



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2022 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

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1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	RLC			
Country (ies):	Nicaragua			
Project Title:	Managing resilient landscapes			
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/NIC/047/GFF			
GEF ID:	9579			
GEF Focal Area(s):	Climate Change, Biodiversity, Landscape Restoration,			
Project Executing Partners:	Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA)			
Project Duration (years):	5 years			
Project coordinates:	<i>No</i>	<i>Área Protegida</i>	<i>Coordenadas</i>	
			<i>latitud</i>	<i>Longitud</i>
	1	Monumento Nacional Cañon de Somoto	-86.70378512	13.45437279
	2	Reserva natural Tepesomoto La Patasta	-86.60068673	13.32480434
	3	Reserva Natural Cerro Alamikamba	-84.18518547	13.5265212
	4	Reserva Natural Llanos de Limbaika	-84.04657706	13.52185441
	5	Reserva Natural Tisey La Estanzuela	-86.39130172	12.99522513
	6	Reserva Natural Quiabuc Las Brisas	-86.47089322	13.10559445
	7	Reserva Natural Cerro Tomabu	-86.2960529	13.03136822
	8	Reserva Natural de Recursos Geneticos de Yucul	-85.75287183	12.91793932
9	Reserva Natural Serrania Dipilto- Jalapa	-86.36760615	13.7550496	

Project Dates

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	25 June 2020
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	12 November 2020
Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	11 November 2025
Revised project implementation end date (if approved) ²	n/a

¹ As per FPMIS

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

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	U\$ 4,389,261.00
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc³:	U\$ 16,384,076.00
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2022 (USD)⁴:	U\$ 1,102,999 USD
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2022⁵	U\$ 2,062,863.30

M&E Milestones

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:	No meeting of the Steering Committee has been held, it is planned to hold the first meeting in July 2022.
Expected Mid-term Review date⁶:	Not scheduled
Actual Mid-term review date (when it is done):	
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date⁷:	
Tracking tools/Core indicators updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)	n/a

Overall ratings

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

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	<i>Moderate</i>
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³ This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO document/Project Document.

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

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

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

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

Status

Implementation Status <i>(1st PIR, 2nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):</i>	1st PIR
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Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
Project Manager / Coordinator	Felipe Romero Vilchez	coordinador_gef@marena.gob.ni
Budget Holder	Ivan Felipe León Ayala FAO Representative	Ivan.Leon@fao.org
Lead Technical Officer	Raixa Elena Llauger Agricultural Officer	Raixa.Llauger@fao.org
GEF Funding Liaison Officer	Nadia Mujica GEF Task Manager SLM	Nadia.mujica@fao.org

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

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

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

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
To strengthen the national system of protected areas and to support sustainable land use and restoration practices in selected areas of the Dry Corridor and the northern Caribbean coastal regions of Nicaragua, with a view to promoting the conservation of biodiversity, resilient landscapes and local livelihoods	Component 1: Strengthening the systems for protected area management and biodiversity conservation.						
	Outcome 1.1: Biodiversity habitats improved through the conservation of over 82,279 hectares (implementation of pine forest management and conservation, conduct of planned silvicultural treatments and natural regeneration) to increase resilience, protection and connectivity between nine protected areas	Indicator 4: Area (ha) under habitat conservation for biodiversity, adaptation and livelihoods in protected areas, with the participation of indigenous and non-indigenous men and women.	Total: 141,355 ha Ecosystem of the Dry Corridor: 132,648 ha Ecosystem of the humid tropical region: 8,707 Ha	141,355 ha conserved (82,279 ha of the core zone and 59,076 ha of the buffer zone or the nine protected areas)	141,355 ha conserved (82,279 ha of the core zone and 59,076 ha of the buffer zone or the nine protected areas)	During this period 717 hectares of forests were restored through plantations (17) and natural regeneration management (700) in the Limbaika and Alamikamba NRs, within the framework of the recovery strategy for the areas affected by hurricanes Eta and Iota. Additionally, 56 farm plans were designed whose main objective is the restoration of degraded areas and the	Satisfactory (S)

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

⁹ Some indicators may not identify mid-term targets at the design stage (refer to approved results framework) therefore this column should only be filled when relevant.

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

¹¹ Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory (HS)**, **Satisfactory (S)**, **Moderately Satisfactory (MS)**, **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)**, **Unsatisfactory (U)**, and **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)**.

	<p>and forest remnants of the genus Pinus and Quercus; Pinus patula sub. sp. tecunumanii and Pinus caribaea, and reforestation in an additional area of some 59,076 hectares (buffer areas), bringing the total area earmarked for conservation to 141,355 hectares.</p>					<p>conservation of biodiversity and 10 community initiatives were identified under the model of sustainable subprojects, aimed at the same objectives. As a product of these plans, an additional 1,014 hectares will be restored. The project defined a restoration plan, based on the identification of degraded areas that require priority attention and based on this information, farms and producers located in these areas were identified. With the endorsement of the collaborative management committees, meetings were held to define the commitments of both parties (producers and the project) and the farm plans were formulated, with the support of the project's field technicians. In the case of Indigenous Communities, the Prinzu Awala Indigenous Territorial Government presented a farm proposal that was</p>	
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						<p>validated based on the information generated by the project. Additionally, the community initiatives were formulated taking as a reference the technical information generated by the project and were identified through community assemblies to present the lines of work prioritized by the project, aligned with the management plans.</p>	
		<p>Indicator 5: Improved planning, management and monitoring capacity in nine protected areas in accordance with MARENA's management effectiveness tool Ministerial Resolution No. 38-2008</p>	<p>Seven protected areas with management plans and two without such plans (Alamikamba and Limbaika)</p>	<p>Seven protected areas with operational plans committed to writing and under implementation</p> <p>Two protected areas with approved management plans</p>	<p>Nine protected areas have improved their management and conservation status</p>	<p>The nine (9) protected areas (PAs) have management plans now registered in La Gaceta, government congressional record. Of these, seven (7) were updated and two (2) are new (for the Alamikamba and Limbaika Natural Reserves). The management plans are the product of a broad process of consultation and consensus in the territories with local actors from various sectors and were additionally approved by the councils of the</p>	<p>Highly Satisfactory (HS),</p>

						municipalities to which the protected areas belong.	
		<p>Indicator 6: Total annual budget (US\$) available for management of the nine protected areas, by funding source at the end of five years</p>	<p>National government: \$2,339,891</p> <p>Local government: \$0</p> <p>Private sources (NGOs, private sector, etc.): \$0</p>	<p>National government: 10% increase</p> <p>Local government: at least \$90,000</p> <p>Private sources (NGOs, private sector, etc.): at least \$18,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income generated (gate tickets bought by visitors) Contributions 	<p>National government: \$ (increase of 20% after five years)</p> <p>Local governments: \$0 (at least \$300,000 after five years)</p> <p>Private sources (NGOs, private sector, etc.): \$0 (at least \$300,000 after five years)</p>	<p>In the period being reported on, the Government of Nicaragua (GoN) has invested U\$ 382,863.3 in the nine (9) PAs in which the Project has a presence.</p>	Marginally Satisfactory (MS)
<p>Component 2: Restoration of the landscape for biodiversity, resilience and local livelihoods</p>							
<p>Outcome 2.1: Global social and environmental benefits generated in terms of equal opportunities for women and men through the ENDE-REDD+ results-based payment pilot project and sustainable land management (SLM)</p>	<p>Indicator 7: Total number of hectares brought under restoration and conservation through the GEF ENDE-REDD+ pilot incentive project over a period of five years</p>	0	<p>First exercise in monitoring of deforestation, forest degradation and increased stockpiles emissions in respect of the NREF (applying methodology of the ERPD Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system)</p>	10,000 ha	<p>(In protected areas of Pino caribae in the municipality of Prinzapolka, RACCN, in the ERPD carbon accountability area)</p>	<p>Terms of reference were developed for the technical assistance that will design an emissions reduction program for prioritized territories of the North Caribbean Coast Autonomous Region: Peñas Blancas–Kilambé Corridor (GEF 5277 Project), Cerro Alamikamba Nature Reserve and Cerro Limbaika Nature Reserve. The design process is</p>	Satisfactory (S)

