



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2023 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

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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)
Initial project duration (years):	5 years
Project coordinates: <i>This section should be completed ONLY by:</i> a) Projects with 1st PIR; b) In case the geographic coverage of project activities has changed since last reporting period.	

Project Dates

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

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	USD 4,389,261
Total Co-financing amount (USD)³:	USD 16,384,076
Total GEF grant delivery (as of June 30, 2023 (USD):	USD 1,874,000
Total GEF grant actual expenditures (excluding commitments) as of June 30, 2023 (USD)⁴:	USD 1,144,633
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2023⁵	USD 7,656,518.68

¹ As per FPMIS

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

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

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

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

M&E Milestones

Date of Last Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:	December 1, 2022
Expected Mid-term Review date⁶:	November 2023
Actual Mid-term review date (if already completed):	N/A
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date⁷:	May 2025
Tracking tools (TT)/Core indicators (CI) updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)	Scheduled for October 2023

Overall ratings

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

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	Moderate
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Status

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

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
Project Coordinator (PC)	Miriam Picado Lira	Coordinadorggef6@marena.gob.ni
Budget Holder (BH)	Ivan León Ayala	Ivan.leon@fao.org
GEF Operational Focal Point (GEF OFP)	Javier Gutierrez	xaviergut@gmail.com
Lead Technical Officer (LTO)	Raixa Elena Llauger	Raixa.Llauger@fao.org
GEF Technical Officer, GTO (ex Technical FLO)	Nadia Mujica	Nadia.mujica@fao.org

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

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

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

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

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 ^{Mid-term} Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level (and %) at 30 June 2023	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	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	Indicator 4: Area (ha) under habitat conservation for biodiversity, adaptation and livelihoods in protected areas, with the participation of indigenous and non-	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)	To this date, a total 5,839.81 ha have been restored with 682 protagonists, who participated in the farm plans and subprojects located in:	MU																						
						<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Core Area</th> <th rowspan="2">Buffer Zone</th> <th colspan="2">Protagonists</th> </tr> <tr> <th>M</th> <th>W</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>DFE</td> <td>1,124.00</td> <td>565.81</td> <td>336</td> <td>258</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RFE</td> <td>0</td> <td>4,150.00</td> <td>61</td> <td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>1,124.00</td> <td>4,715.81</td> <td>397</td> <td>285</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The progress made represents 4.2% of the target established by the project; however, in the second half of 2023, a multitemporal analysis of the soil cover will be made to evaluate the degree of conservation of the</p>		Core Area	Buffer Zone	Protagonists		M	W	DFE	1,124.00	565.81	336	258	RFE	0	4,150.00	61	27	Total	1,124.00	4,715.81	397	285	
	Core Area	Buffer Zone	Protagonists																										
			M	W																									
DFE	1,124.00	565.81	336	258																									
RFE	0	4,150.00	61	27																									
Total	1,124.00	4,715.81	397	285																									

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

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

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

¹¹ Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory** (HS), **Satisfactory** (S), **Moderately Satisfactory** (MS), **Moderately Unsatisfactory** (MU), **Unsatisfactory** (U), and **Highly Unsatisfactory** (HU). Refer to Annex 1.

<p>regions of Nicaragua, with a view to promoting the conservation of biodiversity, resilient landscapes and local livelihoods</p>	<p>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 caribaeae, 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>indigenous men and women.</p>				<p>tropical dry and rain forest ecosystems in the 9 protected areas encompassed by the project.</p> <p>6 subprojects and 24 farm plans were developed with indigenous peoples, benefiting 118 protagonists (51 women and 67 men).</p>	
		<p>Indicator 5: Improved planning, management and monitoring capacity in nine protected areas in accordance with MARENA's management</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 Two protected areas with approved management plans</p>	<p>Nine protected areas have improved their management and conservation status</p>	<p>100% of the management plans for the 9 protected areas encompassed by the project are under implementation.</p> <p>At the social level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The environmental education programme is promoted through talks and fairs with the community members of the 9 PAs in participatory processes with community members and actors of INTA, MEFCCA, MAG, INAFOR, MINED, Municipal Governments, Drinking Water and Sanitation Committees 	<p>S</p>

