finalized subprojects. All of them are expected to be finalized during CY2020.			
Component 3: Collaboration for Corridors’ Conservation				
►3.1 Provinces from the Project area that adhere to a unified and functional Information system related to conservation corridors (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	18.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	The procurement process to hire a firm to develop the informational system is in process. This indicator will indicate progress gradually as the provinces submit/entry information to the system throughout CY 2019.			
►3.8 Analytical and knowledge products that contribute to strategic planning and the promotion of conservation corridors within the framework of SIFAP (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1.00	1.00	3.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	This indicator would measure the number of predefined products generated: 1) Analysis of the Provincial Systems of Protected Areas; 2) Financing mechanisms for conservation; 3) Analysis of conservation gaps nationwide. The Analysis of the Provincial Systems of Protected Areas has been completed. The procurement process to hire the consultancy on the "Financing mechanisms for conservation" is being developed. As of May 2019, the TOR is with the Bank team for Non Objection.			
►3.9 Protected areas staff trained by the Project on protected areas management planning and effectiveness evaluation (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	145.00	145.00	200.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	Progress made so far corresponds to training of protected areas staff on strategic planning. To date: 110 staff were trained on Strategic Planning for Park Guards.			



35 provincial technical staff were trained on protected areas management planning and management effectiveness assessment methodologies.  
No change since March 2019.

#### Component 4: Management, Monitoring and Evaluation

##### ►4.1. Direct project beneficiaries (number), of which female (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	372.00	611.00	930.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	<p>The progress reported captures beneficiaries from training and regional workshops held on: fire management, camera trapping survey methodology and techniques, strategic planning and native bee-keeping, protected areas management and management effectiveness assessment. Additionally, beneficiaries of the 6 sustainable development subprojects and the demonstration subproject are captured under this indicator.</p> <p>The field does not permit the entry of two amounts. For May 2018, there were 611 participants, of which 35% or 217 of the 611, were female.</p>			

##### ►4.4 Participants in consultation activities during project implementation (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	456.00	607.00	300.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	<p>The progress reported exceeds the target, corresponding to consultation activities held during the elaboration process of the Participatory Indigenous Plan for the El Impenetrable National Park, in addition to the ones held by the evaluation and supervision committees for the subprojects, and the ones held for the elaboration/update of the management plans of the protected areas (Copo National Park). More consultation activities are expected over the remaining project timeframe, and will be tracked gradually.</p>			

##### ►4.5 Beneficiaries that feel project investments reflected their needs (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	24.00	70.00
Date	15-Sep-2015	18-Mar-2019	15-May-2019	30-Nov-2020
Comments:	<p>SiFAP Training (years 2 and 3): 145 of the 611 that received training were given a survey on the project. Of those 611, 145 reported that they were satisfied with the benefits from the project.</p>			

## Data on Financial Performance

### Disbursements (by loan)

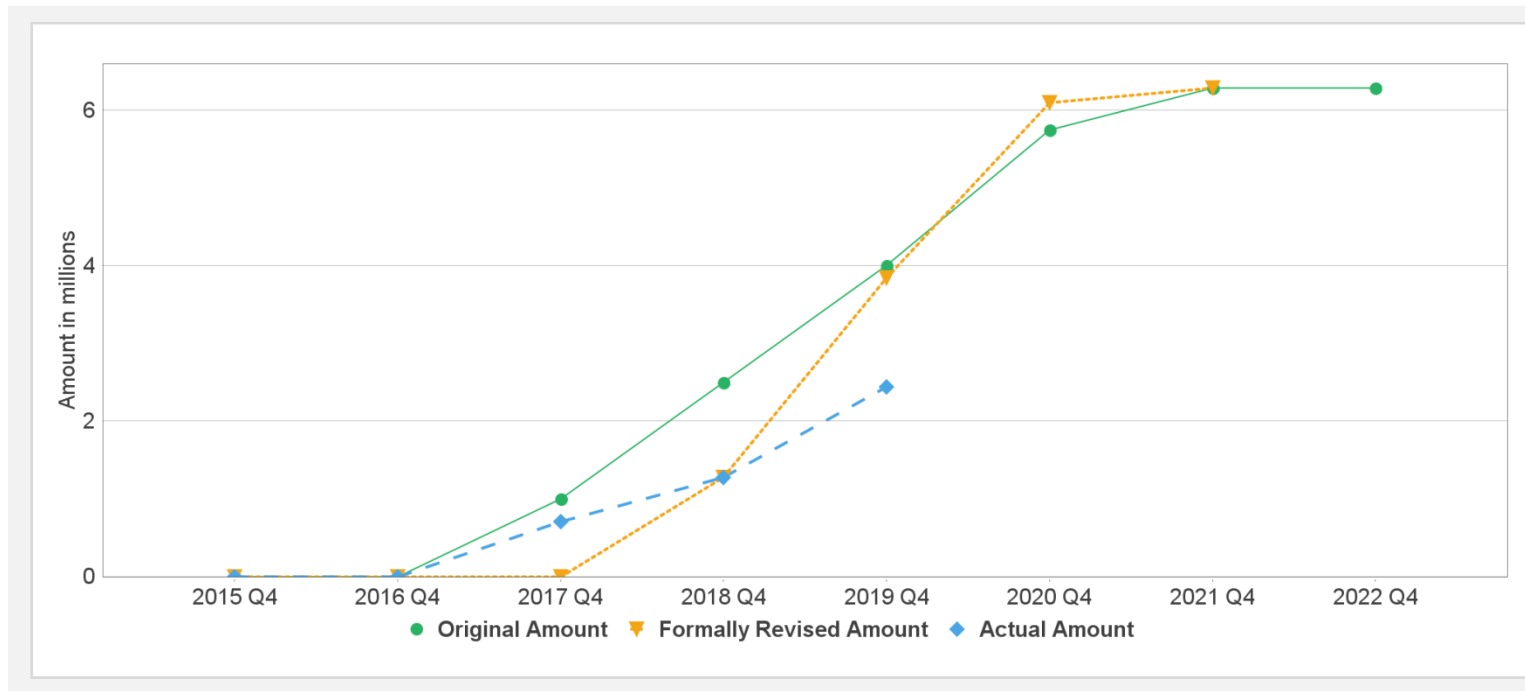
Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P114294	TF-A0233	Effective	USD	6.29	6.29	0.00	2.44	3.85	39%



## Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P114294	TF-A0233	Effective	26-May-2015	12-Jun-2015	09-Nov-2015	30-Nov-2020	30-Nov-2020

## Cumulative Disbursements



## Restructuring History

Level 2 Approved on 14-Sep-2018

## Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.