	in the Pine Corridor. ****			*****		expected to start in the next quarter of the year. The Program must be aligned and harmonized with the main national reference instruments: the ENDE-REDD+ National Strategy and the Emissions Reduction Program to Combat Climate Change and Poverty on the Caribbean Coast (ERPD).	
	Indicator 8: Area (ha) of landscapes under improved practices in biological corridors restored by local women and men to improve connectivity between existing protected areas *****		5,000 ha (In the Corridor of Pinus oocarpa and Pinus patula sub. sp. tecunumanii in the northern zone) (Natural regeneration of degraded areas, agroforestry and silvopastoral systems, sustainable land management and forest plantations)	10,000 ha (In the en Corridor of Pinus oocarpa and Pinus patula sub. sp. tecunumanii in the northern zone) (Natural regeneration of degraded areas, agroforestry and silvopastoral systems, sustainable land management and forest plantations)	A total of 717 ha have been restored (17 of which by planting forest species such as cedar and mahogany, as well as fruit trees). Seven hundred (700) ha are under managed natural regeneration of Caribbean pine (Pinus caribea) in the Limbaika and Alamikamba natural reserves.	Satisfactory (S)	
Component 3. Incorporation of biodiversity and resilient landscapes into the institutional and development sectors.							
Outcome	3.1: Contribution to at	Indicator 9: Progress towards the goals of	0	At least 10% has been contributed	At least 25% has been	Three (3) strategic lines have been identified and	Satisfactory (S)

	<p>least five strategic thrusts of the 2020 National Biodiversity Strategy and tracked by the biodiversity monitoring system that will be developed within the framework of the project</p>	<p>the five strategic thrusts of the 2015-2020 National Biodiversity Strategy (in percentage)</p>		<p>to each of the thrusts</p>	<p>contributed to each of the thrusts</p>	<p>progress has been made regarding the implementation of:</p> <p>Line 1 – Awareness-raising events to educate people on the importance of adopting new values, such as love for Mother Earth. There have been 12 environmental fairs, with the participation of MINED, INTA, MECA and local governments.</p> <p>Line 3 – Actions implemented to conserve and restore the flora, fauna, water and forests by establishing 19 forest nurseries containing 15,200 plants and equipping four (4) firefighter brigades to control forest fires and the broadcasting of radio spots on forest fire prevention and biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>Line 4 – Identify, promote and implement communal economic alternatives that ensure family wellbeing, based on sustainable biological diversity productive systems. Fifty (50) farm</p>	
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						<p>plans have been drawn up and ten (10) community initiatives are underway under the sustainable subprojects model.</p> <p>Several training events have been held and work plans prepared with the Prinzu Awala Indigenous Territorial Government (ITG) and the indigenous people of Matagalpa on matters related to biodiversity management, forest fire prevention and environmental education.</p>	
		<p>Indicator 10: Institutional agendas and development plans looking at biodiversity and resilient landscapes with a gender and intercultural focus</p>	0	<p>At least 50% of each type of stakeholder have incorporated biodiversity and landscape restoration in their agendas and plans. Stakeholders: central government institutions, regional and local government institutions</p>	<p>At least 90% of the institutions and organizations involved have incorporated biodiversity and restoration with a gender and intercultural focus in their agendas, development plans and have managed funds for their implementation</p>	<p>Nine (9) Collaborative Management Committees (CMCs) have been created, with the active participation of local actors and GoN institutions, whose work plans include actions related to biodiversity management and landscape restoration. These Committees are made up of different actors: forest owners, producers, academics, government institutions, local organizations and</p>	Satisfactory (S)

						<p>municipal governments, among others.</p> <p>In this sense, the actions of the institutions will contribute directly to the execution of the management plans. For example, the National Forestry Institute (INAFOR) will direct its reforestation campaigns to the areas that most require it, according to the management plans; the Nicaraguan Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA) will integrate producers from protected areas into its local training processes, and the Ministry of Education will promote environmental education in these areas.</p> <p>Similarly, the Councils of the municipalities to which the protected areas belong approve their management plans, thus ensuring support for their execution.</p>	
Component 4: Biodiversity M&E system							
	Outcome 4.1: Species of interest or ecosystem indicators monitored	Indicator 11: Participatory system for biodiversity M&E	None	System designed and validated	Biodiversity M&E system implemented, making possible the formulation	The first proposal for an M&E system is due in December 2022. An expert in biodiversity has recently been engaged, in	Satisfactory (S)

					of species-specific protection plans	coordination with project 5277.	
		<p>Indicator 12: Population of ecosystem indicator species and / or species of biological interest (birds and plants) during the life of the project.</p>	<p>Dry forest Birds: 2 species woodpecker (<i>Careto careto</i>), quetzal (<i>Pharomachus mocinno</i>) Plants: 2 species <i>Pinus maximinoi</i> <i>Pinus patula ssp tecunumanii</i></p> <p>Tropical humid forest Birds: 2 species white heron (<i>Ardea alba</i>), wild duck (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) Plants: 2 species pine (<i>Pinus caribaeae</i>) papta palm (<i>Acoelorrhaphe wrightii</i>)</p> <p>Tropical humid forest Birds: 2 species white heron (<i>Ardea alba</i>), wild duck (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) Plants: 2 species pine (<i>Pinus caribaeae</i>) papta palm (<i>Acoelorrhaphe wrightii</i>)</p>	<p>Dry forest Birds: 2 species woodpecker (<i>Careto careto</i>), quetzal (<i>Pharomachus mocinno</i>) Plants: 2 species <i>Pinus maximinoi</i> <i>Pinus patula ssp tecunumanii</i></p> <p>Tropical humid forest Birds: 2 species white heron (<i>Ardea alba</i>), wild duck (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) Plants: 2 species pine (<i>Pinus caribaeae</i>) papta palm (<i>Acoelorrhaphe wrightii</i>)</p>	<p>Dry forest Birds: 2 species woodpecker (<i>Careto careto</i>), quetzal (<i>Pharomachus mocinno</i>) Plants: 2 species <i>Pinus maximinoi</i> <i>Pinus patula ssp tecunumanii</i></p> <p>Tropical humid forest Birds: 2 species white heron (<i>Ardea alba</i>), wild duck (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) Plants: 2 species pine (<i>Pinus caribaeae</i>) papta palm (<i>Acoelorrhaphe wrightii</i>)</p>	<p>A biodiversity baseline was prepared for each of the Project's nine (9) PAs. Woodpeckers (<i>Careto careto</i>) were sighted in all nine (9) PAs, while quetzals (<i>Pharomachus mocinno</i>) were sighted only in the Serranía Dipilto PA in the municipality of Jalapa.</p> <p>Mexican weeping pines (<i>Pinus patula ssp tecunumani</i>) were found in the Yucul Genetic Resources Reserve, but none of the subspecies <i>maximinoii</i> were reported in any of the natural reserves.</p> <p>Great egrets (<i>Ardea alba</i>) were reported in the Limbaika and Alamikamba natural reserves. Mallards (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) were sighted only in the Cerro de Alamikamba Natural Reserve.</p> <p>Caribbean pines (<i>Pinus caribea</i>) are reported in the Limbaika and</p>	Highly Satisfactory (HS)