		<p>effectiveness tool Ministerial Resolution No. 38-2008</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 Management Collaborative Committees (CMC) formed with 227 protagonists (159 men and 68 women) • The CMC are composed of: Municipal Governments, MINED, community representatives, INAFOR, IPSA, representatives of indigenous communities, National Police, MARENA, MIFAM, MAG, NGOs (APRODEN, ONGAWA), Guardabarranco Environmentalist Movement, INTUR, Indigenous Territorial Government (Prinzu Awala), MEFCCA, universities (FAREM, UNI-RUACS). <p>At the administrative level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Plans for 9 PAs with their multi-year plans • Volunteer programme in the PAs, implemented for prevention and control of forest and agricultural fires and biodiversity monitoring, with a network of environmental sentinel observers <p>The 9 PAs each have a fire brigade and a sentinel observer brigade, which are in the process of being trained and equipped.</p> <p>Each fire brigade is composed of 10 volunteers who are coordinated by the brigade leader, who is elected by all members, based on his/her leadership and knowledge of the conditions in the territory. In total, 90 protagonists are organised in these brigades (83 men and 7 women).</p>	
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						<p>The sentinel environmental observer brigades (188 protagonists: 164 men and 24 women) are composed of community volunteers and directly coordinated by the MARENA Territorial Delegations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiation mechanism and compliance of co-managers. Each of the 9 PAs has a Management Collaborative Committee (CMC) functioning as support body to promote the implementation of the current management plans. The CMC have an annual work plan. Their members actively participate in each community in the identification of subprojects or community initiatives for biodiversity conservation, adaptation and livelihoods in protected areas and ecological corridors. <p>Regarding biodiversity conservation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity baselines already exist in the 9 PAs. • A mapping of the wildlife connectivity of ecological corridors has been made. <p>Regarding sustainable use of natural and cultural resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A handbook for the monitoring of biodiversity has been prepared, and the technical staff of the project has been trained in its implementation in the area of influence. In total, 8 technicians (6 men and 2 women) of the MARENA delegations (Siuna, Nueva Segovia, Estelí, Madriz and Matagalpa) have been trained.
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						<p>At the economic-financial level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each of the nine PAs has a business plan, which was formulated on a participatory basis, taking into account the guidelines of each PA's management plan. 	
	Indicator 6: Total annual budget (US\$) available for management of the nine protected areas, by funding source at the end of five years	<p>National government: \$2,339,891 Local government: \$0 Private sources (NGOs, private sector, etc.): \$0</p>	<p>National government: 10% increase Local government: at least \$90,000 Private sources (NGOs, private sector, etc.): at least \$18,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Income generated (gate tickets bought by visitors) <input type="checkbox"/> Contributions</p>	<p>National government: \$ (increase of 20% after five years) Local governments: \$0 (at least \$300,000 after five years) Private sources (NGOs, private sector, etc.): \$0 (at least \$300,000 after five years)</p>	<p>During the report period, the Government of Nicaragua, through MARENA, has made available the sum of USD 977,153.68 for the payment of staff and operative expenses in the delegations attending to the 9 protected areas encompassed by the project.</p>	S	
Component 2: Restoration of the landscape for biodiversity, resilience and local livelihoods							
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	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	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 (In protected areas of Pino caribeeae in the municipality of Prinzapolka, RACCN, in the ERPD carbon accountability area)	<p>The formulation of the REDD+ pilot initiative by a multidisciplinary team is in process. Through a set of selection criteria, 5,089 ha have been identified for forest restoration and reduction of emissions from deforestation and degradation in the Serranía de Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve. The areas of influence of the pilot project in the Alamikamba and Limbaika nature reserves are in the process of being defined. In addition, selection criteria were identified for protagonists to become part of the incentive programme.</p>	U	

	(SLM) in the Pine Corridor.					<p>The administrative procedures for the awarding of ex ante and ex post incentives are in the process of being defined.</p> <p>The spatial multicriteria analysis for the intervention proposals, statistics on current land use, intervention areas at the community level, and estimate numbers of protagonists who are going to participate, are being developed.</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>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)</p>	<p>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)</p>	<p>2,568.20 ha under restoration practices being implemented in the Pinus oocarpa and Pinus patula sub. sp. tecunumani Corridor in the Northern Region, corresponding to 51% of the mid-term target.</p> <p>The total number of protagonists is 529 (312 men and 217 women), 11 of these being indigenous (6 men and 5 women).</p> <p>The new landscape restoration strategy defined by MARENA plans to increase the areas to be restored and naturally regenerated, in order to reach the targets. Sustainable landscape restoration initiatives will be designed and can be implemented by formal and informal organisations, such as: Drinking Water and Sanitation Committees (CAPS); Micro-watershed Committees; agroforestry, forestry and artisan cooperatives; existing organised groups involving youth and women working on the sustainable management of natural resources and/or environmental protection; women's associations or collectives; mestizo, indigenous and Afrodescendant communities; all promoting the participation</p>	<p>MS</p>

						of men and women from their formulation phase.	
Component 3. Incorporation of biodiversity and resilient landscapes into the institutional and development sectors.							
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	Indicator 9: Progress towards the goals of the five strategic thrusts of the 2015-2020 National Biodiversity Strategy (in percentage)	0	At least 10% has been contributed to each of the thrusts	At least 25% has been contributed to each of the thrusts	Contributions are made to three central themes and four strategic targets of the National Biodiversity Strategy and its Action Plan 2015-2020: (i) Improved education (targets 1 and 13): Environmental education programme in the 9 PAs; 21 environmental fairs held to continue improving education by instilling new values of love, care, protection and sustainable use of biodiversity, in this era with new realities, higher conscience, more strength and more conviction. The Ministry of Education (MINED), the Ministry of Family, Community, Cooperative and Associative Economy (MEFCCA), the Nicaraguan Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA), and the local governments of the 9 PAs participated in these fairs. (ii) Conservation and restoration measures (target 4): In the framework of the national strategy “Green, how I want you green”, 229 nurseries were established with 202,443 plants to be used in the selected areas for prioritised landscape restoration. The community nurseries will guarantee the availability of native species that are adapted to the area. 62 farm restoration plans and 18 community restoration subprojects are being implemented. The participatory formulation of 37 new farm plans (753.49 ha) and 9 subprojects	S	

						<p>(1,336.82 ha) has been promoted, benefiting 279 protagonists in total (146 men and 133 women). These include community-based measures for the conservation and restoration of flora, fauna, water and forests, in and outside of protected areas of each place and community. These measures will be implemented in the second half of 2023.</p> <p>The Landscape Restoration Strategy has been designed on the basis of the prioritisation of sites according to the soil potential in the project area of intervention. The new project interventions will focus on these new sites, applying protagonist selection criteria with special emphasis on the inclusion of women and research on ancestral, cultural and biodiversity-related aspects.</p> <p>(iii) Identification, promotion and implementation of economic alternatives for communities:</p> <p>9 business plans or models have been designed and will be implemented in the PAs, identifying sources and types of interventions.</p> <p>In addition, to this date (first and second report period), incentives have been handed out to 682 community protagonists, to contribute to the improvement of their livelihoods and to the project restoration and conservation targets.</p>	
		Indicator 10: Institutional agendas and	0	At least 50% of each type of stakeholder	At least 90% of the institutions and	National institutions (MINED, INAFOR, IPISA, MARENA, INTUR, MIFAM, MEFCCA, MAG, Ecological Battalion of the	S

		development plans looking at biodiversity and resilient landscapes with a gender and intercultural focus		have incorporated biodiversity and landscape restoration in their agendas and plans. Stakeholders: central government institutions, regional and local government institutions	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	National Army, and National Police), municipal governments through their Environmental Units, NGOs (APRODEIN; ONGAWA), Guardabarranco Environmentalist Movement, Indigenous Territorial Government, and universities (FAREM; UNI-RUACS) are active members of the 9 Management Collaborative Committees. Each of their work plans include actions related to biodiversity management and landscape restoration. Together with the Ministry of Education, the capacities of the staff of protected areas in the project territory are being enhanced, to ensure that the educational actions have a focus on biodiversity, gender and interculturality. Furthermore, learning material about biodiversity and protected areas has been designed for MINED teachers and students in the project area.	
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 of species-specific protection plans	A handbook for the monitoring of biodiversity has been prepared and the technical staff of the project has been trained on how to apply the handbook in the project area of influence. In total, 8 technicians (6 men and 2 women) of the MARENA Territorial Delegations (Siuna, Nueva Segovia, Estelí, Madriz and Matagalpa) have received training. The first mapping of the wildlife connectivity has been made. The biological monitoring report on flagship species has been prepared as part of the impact assessments of Tropical Storm Bonnie and Hurricane Julia.	S

		<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 (Caretto caretto), quetzal (Pharomachrus mocinno) Plants: 2 species Pinus maximinoi Pinus patula ssp tecunumanii Tropical humid forest Birds: 2 species white heron (Ardea alba), wild duck (Anas platyrhynchos) Plants: 2 species pine (Pinus caribeeae) papta palm (Acoelorrhaphe wrightii)</p>	<p>Dry forest Birds: 2 species woodpecker (Caretto caretto), quetzal (Pharomachrus mocinno) Plants: 2 species Pinus maximinoi Pinus patula ssp tecunumanii Tropical humid forest Birds: 2 species white heron (Ardea alba), wild duck (Anas platyrhynchos) Plants: 2 species pine (Pinus caribeeae) papta palm (Acoelorrhaphe wrightii)</p>	<p>Dry forest Birds: 2 species woodpecker (Caretto caretto), quetzal (Pharomachrus mocinno) Plants: 2 species Pinus maximinoi Pinus patula ssp tecunumanii Tropical humid forest Birds: 2 species white heron (Ardea alba), wild duck (Anas platyrhynchos) Plants: 2 species pine (Pinus caribeeae) papta palm (Acoelorrhaphe wrightii)</p>	<p>9 biodiversity baselines have been prepared, one for each PA in the project area of influence; during monitoring events, sightings of indicator species of birds and flora have been reported.</p> <p>A monitoring visit was made to the Tepesomoto Nature Reserve by 20 men and 20 women.</p> <p>In the period between May 15 and November 30, 2022 6 monitoring visits were made for the first mapping of ecological connectivity in 6 of the 9 protected areas: Serranías de Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve, Cerro Alamikamba Nature Reserve, Cerro Quiabuc-Las Brisas Nature Reserve, Cerro Tisey-La Estanzuela Nature Reserve, Tepesomoto-La Pataste Nature Reserve, and Cerro Tomabú Nature Reserve.</p> <p>Sighted species:</p> <p>a) Dry forest flora: <i>Pinus maximinoi</i> <i>Pinus patula ssp tecunumanii</i></p> <p>b) Rain forest flora: <i>Pinus caribeeae</i></p> <p>c) Dry forest fauna: <i>Celeus castaneus</i> <i>Odocoileus virginianus</i> <i>Zenaida asiatica</i></p> <p>d) Rain forest fauna: <i>Ardea alba</i> <i>Anhinga anhinga</i></p>	<p>S</p>
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Measures taken to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings on Section 2

Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action(s) to be taken 	By whom?	By when?
<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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the landscape restoration strategy Implementation of the monitoring of areas under landscape restoration management Implementation of the graphic monitoring of interventions (maps) with georeferenced data A multitemporal analysis of the soil cover to evaluate the degree of ecosystem conservation. Registration of the GEF OnTrack monitoring platform 	MARENA	July 2023 – June 2024
	<p>Indicator 5.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participatory creation of the annual work plans for the 9 protected areas, on the basis of the five-year management plan Application of GEF monitoring tools (tracking tool core indicator) and the form to measure the effectiveness of the management of protected areas (Ministerial Resolution 38-2008) Implementation of the business plans for the protected areas and negotiation of collaboration agreements or conventions, starting with municipal governments Registration of the GEF OnTrack monitoring platform 	MARENA	July 2023 – June 2024
<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) in the Pine Corridor..</p>	<p>Indicator 7.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the pilot programme for the reduction of emissions in prioritized territories in the North Caribbean Coast Autonomous Region and Central-Northern Region of the country: application of the Landscape Restoration Strategy with REDD+ approach, selection of protagonists and incentive mechanisms Registration of the GEF OnTrack monitoring platform 	MARENA-FAO	July 2023 – June 2024
	<p>Indicator 8.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start of the implementation of the Landscape Restoration Strategy (formulation, review, approval and start of sustainable restoration initiatives); target for the restoration of degraded landscapes: 4,086 ha, and 16,272 ha with potential for emissions reduction through avoided deforestation Implementation of graphic monitoring of interventions (maps) with georeferenced data Registration of the GEF OnTrack monitoring platform. 	MARENA	July 2023 – June 2024
	<p>Indicator 12.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of the capacity-building of the technical field team and sentinel community brigades in the monitoring of biodiversity in protected areas and ecological corridors Training of project technicians and all stakeholders on the Biodiversity Monitoring Handbook 	MARENA	Julio 2023-junio 2024.