						<p>Alamikamba natural reserves. No species of ponytail palms were found.</p> <p>In addition, there were two (2) field trips to the Cerro de Limbaika and Llanos de Alamikamba natural reserves. It was noted that in general these are in good phytosanitary conditions and undergoing healthy natural regeneration. Approximately 700 ha of Caribbean pine (<i>Pinus caribea</i>) were measured. Birds sighted included keel-billed toucans (<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i>) and yellow-naped parrots (<i>Amazona auropalliata</i>), as well as mammals such as white-faced capuchin monkeys (<i>Cebus capucinus</i>) and opossums (<i>Didelphis marsupialis</i>), among others.</p>	
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Action Plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Indicator 6: Total annual budget (US\$) available for management of the nine protected areas, by funding source at the end of five years.	To develop a technical assistance to identify possible financing sources for protected areas, including the way to increase government expenditures, and additional financial mechanisms for effective management of protected areas.	FAO	Third quarter of 2022.

3. Implementation Progress (IP)

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

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please avoid repeating results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
<p>Outcome 1.1: Biodiversity habitats improved through the conservation of over 82,279 hectares (implementation of pine forest management and conservation, conduct of planned silvicultural treatments and natural regeneration) to increase resilience, protection and connectivity between nine protected areas and forest remnants of the genus Pinus and Quercus; Pinus patula sub. sp. tecunumanii and Pinus caribaea, and reforestation in an additional area of some 59,076 hectares (buffer areas), bringing the total area earmarked for conservation to 141,355 hectares.</p>	<p>Indicator 4: Area (ha) under habitat conservation for biodiversity, adaptation and livelihoods in protected areas, with the participation of indigenous and non-indigenous men and women.</p>	<p>Implementation of the restoration strategy post Hurricanes Eta and Iota.</p>	<p>717 hectares of forests were restored through plantations (17) and natural regeneration management (700) in the Limbaika and Alamikamba Natural Reserves, within the framework of the recovery strategy for the areas affected by hurricanes Eta and Iota.</p> <p>As part of the strategy, one thousand (1000) forest incentives were distributed to similar number of protagonists (574 women, 568 men), who are to plant native species and fruit trees on 23 ha.</p> <p>Close follow-up has been given to the implementation</p>	<p>No variations</p>

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

¹³ Please use the same unit of measurement of the project indicators as per the approved Implementation Plan or Annual Workplan. Please be concise (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

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

			of the restoration, in coordination with the GTI Prinzu Awala.	
	Indicator 5: Improved planning, management and monitoring capacity in nine protected areas in accordance with MARENA's management effectiveness tool Ministerial Resolution No. 38-2008	Nine (9) Protected Area management plans prepared.	Seven (7) management plans were updated, and two (2) new ones drawn up. To that end 65 workshops took place in order to teach people how to prepare management plans, biophysical and socioeconomic diagnostics, the validation of zoning, management guidelines and the validation of plans with local actors.	No variations
	Indicator 6: Total annual budget (US\$) available for management of the nine protected areas, by funding source at the end of five years	US\$ 516,705.80 planned per year.	During the period reported on herein MARENA has allocated a budget item line of U\$ 373,498.30 for management purposes in the nine (9) PAs. This translates into actions related to monitoring biodiversity, fire prevention, oversight and control of flora and fauna, environmental education and field trips to determine phytosanitary conditions in forests and monitor natural regeneration and changes in soil use.	Seventy-three per cent (73%) of the goal was achieved.
Outcome 2.1: Global social and environmental benefits generated in terms of equal opportunities for women and men through the ENDE-REDD+	Indicator 7: Total number of hectares brought under restoration and conservation through the GEF ENDE-REDD+ pilot	Pilot project design (aligned with the ERPD design).	Terms of reference developed for the technical assistance that will design the emissions reduction program.	No variations

<p>results-based payment pilot project and sustainable land management (SLM) in the Pine Corridor. ****</p>	<p>incentive project over a period of five years.</p>			
	<p>Indicator 8: Area (ha) of landscapes under improved practices in biological corridors restored by local women and men to improve connectivity between existing protected areas *****</p>		<p>During the second semester of 2022, fifty (50) farm management plans will be implemented using a restoration-based approach.</p>	<p>During the first semester of 2022 practices were selected and planned for implementation in the second semester of the year.</p>
<p>Outcome 3.1: Contribution to at least five strategic thrusts of the 2020 National Biodiversity Strategy and tracked by the biodiversity monitoring system that will be developed within the framework of the project</p>	<p>Indicator 9: Progress towards the goals of the five strategic thrusts of the 2015-2020 National Biodiversity Strategy (in percentage)</p>	<p>Implementation of actions in five (5) strategic lines of work</p>	<p>Three (3) strategic lines have been identified and progress has been made regarding the implementation of</p> <p>Line 1 – Awareness-raising events to educate people on the importance of adopting new values, such as love for Mother Earth. There have been 12 environmental fairs, with the participation of MINED, INTA, MEFCA and local governments.</p> <p>Line 3 – Actions implemented to conserve and restore the flora, fauna, water and forests by establishing 19 forest nurseries containing 15,200 plants and equipping four (4) firefighter brigades to control forest fires and the broadcasting of radio spots on forest fire prevention.</p>	<p>Three (3) of five (5) lines of work were identified.</p>

			Line 4 – Identify, promote and implement communal economic alternatives that ensure family wellbeing, based on sustainable biological diversity productive systems. Fifty six (56) farm plans have been drawn up and ten (10) community initiatives are underway under the sustainable subprojects model.	
	Indicator 10: Institutional agendas and development plans looking at biodiversity and resilient landscapes with a gender and intercultural focus	No actions planned		
Outcome 4.1: Species of interest or ecosystem indicators monitored	Indicator 11: Participatory system for biodiversity M&E	Strengthen the capacities of the protagonists of the protected areas in matters of protection of the Pine and the Oak and monitoring of biodiversity.	The project is preparing a technical guide to carry out participatory monitoring of the bd, which will be used by the collaborative management committees. Additionally, in coordination with the GEF5 project (GEF ID 5277), the hiring of a TA is expected to design the M&E system that is common to both projects.	
	Indicator 12: Population of ecosystem indicator species and / or species of biological interest (birds and plants) during the life of the project.	Creation of a baseline	A biodiversity baseline was prepared for each of the Project's nine (9) PAs. Woodpeckers (Careto careto) were sighted in all nine (9) PAs, while quetzals (Pharomachrus mocinno)	