Measures taken to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings on Section 2			
Outcome	• Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration of the GEF OnTrack monitoring platform 		

3. Implementation Progress (IP)

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

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
Outcome 1.1: 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	Indicator 4: Area (ha) under habitat conservation for biodiversity, adaptation and livelihoods in protected areas, with the participation of indigenous and nonindigenous men and women.	85 farm plans and 17 subprojects	6,068 ha established through the implementation of 62 farm plans (2,139.38 ha) and 18 subprojects (3,929.48 ha), benefiting 682 protagonists (397 men and 285 women) 37 new farm plans (753.49 ha) and 9 subprojects (1,336.82 ha) formulated, benefiting 279 protagonists (146 men and 133 women)	New MARENA landscape restoration strategy formulated for the intervention in the territory, with the aim of increasing areas to restore and preserve
	Indicator 5: Improved planning, management and monitoring capacity in nine protected areas in accordance with MARENA's management effectiveness tool Ministerial Resolution 38 2008.	Execution of the operations plan of each protected area 27 workshops 1 gender workshop	9 PA management plans with their indicative AOPs under implementation. Each plan is made operational by the community members, in coordination with the CMC and volunteer programme. Environmental education programme under implementation in the 9 PAs, centred on the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 577 protagonists (45% women) with knowledge about the legal framework for PAs and the management and prevention of forest and agricultural fires, in the PAs: Alamikamba Nature Reserve, Limbaika Nature Reserve, Tisey-La Estanzuela Nature Reserve, Yucul Genetic Reserve, Serranía de Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve, Tomabú Nature Reserve and Tepesomoto- 	12 workshops were reprogrammed for the second half of 2023; actions in nurseries and the formulation of subprojects were prioritised The session of the technical committee was reprogrammed for the second half of 2023.

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.

<p>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>5 workshops to exchange experiences in the context of the International Women's Day</p> <p>3 workshops with ethnic groups</p> <p>Training on the conservation of</p>	<p>La Patate Nature Reserve. Training processes on fire prevention and control are supported by INAFOR, Firefighters and Ecological Battalion of the National Army of Nicaragua.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 39 community protagonists and public servants (46% women) trained in the implementation of the gender and interculturality approach ▪ Promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment through 5 meetings with 130 protagonists (96% women), who shared lessons learned and achievements in the context of the project, particularly relating to the participatory formulation of 126 community initiatives and/or farm plans, and the start of the implementation of 80 community initiatives and/or farm plans: Alamikamba Nature Reserve, Limbaika Nature Reserve, Tepesomoto-La Paste Nature Reserve, Somoto Canyon National Monument, Tisey-La Estanzuela Nature Reserve, Tomabu Nature Reserve, Cerro Quiabuc-Las Brisas Nature Reserve, Yucul Genetic Reserve and Serranía Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve ▪ Promotion of interculturality, strengthening the ancestral world vision through activities such as: preparation of typical dishes and costumes, indigenous dances in various celebrations and festivities taking place in Alamikamba Nature Reserve, Limbaika Nature Reserve, Serranía Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve, community of Yucul Central in the Yucul Genetic Reserve and the communities La Sabana and San José de Cusmapa, Tepesomoto-La Paste Nature Reserve, through events for the recovery of ancestral traditions (34 men and 30 women) ▪ 117 protagonists (93% women) of the PAs Serranía de Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve, Alamikamba 	
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		<p>pine and quercus</p> <p>9 CMC sessions</p> <p>1 session of the steering committee and one of the technical committee</p>	<p>Nature Reserve and Tomabu Nature Reserve trained in the protection of pines and quercus, and in the monitoring of biodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 9 Management Collaborative Committees were formed on a participatory basis, one for each protected area. 227 protagonists (30% women) belong to ethnic groups; 59% are mestizo, 13% Chorotega and 28% Miskito. ▪ Session of the Steering Committee held in December 2022 with the participation of MARENA, INAFOR, MEFCCA, SCC, Nicaraguan Army, INTUR and FAO (9 men and 15 women) ▪ Session of the Technical Committee held in February 2023, with the participation of MARENA, INIFOM, MHCP, SCCP, SDCC, MAG, ANA, INAFOR, MEFCCA, INATEC, INTUR, IPSA and FAO. 	
	<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>During the report period, The Government of Nicaragua, through MARENA, allocated USD 977,153.68 for the management of the 9 PAs, specifically for the payment of staff and operative expenses in the delegations attending to the 9 protected areas encompassed by the project.</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</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>	<p>Hiring of a team of REDD+ specialists Design of strategy for implementation of REDD+ pilot initiative</p>	<p>The formulation of the REDD+ pilot initiative by a multidisciplinary team is in process. Through a set of selection criteria, 5,089 ha have been identified for forest restoration and reduction of emissions from deforestation and degradation for the Serranía de Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve. The definition of the areas of influence of the pilot initiative in the Alamikamba and Limbaika Nature Reserves is in process.</p> <p>Criteria for the selection of protagonists for the incentive programme have been identified.</p> <p>The definition of administrative procedures for the awarding of ex ante and ex post incentives is being analysed.</p>	<p>The implementation of the incentive system will start in the second half of 2023.</p>

<p>project and sustainable land management (SLM) in the Pine Corridor. ****</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>The formulation of 85 farm plans and 17 subprojects has been programmed</p>	<p>The spatial multicriteria analysis for intervention proposals, statistics on current land use, community areas intervened, estimates of number of participating protagonists are being developed.</p> <p>Durante el periodo de reporte se formularon 31 planes de finca y 7 subproyectos, que iniciaran implementación en el segundo semestre de 2023.</p> <p>También se formularon 2 subproyectos para la RN Alamikamba – Limbaika y 6 planes de finca para la RN Alamikamba.</p> <p>En implementación 18 subproyectos (13 en el corredor del pino) y 62 planes de finca (34 en el corredor del pino) formulados y aprobados en el periodo de reporte anterior, beneficiando un total de 529 protagonistas (312 hombres y 217 mujeres) de estos 11 protagonistas son parte de comunidades indígenas (6 hombres y 5 mujeres).</p>	<p>An intervention strategy for the territory to increase intervention areas is being designed.</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>Line i: 10 environmental fairs</p> <p>Line ii: 85 farm plans and 17 subprojects</p>	<p>The contribution to the following three strategic themes has been identified:</p> <p><u>Línea i: Mejora en la educación:</u></p> <p>10 environmental fairs have been held to continue improving education by instilling new values of love, care, protection and sustainable use of biodiversity, in this era with new realities, higher conscience, more strength and more conviction. 723 protagonists participated, 56% being women and 24% members of indigenous communities. Limbaika Nature Reserve, Serranía Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve, Alamikamba Nature Reserve, Tisey-La Estanzuela Nature Reserve, Cerro Quiabuc-Las Brisas Nature Reserve, Yucul Genetic Reserve, Tepesomoto-La Pataste Nature Reserve and Tomabú Nature Reserve</p> <p><u>Line ii: Conservation and restoration measures:</u></p> <p>62 farm plans and 18 subprojects under implementation, 37 farm plans and 9 subprojects formulated for the application of community-based measures to conserve and</p>	<p>3 of 5 lines of work have been identified.</p> <p>The formulation of farm plans and subprojects has been reprogrammed due to the drafting of a new</p>

		<p>Equipment for PA rangers</p> <p>38 nurseries</p> <p>Line iii: Consultancy to identify financing mechanisms for PAs</p> <p>34 workshops to identify sustainable economic initiatives</p>	<p>restore flora, fauna, water and forests, inside and outside of protected areas, in each place and community.</p> <p>The purchase of equipment for 6 PA rangers is being evaluated.</p> <p>In this report period, 110 forest nurseries have been established with a production of 187,243 plants.</p> <p><u>Line iii: Identification, promotion and implementation of community-based economic alternatives</u></p> <p>Financing mechanisms have been identified for the management of the 9 protected areas, based on financing plans and business plans which help to prioritise sources and mechanisms that contribute to their sustainability, obtaining the following products: a) financial background, b) identification of financing needs, c) financing strategy, d) financial monitoring, and e) business plans for each protected area.</p> <p>2 participatory workshops for the formulation of subprojects or sustainable initiatives</p> <p>Incentives awarded to 682 protagonists of subprojects or community initiatives</p>	<p>landscape restoration strategy</p> <p>Rangers will receive equipment in the second half of 2023</p> <p>The formulation of new initiatives has been reprogrammed due to the drafting of a new strategy</p>
	<p>Indicator 10: Institutional agendas and development plans looking at biodiversity and resilient landscapes with a gender and intercultural focus</p>	<p>Cuatro sesiones con CNU y SNPCC.</p>	<p>Strengthening the capacities of Ministry of Education personnel in the areas of incidence of the project so that the actions developed have a focus on biodiversity, gender and interculturality.</p> <p>Preparation of support material on biodiversity and protected areas for the management of teachers and students of the MINED in the areas of incidence of the project.</p>	<p>Without any changes</p>
<p>Outcome 4.1: Species of</p>	<p>Indicator 11: Participatory system for biodiversity M&E</p>	<p>9 workshops</p>	<p>Workshop held to build capacities in the use of an “instrument for biodiversity monitoring”, with the aim of</p>	<p>The other events have been</p>

<p>interest or ecosystem indicators monitored</p>		<p>Instrument and handbook for participatory monitoring of biodiversity designed</p>	<p>creating conditions for the taxa monitoring system in the protected areas encompassed by the Project.</p> <p>Handbook designed for the participatory monitoring of biodiversity, as a basis for operational monitoring plans in protected areas.</p>	<p>reprogrammed for the second half of 2023</p>
	<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>12 biodiversity monitoring visits</p>	<p>12 monitoring visits made to prepare the first mapping of ecological connectivity for the period between May 15 and November 30, 2022, in 6 of the 9 protected areas encompassed by the GEF 6 project: Serranías de Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve, Alamikamba Nature Reserve, Cerro Quiabuc-Las Brisas Nature Reserve, Tisey-La Estanzuela Nature Reserve, Tepesomoto-La Pataste Nature Reserve, and Tomabú Nature Reserve.</p> <p>Connectivity maps of the project area have been developed.</p>	<p>Without any changes</p>

4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

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

Through the formulated farm plans and subprojects, landscape restoration systems will be implemented on 6,068 ha; the first round of incentives was awarded to 682 protagonists (397 men and 285 women), 31% of which belong to indigenous and Afrodescendant peoples, 69% are mestizo.

42% of female protagonists and 30% of indigenous protagonists were economically empowered by environmental incentives for forest conservation and restoration.

9 new subprojects (2,090.31 ha) were formulated on a participatory basis (146 men and 133 women, belonging to indigenous and Afrodescendant peoples (13%) and Mestizos (87%)). These incentives will be awarded in the second half of 2023.

9 financing and business plans have been created, allowing for the prioritisation of sources and mechanisms that contribute to the sustainability of the protected areas.

Contributions are made to three strategic themes of the 2015-2020 National Strategy for Biological Diversity: (i) Continued improvement of education by instilling new values of love, care, protection and sustainable use of biodiversity, in this era with new realities, higher conscience, more strength and more conviction; (ii) Implementation of measures for the conservation and restoration of flora, fauna, water and forests, in and outside of protected areas, each place and community, ensuring popular participation, and (iii) Identification, promotion and implementation of community-based economic alternatives for the well-being of Nicaraguan families, on the basis of sustainable use of biological diversity and sustainable farming systems, e.g. agroecology, sustainable tourism and fishing, to guarantee food security and sovereignty.