			<p>were sighted only in the Serranía Dipilto PA in the municipality of Jalapa.</p> <p>Mexican weeping pines (<i>Pinus patula</i> ssp <i>tecunumani</i>) were found in the Yucul Genetic Resources Reserve, but none of the subspecies <i>maximinoii</i> were reported in any of the natural reserves.</p> <p>Great egrets (<i>Ardea alba</i>) were reported in the Limbaika and Alamikamba natural reserves. Mallards (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) were sighted only in the Cerro de Alamikamba Natural Reserve.</p> <p>Caribbean pines (<i>Pinus caribea</i>) are reported in the Limbaika and Alamikamba natural reserves. No species of ponytail palms were found.</p> <p>In addition, there were two (2) field trips to the Cerro de Limbaika and Llanos de Alamikamba natural reserves. It was noted that in general these are in good phytosanitary conditions and undergoing healthy natural regeneration. Approximately 700 ha of Caribbean pine</p>	
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			(Pinus caribea) were measured. Birds sighted included keel-billed toucans (Ramphastos sulfuratus) and yellow-naped parrots (Amazona auropalliata), as well as mammals such as white-faced capuchin monkeys (Cebus capucinus) and opossums (Didelphis marsupialis), among others.	
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4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

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

During the current period the implementation of the Resilient Landscapes Management Project strengthened the management system in nine (9) PAs by updating seven (7) management plans and formulating two (2) new ones (Alamikamba and Limbaika natural reserves). The respective ministerial resolutions were registered in La Gaceta, government congressional record.

There were 113 events (fairs, community assemblies with ITGs) intended to strengthen capacities on good environmental practices and matters regarding organisation, including support for national strategies such as biodiversity, a national reforestation campaign, the prevention of forest fires / agricultural burns and a restoration plan. A total of 7,635 protagonists have participated in this process (4,156 or 54% of which are women).

Nine (9) CMCs were created, along with the formulation of an equal number of plans of action that involve local authorities (municipal governments), public institutions, indigenous peoples, farmers and protagonists who own forestland.

MARENA has led the Project's oversight and control of flora and fauna processes by carrying out two (2) field trips and patrols in order to evaluate post-hurricane natural regeneration. Further, six (6) firefighter brigades were equipped and 1,000 environmental incentives distributed. MARENA territorial delegations were endowed with equipment needed to carry out oversight, monitoring and georeferencing equipment (GPS, binoculars).

Important studies took place such as the creation of biodiversity baselines for each of the Project's nine (9) PAs. During this phase, there is a technological and methodological foundation in place from which to make investments in the environmental restoration plans using the farm plan model on fifty (50) farms in the nine (9) protected areas.

These developments are articulated in institutional administrative processes involving complex processes for the procurement of goods and services which are time-consuming and require resources. Cut at the closing date of this Report, some 81% of staff has been engaged. It is expected to reach 100% of the necessary personnel by September 2022.

The main challenge this year relates to legal security and land tenure. In the latter case, most of the land is owned by men, which makes it difficult for a higher number of women to gain access to and control resources (assets) facilitated by MARENA through the Project.

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

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

	FY2022 Development Objective rating¹⁵	FY2022 Implementation Progress rating¹⁶	Comments/reasons¹⁷ justifying the ratings for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	S	S	<p>During the first year of Project implementation a process of institutionalisation has been achieved and the actions undertaken are complemented by MARENA's regular territorial activities. This allows for taking a single approach toward the work with protagonists and has strengthened interinstitutional coordination in the development of individual activities.</p> <p>Planning instruments (management plans) were generated that ensure the scheduled actions are taken in the nine (9) protected areas. Further, a Collaborative Management Committee (CMC) was created for each PA. These serve as an instrument to ensure PA organization, coordination and environmental management.</p> <p>When updating and/or preparing PA management plans, it was standard practice to have gender equity at all activities involving training, capacity strengthening and consultation workshops. In fact, 54% of protagonists were women.</p> <p>Activities aimed at restoring degraded areas included: i) reforestation days; ii) delivery of 1000 environmental vouchers; iii) delivery of equipment for firefighter brigades; and iv) establishment of nurseries. The Prinzu Awala ITG in the municipality of Prinzapolka granted FPIC for Project implementation. There is also active participation by the Indigenous peoples of Matagalpa and of San Lucas (province of Madriz).</p>

¹⁵ **Development Objectives Rating** – A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.

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

¹⁶ **Implementation Progress Rating** – A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the projects approved implementation plan. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁷ Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

Budget Holder	S	S	The Project has made important efforts to advance towards the proposed goals, among which are the planning processes at the level of protected areas and farms, as well as in the identification of subprojects or community initiatives that will be financed by the project. In this second year of implementation, the greatest emphasis should be on making investments to obtain more tangible and concrete results. The rhythm of physical and financial execution has not been sustained throughout the year and in this sense, it is important to identify and implement the measures required to facilitate the flow of work and financing.
GEF Operational Focal Point¹⁸	S	S	MARENA has institutionalized the Project and conducted a programmatic approach which has allowed for strengthening complementarity between the GEF portfolio, the Ministry's regular activities and those it carries out jointly with other GoN institutions. This ensures a comprehensive approach is taken to the work with protagonists in the nine (9) PAs.
Lead Technical Officer¹⁹	S	S	<i>In the indicated stage, progress is made related to the participatory planning for management plans of Protected Areas, but it is necessary to advance in the implementation of the field actions with the sub-projects and activities related to it. It is suggested that a joint meeting be held between the FAO and MARENA to identify the points that allow progress to be made, to achieve project's global environmental benefits; It is important to emphasize the role played by the project's steering and technical committee, which allows a better coordination and review of project advances to achieve the proposed objectives. These issues were analysed and are part of the agreements that were generated in the supervision mission in May 2022. It is important to be able to move forward with a better visibility of the aspects related to the gender action plan. We suggest being able to exchange with the gender and indigenous peoples focal point of the FAO-SLM office to identify possible actions that allow us to have greater visibility of the results.</i>
FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer	S	MS	Significant progress has been made in relation to the planning of actions and the participatory planning of the management plans of the protected areas of this project. The joint work with the protagonists to understand the vision of the project and with the different national institutions are relevant elements to highlight during this year, since it allows generating long-term commitments between the different key partners and beneficiaries of the project. However, although this work is relevant and takes time, it is necessary to advance a little more in the specific implementation actions, which allow

¹⁸ In case the GEF OFP didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.

¹⁹ The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

			<p>making visible the progress in the results framework and in the actions linked to field work. The progress in the implementation of the field actions with the sub-projects and beneficiaries linked to the buffer zones, as well as the identification of key actions that allow a rapid increase in the execution of the project, are highly recommended actions at this time.</p> <p>In order to increase the execution of the project, it is necessary that FAO in conjunction with MARENA be able to carry out: 1 identify those products that allow increasing the speed of project execution that allow the generation of global environmental benefits); two); a critical path of the actions to be developed to increase the speed of project execution 3) activate the supervision mechanisms (project steering and technical committee) according to what is established in the PRODOC as mechanisms to closely support progress towards the results. These recommendations are in line with the agreements reached between FAO and the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in their recent supervision mission carried out in May 2022.</p> <p>In the case of gender, although some progress is indicated in the report in the gender section, this progress is not made visible throughout the results framework. It is necessary to review the gender action plan to identify the progress that has been made within the framework of the project and make it visible within the results and properly identify the progress in terms of the 3 gender gaps of this donor. To improve knowledge on this topic, it is suggested to take this FAO online course and review this practical guide on gender and value chains. Likewise, carrying out specific training with the Subregional Gender and Indigenous Peoples Officer to strengthen the team's capacities on this issue is highly recommended.</p> <p>https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?id=609 https://www.fao.org/documents/card/es/c/59887457-6d38-49d5-9dcf-020f3b4c2873/</p> <p>A similar case is that related to indigenous peoples, in which progress is reported within the indigenous peoples tab, but no progress related to these participations within the project is mentioned in the results framework. It is important to highlight the work carried out with indigenous peoples and make it visible as part of the project. As in the case of gender, it is recommended to review progress and hold a meeting/training with the Subregional Officer on this topic.</p>
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5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

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

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
ESS 1: Natural Resource Management				
The Project will not have a negative effect upon the environment. However, due to its preventive nature, it is necessary to apply this safeguard to all interventions that imply the use and management of natural resources in the Project's areas of influence.	During Project implementation the environmental framework used regulates the sustainable use of natural resources in PAs (National Environmental Evaluation System, Decree 20-2017).	Implementation of the national environmental framework in all the Project's actions, works and activities in protected areas (Law 217 and its enabling regulations contain guidelines for PA management, as do Decree 14-99 and Decree 20-2017 (both on the National Environmental Evaluation System).	The environmental legal framework that guides actions in PAs is being followed.	Project and FAO technical unit.
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats				
By definition, the Resilient Landscapes Management Project will have a positive impact on natural habitats. It will contribute to protecting and restoring the landscape and biodiversity, for which reason this safeguard must be followed in all restoration actions and investments made	The Project activities comply with the guidelines for PA management, according to their category. When the area of direct or indirect influence of a Project is located in an environmentally protected area or is considered to be fragile or critical from an environmental point of view, the Project ensures there is compliance with soil, forest,	Regulations concerning PA management are followed according to their categories and the guidelines set forth in each of the approved PA management plans. MARENA implements the nationwide and nature-based National Biodiversity Strategy.	The environmental legal framework that guides the use and management of PAs is being followed.	Project and FAO technical unit.

using the sustainable land management approach.	biodiversity and agrochemical use (the latter prohibited), as well as forest fire and agricultural burns management, among others.			
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
The Project follows the regulatory framework and guidelines for the management of each PA to ensure the adequate sowing of crops and establishment of multipurpose tree species plantations.	The main Project intervention that imply making investments in environmental restoration systems manage tree species in accordance with PA management guidelines. The species used must be appropriate for the area, non-invasive and native, among other considerations, such as their use in priority areas that are vulnerable or helpful in achieving sustainable development in buffer zones.	Regulations concerning PA management are followed according to their categories and the guidelines set forth in each of the approved PA management plans. MARENA implements the nationwide and nature-based National Biodiversity Strategy.	The environmental legal framework that guides good environmental practices inside PAs is being followed.	Project and FAO technical unit.
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
The Project follows the regulatory framework and guidelines for the management of each PA to ensure proper management of animal species, in particular cattle and smallstock from a zoning perspective, and the regulation regarding said management, especially in the buffer zones.	The main Project interventions that imply making investments in environmental restoration systems manage species in accordance with PA management guidelines. Actions taken that improve productive systems are prioritized, and the Project includes workshops to teach agroforestry and silvopastoral techniques that employ sustainable management approaches. It also fosters good environmental practices by holding awareness-raising activities.	Regulations concerning PA management are followed according to their categories and the guidelines set forth in each of the approved PA management plans. MARENA implements the nationwide and nature-based National Biodiversity Strategy.	The environmental legal framework that guides good environmental practices inside PAs is being followed.	Project and FAO technical unit.
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
The Project follows the regulatory framework and guidelines for the management of each PA to ensure proper introduction of crops and plantations that require the use of	The Project implements good environmental practices as concerns pest control. It promotes environment-friendly practices by holding fairs and permanent	Implementation of the national environmental framework in all the Project's actions, works and activities in protected areas,	The environmental legal framework that guides pest management and the use of pesticides inside PAs is being followed.	Project and FAO technical unit.

<p>agrochemicals for pest control purposes.</p>	<p>campaigns. The frame of reference are the enabling regulations to Law 274. For this safeguard special attention will be paid to follow-up and support for the Integrated Crop Management and the Integrated Pest Management plans, as per the Agroecological and Organic Production Law (Law 765).</p>	<p>following PA management guidelines and regulations.</p>		
<p>ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement</p>				
<p>The analysis carried out has determined that Project implementation activities will not require displacement of any population group, given that these will take place in PAs with little or no conflict regarding land tenure.</p>	<p>Protect implementation identifies no need to resettle or displace people. However, there is a policy in place for involuntary resettlement which will allow for ensuring that the impacts associated with involuntary resettlement caused by the implementation of any programme or Project in PAs be minimized and that those affected are compensated in an adequate manner so they can go on to live in conditions similar to or better than those they had before.</p>	<p>The Project ensures compliance with the national legal framework regarding land ownership in PAs.</p>	<p>The environmental legal framework that guides pest management and the use of pesticides inside PAs is being followed.</p>	<p>Project and FAO technical unit.</p>
<p>ESS 7: Decent Work</p>				
<p>In order to comply with this standard, the Project has in place measures that ensure that its actions do not contribute to excessive workloads or unsafe conditions that put at risk the health of the protagonists, as per Nicaragua's labour laws.</p>	<p>The Project implements measures that enhance security by providing equipment and tools as needed to ensure the safety of Project protagonists.</p>	<p>The Project ensures compliance with the county's legal framework, meaning that the Project protagonist's safety is assured, and associated risks are taken into account and mitigated.</p>	<p>The Project ensures compliance with the county's legal framework as concerns equal rights and opportunities for both men and women in the exercise of their development. It promotes participation in its activities without exclusion and takes affirmative actions on social and gender-related in an equitable manner, ensuring fair treatment to each individual, with</p>	<p>Project and FAO technical unit.</p>