The MARENA Landscape Restoration Strategy was drafted and will be implemented in the project, allowing for the increase of areas under measures of conservation and landscape restoration of prioritised areas in the ecological corridors through systems for natural, forest, agroforestry, silvopastoral regeneration, which will also contribute to enhance livelihoods. These initiatives will improve natural ecosystems and landscapes with a focus on environmental, social and economic sustainability. Priority will be given to initiatives implemented by women and those related to research topics. An International Specialist in Incentives for the reduction of emissions and forest restorations was hired. The priority area for the REDD+ pilot initiative was reviewed and approved. The Design of the REDD+ Initiative was started, based on consultations with potential beneficiaries in prioritised areas, including the design of the incentive, potential risks, and associated social and environmental benefits.

3,130 protagonists (1,584 men and 1,546 women) have been trained in themes related to gender, interculturality and ethnic groups, protection of pine and quercus, prevention of forest fires, management of nurseries and soil and water conservation techniques.

The main obstacle to the inclusion of women is lack of land ownership, as most of the land is owned by men. In the framework of the new restoration strategy, this constraint was taken into consideration; therefore, when forming groups of community members to present sustainable restoration initiatives, criteria will be included to increase the number of women benefiting from 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.

	FY2023 Development Objective rating¹⁵	FY2023 Implementation Progress rating¹⁶	Comments/reasons¹⁷ justifying the ratings for FY2023 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	S	S	<p>In the second year of the project, 62 farm plans and 18 subprojects have been implemented, attending to 682 direct protagonists and with the active participation of the community, women, men, children, youth, teachers, as well as of the institutions of the System of Production, Consumption and Commerce, municipal, indigenous territorial and regional governments, which are part of the Management Collaborative Committee.</p> <p>The establishment of 110 community-based nurseries has allowed for the development of actions to guarantee the restoration of resources in the 9 protected areas.</p> <p>Actions aimed at the transformation of environmental awareness, e.g. talks, trainings, environmental fairs and festivals, have allowed to develop knowledge about the care for, conservation and restoration of PAs.</p> <p>The participation of women increased in the period June 2022 to June 2023, reaching 418 protagonists in total, thereby achieving over 100% of the target set by the project.</p> <p>Strategies were drafted for the development of new initiatives which allow for higher community participation in various themes related to restoration, conservation, as well as scientific-educational research inside the PAs, Ecological Corridors and Buffer Zones.</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

<p>Budget Holder</p>	<p>S</p>	<p>S</p>	<p>During the reporting period, the project achieved the execution of 96.77% of the planned budget and made progress in the review/update of its strategies aimed at ensuring the promotion of global environmental benefits: a) the landscape restoration strategy based on the use potential of the soil, to increase the number of hectares of natural restoration and regeneration, designing sustainable restoration initiatives that can be implemented by formal and non-formal organizations, b) the REDD+ pilot strategy/initiative that has a set of prioritization criteria of areas for forest restoration and reduction of emissions from deforestation and degradation, and c) baseline and monitoring guide for biodiversity in the 9 AP.</p> <p>It also contributed to the implementation of three axes and four goals of the National Biodiversity Strategy and its 2015-2020 Action Plan: a) Improvement in environmental education (21 environmental fairs held), b) Conservation and restoration (229 nurseries established; 62 farm restoration plans and 18 subprojects are being implemented for a total of 6,068 hectares, and 37 farm plans are being formulated, 09 subprojects representing 2,090.31 ha, and c) community economic alternatives (9 business plans or models for PAs, identifying sources and types of investment)</p> <p>Finally, 9 Collaborative Management Committees were formed as the main instances of governance in PA (30% participation of women in decision-making positions) and key actors in the implementation of the Management Plans and multi-year POAs formulated/updated in the previous period. . Within the framework of these committees, a volunteer program is promoted that has facilitated the formation and training of 9 brigades (90 community) for the prevention and control of forest and agricultural fires, 9 brigades (188 community) of sentinel environmental observers, the promotion of environmental education actions such as talks and events, the development of training processes on environmental, social and gender issues (53% participation of women) and the empowerment of 285 women (out of 682 protagonists) who received direct incentives environmental (vegetative and non-vegetative material) for the establishment of environmental restoration systems through farm plans and subprojects.</p> <p>The challenge for the next period is to move more quickly in the interventions so that they can get closer to the goals of the project, start the piloting of REDD+ incentives, effectively monitor the progress of the first generation of farm plans and subprojects and Prepare for the Mid-Term Review of the project.</p>

GEF Operational Focal Point¹⁸	S	S	<p>Assessing the progress achieved in the project indicators in the evaluated period, it is considered necessary to prepare an improvement plan that allows streamlining the processes and actions to achieve the expected results, in view of the preparation of the Mid-Term Review of the project.</p> <p>It is important that the role of the implementing agency be examined to determine the appropriate technical advice and specialized issues that accompany the country in raising the quality of implementation.</p>
Lead Technical Officer¹⁹	MS	MS	<p>The project has advanced in the definition of some aspects of the implementation strategy. It is necessary to ensure that all its elements (REDD+ strategy for payment by outcomes, farm plans and subprojects, ensure the promotion of the project's global environmental benefits, where biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management and emissions reduction can converge. To this end, ensuring clearness in the creation of ecological corridors where these elements converge will be key to guarantee the outcomes. The work with municipal governments and brigades has to be recorded and promoted as good practice.</p>
GEF Technical Officer, GTO (ex Technical FLO)	MS	MS	<p>In the report period, the project has made progress in the 62 farm plans and 18 subprojects, as well as in the implementation of the management plans for the protected areas. However, it is important to review whether these advances fit into a logic of corridors and farming landscapes that allows for the advancement toward the achievement of the outcome linked to the decrease of pressure on the protected areas and the promotion of connectivity. The REDD strategy and the multicriteria analysis, for example, will allow to combine the strategy of payment for outcomes with the threats to the ecosystems and existing protected areas; therefore, it is important to combine this multicriteria analysis with the farm plans and subprojects to be developed.</p> <p>Another key element is the work of the volunteer wildfire brigades. This work could be made more effective for the volunteers and involved institutions with some early warning mobile app.</p> <p>It is necessary to draft a strategy for speedier execution of financial resources through field work.</p>

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.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

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

Please describe the progress made to comply with the approved ESM plan. Note that only projects with **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. Please indicate if new risks have emerged during this FY.