			emphasis on the active participation of women and the young in each of the activities undertaken.	
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
For the purpose of complying with this standard the Resilient Landscapes Management Project provides and manages an approach to information on the subject that ensures it is disaggregated by scale and gender, identifying activities and areas in which the participation of women and men is ensured.	The Project takes measures that ensure the involvement of men and women in capacity-strengthening processes, protagonism in leading positions and direct actions by open calls and the facilitation of gender inclusion in all of its processes, while guaranteeing direct and equitable benefits.	The Project is in compliance with the legal framework that ensures participation in the effective exercise of equal and real opportunities as set forth in Law 648, which ensures the full development of men and women and establishes fundamental mechanisms by means of which all administrative bodies and other branches of the central, regional and municipal governments must ensure effective equality between women and men, without discrimination for reasons of sex, ethnic group or religion.	Ensure compliance with the legal framework in the context of equal rights and opportunities for men and women in the exercise of their development. The Project generates information that is disaggregated by gender so it can interpret and analyse gender issues in all Project activities (assess contributions, participation in the social sphere, production and capacity-strengthening). The Project strengthens capacities among women and young people in order to increase their knowledge and facilitate access to information.	Project and FAO technical unit.
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
This safeguard is very important to the Resilient Landscape Management Project, given that Nicaragua is a multi-ethnic state. Article 5 of the fundamental principles of the Constitution legally recognises Indigenous peoples. It must also be considered that 72% of the forests in which the Project operates are located in indigenous	To safeguard Indigenous peoples, the country has robust regulations that guarantee the exercise of their rights to Indigenous and afrodescendant peoples, based on the Constitution and laws 28, 445 and 40, as well as the Law of Municipalities and its Reforms (Law 261). The latter describes the authorities that lead Indigenous communities in the Pacific, Central	The Project is in compliance with the legal framework, ensures that the rights of Indigenous peoples and afrodescendants are respected. They have participated fully and effectively in its activities and by means of dialogue and consultations, consensus has been reached on several matters involving the regional	The Project prepared a Plan of Action with Indigenous peoples in its areas of influence on the Pacific and Afrodescendants on the Caribbean Coast. It will be updated in 2022. The Project has in place affirmative actions on	Project and FAO technical unit.

territories in the Caribbean region. Nationwide, 59% of the country's forests are in indigenous territories.	and Caribbean Regions, including the procedure by which they are elected. Nicaragua is signatory to ILO Convention 169 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.	autonomous governments and Indigenous peoples on the Pacific living in the Project's areas of influence.	gender and Indigenous people all of its activities, without exclusion.	
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				
An occasional risk the Project identifies is climate variability (long droughts / excessive rainfall). These exert a direct influence on the environmental restoration actions and guides decision-making in order to reorient planned activities.	The Project implements measures that ensure that the interventions in PAs are scheduled in such a manner that they fit in with the timing of community initiatives (farm plans and sub-projects). The aim is to establish and properly manage vegetative material as well as capacity strengthening to avoid damage associated with anthropogenic intervention in PAs.	Implementation of PA management regulations using the categories and guidelines set forth in the pertinent management plan.	The Project supports PA administrative structures by developing work plans with the CMCs that ensure proper natural resources management in its area of intervention.	Project and FAO technical unit.

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

Initial ESS Risk classification (At project submission)	Current ESS risk classification
Moderate	Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ²⁰ . If not, what is the new classification and explain. Moderate

Please report if any grievance was received as per FAO and GEF ESS policies. If yes, please indicate how it is being/has been addressed.

²⁰ **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

6. Risks

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

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²¹	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	Politics and governance. Decision-making is controlled through different levels of government in Nicaragua's public administration, which could limit and delay project implementation.	L	Y	The project will reduce these risks by implementing the following measures: (i) Supporting inter-institutional coordination and collaboration to strengthen awareness of biodiversity, sustainable forest management and landscape restoration in buffer zones and the interconnection corridors through competent and involved institutions and organizations (MARENA, INAFOR, MEFCCA, INTUR, IPSA and INTA; indigenous peoples, the regional government and also with universities, for the purpose of carrying out studies).	The Project has strengthened interinstitutional coordination in the nine (9) PAs by creating a like number of Collaborative Management Committees (CMCs), each with its respective Plan of Action (POA). Using this approach, workshops, technical field trips and environmental fairs have taken place with the participation of INTA, MEFCA, INAFOR, the National Firefighters Brigade, the National Police, the Army of Nicaragua, municipal governments, indigenous peoples and the Prinzu Awala Indigenous Territorial Government (ITG).	

²¹ Risk ratings means a rating of accesses the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. For more information on ratings and definitions please refer to Annex 1.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²¹	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
2	Institutional capacity for implementation: MARENA currently has limited staff and other resources throughout the country to provide sufficient effectiveness for the management of protected areas, safeguard their sustainability, and establish and support the management of biological corridors.	M	Y	In order to reduce these risks, the following measures are to be taken: (ii) Supporting MARENA in hiring technical assistants for each protected area; (iii) Forming a group of monitors (with local population involvement) to promote participatory M&E; (iv) Promoting collaboration among local landowners, organizations and companies with specific contributions, along with local authorities, and identifying profitable and conservation-oriented activities that promote the sustainability of local management.	The Project has engaged a technical team made up of nine (9) field technicians of which one (1) is a woman. The team includes experts in biodiversity, monitoring and follow-up, gender and indigenous people and together they advise the development of the activities being undertaken. Nine (9) CMCs have been established as an organizational instrument keyed to the implementation of actions in the nine (9) PAs.	
3	The restoration of forest lands and biological connectivity requires multisectoral institutional coordination, policies sensitive to the country's protected areas and biodiversity, and changes in the behaviour of forest producers and owners that must be maintained over time.	M	Y	In order to reduce risk, participative construction will be progressively carried out as capacities are built and participative groups, bodies and management mechanisms are set in place, in order to contribute significantly to the restoration of forests and important habitats and to achieve management sustainability.	The Project has held several training events and an awareness-raising campaign (environmental fairs, the broadcasting of environmental radio spots) aimed at educating protagonists in values such as the care and respect for Mother Earth. GoN institutions, members of farmer cooperatives and drinking water committees present in the PAs took part in the aforementioned training events.	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²¹	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
4	Trust: In relation to MARENA's limited institutional capacity and the geographical extent of the project area, the project design should provide sound fiduciary management arrangements.	M	Y	To reduce this risk it is necessary: (i) To strengthen MARENA at the headquarters level, with administrative staff trained in the management of administrative rules and procedures so that they can supervise the activities of landowners, organizations and others in their interventions in the project area, bearing in mind that different projects will be being implemented at the national level, although a combined MARENA/FAO administration is proposed; (ii) A manual of administrative policies and procedures should be developed in the first few months of implementation.	MARENA has determined that the implementation of GEF projects must take a programmatic approach. The Project has engaged an administrative assistant who coordinates with the GEF5 financial specialist. For its part, the MARENA Financial-Administrative Directorate has held talks for its staff on administrative regulations and procedures. MARENA has also made available five (5) administrative assistants for Project management purposes at its territorial delegations. This ensures compliance with the Ministry's administrative regulations. The Project in turn has engaged an analyst in procurements, for the purpose of ensuring that acquisitions take place in full compliance with the Public Sector Administrative Contracting Law (Law 737).	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²¹	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
5	<p>Stakeholders: The success of the project will depend to a large extent on the commitment and appropriation of the stakeholders, bearing in mind that most of the lands declared as protected areas are private and the challenge for the selection of people among the beneficiaries in the short and long term that relate to the use and conservation of natural resources.</p>	M	Y	<p>To strengthen ownership and reduce risk, based on the capacities, bodies and arrangements set in place with the members of the different institutions, organizations and indigenous peoples:</p> <p>(a) A sectoral planning and coordination process will be supported in the corridor areas;</p> <p>(b) Mechanisms that increase the sustainability of project investments will be defined and implemented; and</p> <p>(c) Local stakeholder participation agreements will be integrated into the design and implementation of subprojects.</p>	<p>MARENA has determined that the implementation of GEF projects must take a programmatic approach. The Project has engaged an administrative assistant who coordinates with the GEF5 financial specialist. For its part, the MARENA Financial-Administrative Directorate has held talks for its staff on administrative regulations and procedures.</p> <p>MARENA has also made available five (5) administrative assistants for Project management purposes at its territorial delegations. This ensures compliance with the Ministry's administrative regulations.</p> <p>The Project in turn has engaged an analyst in procurements, for the purpose of ensuring that acquisitions take place in full compliance with the Public Sector Administrative Contracting Law (Law 737).</p>	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²¹	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
6	Climate change: The restoration and conservation activities of forests, habitats and biodiversity can be seriously affected by adverse effects of climate change, for example, the presence of drought, high temperatures that can cause fires as well as the death of different endangered species.	M	Y	The project is being implemented precisely to strengthen resilience by restoring forests, habitats and livelihoods and to promote the reduction of GHG emissions, and also to strengthening capacity to respond to extreme events. The activities will include coordination with the National Climate Change Response System (SNRCC).	The Project has delivered 1000 environmental vouchers in the Limbaika and Alamikamba PAs. These were used to establish plantations on 17 ha under an agroforestry system using forest and fruit tree species. At least 700 ha have been reported to be undergoing natural regeneration. 347 members of forest firefighter brigades were trained and six (6) brigades were equipped (81 men, 19 women).	