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
ESS 1: Natural Resource 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 framework is taken as a reference guiding the actions in the PAs and the Management Plan of each PA in the planning of interventions including the use and management of natural resources in the 9 protected areas in the project territory.	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 using the sustainable land management approach.	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	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 framework is taken as a reference guiding the actions in the PAs and the Management Plan of each PA in the planning of interventions including the use and management of natural resources in the 9 protected areas in the project territory.	Project and FAO technical unit.

	view, the Project ensures there is compliance with soil, forest, 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 framework is taken as a reference guiding the actions in the PAs and the Management Plan of each PA in the planning of interventions including the use and management of natural resources in the 9 protected areas in the project territory, as well as the technical guidelines for the establishment of Environmental Restoration Systems.	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	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 framework is taken as a reference guiding the actions in the PAs and the Management Plan of each PA in the planning of interventions including the use and management of natural resources in the 9 protected areas in the project territory.	Project and FAO technical unit.

	<p>silvopastoral techniques that employ sustainable management approaches. It also fosters good environmental practices by holding awareness-raising activities.</p>			
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
<p>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 agrochemicals for pest control purposes.</p>	<p>The Project implements good environmental practices as concerns pest control. It promotes environment-friendly practices by holding fairs and permanent 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>Implementation of the national environmental framework in all the Project's actions, works and activities in protected areas, following PA management guidelines and regulations.</p>	<p>The environmental framework is taken as a reference guiding the actions in the PAs and the Management Plan of each PA in the planning of interventions including the use and management of natural resources in the 9 protected areas in the project territory, as well as the technical guidelines for the adequate management of plantations to control pests.</p>	<p>Project and FAO technical unit.</p>
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
<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</p>	<p>The Project ensures compliance with the national legal framework regarding land ownership in PAs.</p>	<p>Among the selection criteria for sites to implement the project are the verification of land ownership and that the proposed activities are in accordance with the zoning of the area.</p>	<p>Project and FAO technical unit.</p>

	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.			
ESS 7: Decent Work				
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.	The Project implements measures that enhance security by providing equipment and tools as needed to ensure the safety of Project protagonists.	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.	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 emphasis on the active participation of women and the young in each of the activities undertaken.	Project and FAO technical unit.
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	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	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	Project and FAO technical unit.

	guaranteeing direct and equitable benefits.	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.	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.	
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 territories in the Caribbean region. Nationwide, 59% of the country's forests are in indigenous territories.	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 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	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 autonomous governments and Indigenous peoples on the Pacific living in the Project's areas of influence.	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 gender and Indigenous people all of its activities, without exclusion.	Project and FAO technical unit.
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	The Project implements measures that ensure that the interventions in PAs are scheduled in such a manner that they fit in with	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	Project and FAO technical unit.

actions and guides decision-making in order reorient planned activities.	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		management in its area of intervention.	
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In case the project did not include an ESM Plan at CEO endorsement stage, please indicate:

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

<i>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.</i>

²⁰ **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit (Esm-unit@fao.org) should be contacted. The project shall prepare or amend an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) or other ESS instruments and management tools based on the new risk classification (please refer to page 13 <https://www.fao.org/3/cb9870en/cb9870en.pdf>)

6. Risks

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

	Type of risk	Risk rating 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 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 (12) field technicians of which one (1) is a woman. The team includes experts in biodiversity, monitoring and follow-up, gender and indigenous people ENDE-REDD+ pilot incentive project, and geographic information systems specialist, 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	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.	In each protected area, the project has formed community-based groups for the prevention and control of forest fires, of environmental observers and sentinel monitors, in order to strengthen the protected areas encompassed by the project. The creation of these groups in some cases includes capacity-building by handing over equipment and tools to facilitate the exercise	

	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
	owners that must be maintained over time.				of their functions. Capacity-building is also offered to these community-based organisations in the form of training workshops on fire prevention, monitoring of biodiversity, gender and indigenous peoples, and others.	
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	

	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
					acquisitions take place in full compliance with the Public Sector Administrative Contracting Law (Law 737).	
5	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.	M	Y	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: (a) A sectoral planning and coordination process will be supported in the corridor areas; (b) Mechanisms that increase the sustainability of project investments will be defined and implemented; and (c) Local stakeholder participation agreements will be integrated into the design and implementation of subprojects.	9 management plans are being executed with their short and medium term implementation plans. Each PA has community-based volunteer forest fire prevention brigades and environmental observers. Financing mechanisms for the management of the 9 protected areas have been identified	
6	Climate change: The restoration and conservation activities of forests, habitats and biodiversity can be seriously affected by adverse effects of climate change, for	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.	8,953 ha receive direct investments from the project and protagonists for their conservation, restoration and natural regeneration. The number of technicians in the field has been increased (table 8)	

	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
	example, the presence of drought, high temperatures that can cause fires as well as the death of different endangered species.			The activities will include coordination with the National Climate Change Response System (SNRCC).		