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

FY2021 rating	FY2022 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
M	M	Risk were managed with adequate mitigation measures. The risk maintain the same qualification.

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

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented <u>during this Fiscal Year</u>
Recommendation 1:	
Recommendation 2:	
Recommendation 3:	
Recommendation 4:	

Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please describe	
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8. Minor project amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines²². Please describe any minor changes that the project has made under the relevant category or categories. And, provide supporting documents as an annex to this report if available.

Category of change	Provide a description of the change	Indicate the timing of the change	Approved by
Results framework			
Components and cost			
Institutional and implementation arrangements			
Financial management			
Implementation schedule			
Executing Entity			
Executing Entity Category			
Minor project objective change			
Safeguards			
Risk analysis			
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%			
Co-financing			
Location of project activity			
Other			

²² Source: <https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/guidelines-project-and-program-cycle-policy-2020-update>

9. Stakeholders' Engagement

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

Stakeholder name	Role in project execution	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement
Government Institutions			
MARENA	Coordinator of the Project and of those entities involved in its participatory management. Coordinator of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) Coordinator of the Project Steering Committee (PSC)	MARENA coordinates and implements the Resilient Landscapes Management Project through the Natural Heritage and Biodiversity Directorate. To date, the Project implementing unit has been engaged, the APO has been designed and implemented and the 2021 and 2022 procurement plans are in use.	
MEFFCA	Co-implementer and co-financer (NICAVIDA Project), member of the PSC.	MEFFCA technicians have participated in environmental fairs and meetings to establish Collaborative Management Committees (CMCs). Member of the Project Steering Committee.	
INAFOR	Co-implementer and co-financer (NICAVIDA Project), member of the PSC. Coordinates sustainable management plans in the forests.	INAFOR technicians have participated in environmental fairs, reforestation campaigns, workshops on the construction of nurseries and meetings to establish CMCs.	
IPSA	Consults on aspects related to plant and animal health and safety, in particular control of the pine-bark weevil.	Member of the Project Steering Committee. Participated in meetings on the formulation of PA management plans.	
INTUR	Co-implementer in specific areas and co-financer (NICAVIDA	INTUR technicians have participated in environmental fairs, workshops to gather	

	Project), member of the PSC.	information on management plans and meetings to establish CMCs.	
MINED		Participated in environmental fairs and information-gathering meetings held to formulate management plans.	
MUNICIPAL GOVTS.	Co-implementer and co-financer in their respective municipalities. Members of the CMCs in the PA(s) in their jurisdiction.	Participated in preparation of management plans for the nine (9) PAs and issued the corresponding certifications. They also participated in the process of establishing the CMCs and are now represented on each of the boards of directors. As members of the Collaborative Management Committees, they will be in charge of promoting compliance with the management plans.	
Army of Nicaragua		Participated in field trips to determine conditions as concerns phytosanitary and natural regeneration conditions in the Limbaika and Alamikamba natural reserves.	
Non-Government organizations (NGOs)			
Association of Nicaraguan Professionals (APRODEIN)	Project participant	Participated in several workshops on good environmental practices, the formulation of a management plan for the Cañón de Somoto National Monument and the Tepesomoto la Patasta Natural Reserve. A member of both PAs.	Co-finance some training events.
Nicaraguan Communal Movement	Project participant	Participated in several workshops on good environmental practices, the formulation of a management plan for the Cañón de Somoto National Monument and the Tepesomoto la Patasta Natural Reserve. A member of both PAs.	Co-finance some training events.
Private sector entities			
Luis Alberto Vasquez Cooperative	Project participant	Participated in several workshops on good environmental practices, the formulation of a management plan for the Cañón de Somoto National Monument and the	Ensuring the continued active participation of key actors in the territory is reflected by the measure in which the Project actively facilitates participatory processes.

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		Tepesomoto la Patasta Natural Reserve. A member of both PAs.	
5 de Junio Cooperative		Participated in several workshops on good environmental practices, the formulation of a management plan for the Cañón de Somoto National Monument and the Tepesomoto la Patasta Natural Reserve. A member of both PAs.	Ensuring the continued active participation of key actors in the territory is reflected by the measure in which the Project actively facilitates participatory processes.
Agricultural and Tourist Services Cooperative	Project participant	Environmental Education Follow-up System (SISEA)	Ensuring the continued active participation of key actors in the territory is reflected by the measure in which the Project actively facilitates participatory processes.
El Buen Sembrador Multisectoral Agricultural Cooperative / MANKRA PAID R.L CAMERS. R.L.	Project participant	Participated in several workshops on good environmental practices in the Alamikamba and Limbaika natural reserves.	Ensuring the continued active participation of key actors in the territory is reflected by the measure in which the Project actively facilitates participatory processes.
Arte CEIBO R.L. Cooperative	Project participant		
Forestland owners	Project participants	Participated in Project activities such as workshops, updating processes, the preparation of management plans and establishment of CMCs.	
<i>Others[1]</i>			
Prinzu Awala ITG	Project participant involved in the process to grant the FPIC	Consulted during the entire process and granted the Project its FPIC. Participated actively in all Project activities in the Alamikamba and Limbaika natural reserves. Members of the CMC in both.	Ensuring the continued active participation of key actors in the territory is reflected by the measure in which the Project actively facilitates participatory processes
Matagalpa indigenous people	Project participant	Participated actively in all Project activities in the Yucul forests genetic resources reserve. Members of the CMC.	Ensuring the continued active participation of key actors in the territory is reflected by the measure in which the Project actively facilitates participatory processes

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

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San Lucas indigenous people	Project participant	Participated actively in all Project activities in the Tepesomoto la Patasta natural reserve and the Cañón de Somoto National Monument. Members of the CMC in both.	Ensuring the continued active participation of key actors in the territory is reflected by the measure in which the Project actively facilitates participatory processes
Cusmapa indigenous people	Project participant	Participated actively in all Project activities in the Tepesomoto la Patasta natural reserve. Members of the CMC.	Ensuring the continued active participation of key actors in the territory is reflected by the measure in which the Project actively facilitates participatory processes
<i>New stakeholders identified/engaged</i>			
Prinzapolka Moravian Church	Project participant	Participated in the preparation of management plans in the Limbaika and Alamikamba natural reserves, as well as in CMC meetings.	

10. Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on Gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable) <u>during this reporting period.</u>		
Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages.	Yes	The Project uses a gender analysis document which is to be updated during the second semester of 2022. The current system disaggregates the information received by sex (male, female) and ethnic group.
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	Yes	Undertake affirmative actions to increase the participation of women, such as direct invitations to meetings and training / awareness-raising workshops, environmental fairs, etc. All such activities take place in the communities to facilitate the participation of women at these events.
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):		
a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources	Yes	523 women (52.3%) and 477 men received environmental vouchers for landscape restoration.
b) improving women's participation and decision making.		Fifty-four per cent (54%) of participants in the various Project activities are women. Participation in CMCs and planning of Project activities.
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women		During the second semester of 2022 fifty six (56) farm plans and ten (10) community sub-projects will be drawn up. It is expected that 24% of those receiving socioeconomic benefits (tools, seeds, and forest and fruit tree seedlings, training) will be women.
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Yes	Environmental Education Follow-up System (SISEA).
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	The Project recently engaged an expert on gender and indigenous people.
Any other good practices on gender		

11. Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in Knowledge Management Approach approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval <u>during this reporting period.</u>	
<p>Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.</p>	<p>The Project has not yet designed this strategy, but it is expected that in the second semester of 2022 a proposal will be put forth for consideration by top management at MARENA, given the need to systematise the results generated to date and strengthen institutional capacities by exposing staff to international experiences on different subjects, for the ultimate purpose of institutionalising the process.</p>
<p>Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.</p>	<p>A communications strategy was designed in 2021. A radio broadcast campaign aimed at forest fire prevention took place.</p> <p>Ten (10) environmental fairs took place with participation by eight primary schools and four municipal governments, for the purpose of promoting changes in values regarding the need to care for Mother earth (454 women and 411 men participated).</p>
<p>Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected Global Environmental Benefits. Please indicate any Socio-economic Co-benefits that were generated by the project. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.</p>	
<p>Please provide links to related website, social media account</p>	<p>https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1u80CTfrO6-NIEJcnsaZgBdPJZs2e0TQy?usp=sharing</p>
<p>Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.</p>	
<p>Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point’s Name and contact details</p>	

12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

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

The Prinzu Awala ITG participated in the FPIC process and agreed to allow the Project to go forward. In addition to the Prinzu Awala ITG, the indigenous people of Matagalpa, San Lucas and José de Cusmapa are participating in all Project activities, among which are introductory events to explain its scope, training workshops, establishment of nurseries, environmental vouchers, the formulation of management plans, the establishment of collaborative management committees and the design of farm plans and community sub-projects.

13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing ²³	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2022	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
Nicaraguan Government	MARENA	In kind (recurring expenses)	2,583,529.00	373,498.30		2,583,529.00
	INAFOR	In kind (recurring expenses)	1,125,805.00	5,061.00		950,000.00
	MEFCCA	In kind (recurring expenses)	0	2,850.00		200,000.00
	Nicaraguan Army	In kind (recurring expenses)	0	1,454.00		10,000.00
	Dipilto Project, second phase	In kind (recurring expenses)	2,100,000.00	1,680,000.00		2,100,000.00
		TOTAL	5,809,334.00	2,062,863.30		5,843,529.00

²³ Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Other.

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

Considering the completion of the Nicavida and Nicadapta projects in 2020, these co-financing funds cannot be considered due to the fact that the GEF6 Project began operationally in March 2020, as well as the passage of Hurricanes ETA and IOTA in 2020, the COVID pandemic 19 caused the Government of Nicaragua to invest in social aspects, health, and economic reactivation, which reduced INAFOR's co-financing.

El Proyecto MEFCCA/NICADAPTA/FIDA y la primera fase del Proyecto del Río Dipilto finalizaron en 2020 (antes del inicio del GEF6). Por este motivo, esta cofinanciación no se informará como tal. El Proyecto NICAVIDA/FIDA dejará de realizar inversiones en junio de este año.

This co-financing of the Dipilto River Project only includes the second phase that began in March 2021 and will end in December 2022

Development Objectives Rating. A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives. (Sección 2)	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Se espera que el proyecto logre o supere todos sus principales objetivos ambientales globales y produzca beneficios ambientales globales sustanciales, sin grandes deficiencias. El proyecto se puede presentar como una “buena práctica”
Satisfactory (S)	Se espera que el proyecto logre la mayoría de sus principales objetivos ambientales globales y produzca beneficios ambientales globales satisfactorios, con solo deficiencias menores
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Se espera que el proyecto logre la mayoría de sus principales objetivos relevantes , pero con deficiencias significativas o una relevancia general modesta. Se espera que el proyecto no logre algunos de sus principales objetivos ambientales globales o produzca algunos de los beneficios ambientales globales esperados
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Se espera que el proyecto logre sus principales objetivos ambientales globales con importantes deficiencias o se espera que logre solo algunos de sus principales objetivos ambientales globales)
Unsatisfactory (U)	Se espera que el proyecto no logre la mayoría de sus principales objetivos ambientales globales o que produzca beneficios ambientales globales satisfactorios)
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	El proyecto no ha logrado, y no se espera que logre , ninguno de sus principales objetivos ambientales globales sin beneficios que valgan la pena).
Implementation Progress Rating. A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project’s components and activities is in compliance with the project’s approved implementation plan. (Sección 3)	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	la implementación de todos los componentes cumple sustancialmente con el plan de implementación original/revisado formalmente para el proyecto. El proyecto puede ser resentido como “buena práctica
Satisfactory (S)	La implementación de la mayoría de los componentes cumple sustancialmente con el plan original/formalmente revisado, excepto por unos pocos que están sujetos a medidas correctivas.
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	La implementación de algunos componentes cumple sustancialmente con el plan original/revisado formalmente y algunos componentes requieren medidas correctivas
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	La implementación de algunos componentes no cumple sustancialmente con el plan original/revisado formalmente y la mayoría de los componentes requieren medidas correctivas.
Unsatisfactory (U)	La implementación de la mayoría de los componentes no cumple sustancialmente con el plan original/revisado formalmente
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	La implementación de ninguno de los componentes cumple sustancialmente con el plan original/formalmente revisado.
Risk rating. It should assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale: (Sección 6)	
High Risk (H)	Existe una probabilidad superior al 75% de que los supuestos no se cumplan o no se materialicen, y/o el proyecto pueda enfrentar riesgos elevados.
Substantial Risk (S)	Existe una probabilidad de entre el 51 % y el 75 % de que los supuestos no se cumplan o no se materialicen, y/o el proyecto pueda enfrentar riesgos sustanciales
Moderate Risk (M)	Existe una probabilidad de entre el 26 % y el 50 % de que los supuestos no se cumplan o no se materialicen, y/o el proyecto solo enfrente un riesgo moderado.
Low Risk (L)	Existe una probabilidad de hasta un 25 % de que los supuestos no se cumplan o no se materialicen, y/o el proyecto solo enfrente riesgos bajos.