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

FY2022 rating	FY2023 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2023 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
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)

If the project had an MTR or a supervision mission, please report on how the recommendations were implemented during this fiscal year as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented <u>during this Fiscal Year</u>
Recommendation 1:	
Recommendation 2:	
Recommendation 3:	
Recommendation.....	
Recommendation.....	
Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please summarize	

8. Minor project amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy 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	Increase in the number of field technicians	Work Plan 2023	FAO-MARENA
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 minor project amendment (define)			

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	Type of partnership	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement
Government institutions			
MARENA	Executing agency	Capacity-building for: technicians of the System for Production, Consumption and Commerce, protagonists, forest fire brigades and environmental observers; investments for the restoration and conservation of degraded areas in 9 protected areas	
MEFCCA	Co-Executing agency	<p>The technical staff collaborates in environmental fairs and training events and participates in the Management Collaborative Committees of the PAs.</p> <p>The Executive Management participates in the Project Steering Committee and technical committee.</p>	
INAFOR	Co-Executing agency	<p>The technical staff collaborates in environmental fairs and training events and participates in the Management Collaborative Committees of the PAs.</p> <p>The Executive Management participates in the Project Steering Committee and technical committee.</p> <p>INAFOR has supported the creation and training of brigades for the prevention and control of forest and agricultural fires.</p>	

<p>IPSA</p>	<p>Co-Executing agency</p>	<p>The technical staff collaborates in environmental fairs and training events, and participates in the Management Collaborative Committees of the PAs.</p> <p>The Executive Management participates in the Project Steering Committee and technical committee.</p> <p>Support was given by IPSA to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The verification of the quality of plant material delivered during the implementation of the subprojects, at field level as well as in the laboratory. b) The verification in the field of the purchase of beehives. The project protagonists' capacities were enhanced for the establishment of beekeeping nodes, specifically in the subproject "Improvement of ecological conditions in 18 farms located in the Cerro Quiabuc-Las Brisas Nature Reserve in the Department of Estel". 	
<p>INTUR</p>	<p>Co-Executing agency</p>	<p>Participation in environmental fairs, member of the protected area management committees, Project Steering Committee and Technical Committee of the Project.</p> <p>In the framework of the subproject "Management of agroforestry systems for the improvement of ecological conditions in the</p>	

		ecological pine corridor in the Cerro Quiabuc-Las Brisas Nature Reserve”, INTUR offers assistance in the definition of ecotourism trails.	
Municipal governments of: Prinzapolka, Somoto, San José de Cusmapa, San Lucas, Mozonte, San Fernando, San Ramón, San Nicolás, Estelí, La Sabana, Dipilto, La Trinidad and El Sauce	Co-Executing agency	They collaborate with the transport of materials for the subprojects, participate actively in capacity-building activities on the legal framework of PAs and on fire prevention and control, the planning and implementation of subprojects, and collaborate in the formulation of business plans for the protected areas.	
NGOs²³			
Association of Nicaraguan Professionals for Comprehensive Development (APRODEIN)	Participant	Exchange event to share experiences in payments for carbon removal, in the framework of the formulation of the project’s REDD+ pilot proposal	
Private sector entities			
Tobacco Company Plascencia Cigars	Participant	Active participation in the sessions of the Management Collaborative Committees, trainings on legal framework, monitoring of biodiversity, fire prevention and control, planning and implementation of farm plans and subprojects, and collaboration in the formulation of business plans for the 2 protected areas	
	Participant		
Others²⁴			

²³ Non-government organizations

²⁴ 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

<p>Prinzu Awala Indigenous Territorial Government</p>	<p>Co-ejecutor</p>	<p>They actively participate in the sessions of the Management Collaborative Committees, trainings on legal framework, monitoring of biodiversity, fire prevention and control, planning and implementation of farm plans and subprojects, and collaboration in the formulation of business plans for the protected areas, and in the consultations for the updating of the Gender and Indigenous Peoples Action Plans for the project.</p>	
<p>Indigenous peoples of Cusmapa, Mozonte, San Lucas, Matagalpa</p>	<p>Co-ejecutor</p>	<p>They actively participate in the sessions of the Management Collaborative Committees, trainings on legal framework, monitoring of biodiversity, fire prevention and control, planning and implementation of farm plans and subprojects, and collaboration in the formulation of business plans for the protected areas, and in the consultations for the updating of the Gender and Indigenous Peoples Action Plans for the project.</p>	
<p><i>New stakeholders identified</i></p>			

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) during this reporting period.

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 Gender Action Plan has been updated on the basis of the MARENA Institutional Gender Plan.
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	Yes	<p>Inclusion of women in trainings on environmental, social and gender topics (participation rate: 53%). These trainings contribute to the establishment of environmental incentives, increased participation of women in decision-making bodies, as well as their economic empowerment.</p> <p>Economic empowerment: 285 women (of 682 protagonists in total) received direct environmental incentives (plant and non-plant material) for the establishment of environmental restoration systems through farm plans and subprojects.</p> <p>Governance: in the protected areas there are 9 Management Collaborative Committees (participation rate: 30%), 37 women are members of the boards of directors, with decision-making posts, e.g. deputy coordinators, treasurers and secretaries. These women participate in the identification, formulation and implementation of PA management plans, farm plans and subprojects.</p>
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	<p>Award of environmental incentives (plant and non-plant material) for forest conservation and restoration to 285 women and 397 men.</p> <p>An impact analysis of the actions implemented by the project to reduce gender gaps is planned.</p>
b) improving women's participation and decision making	Yes	68 women are members of the Management Collaborative Committees of the Protected Areas. Of these, 37 are members of the boards of directors, with decision-making posts, e.g. deputy coordinators, treasurers and secretaries. These women participate in the identification, formulation and implementation of the PA management plans, farm plans and subprojects. These women participate in the identification, formulation and implementation of PA management plans, farm plans and subprojects.
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	285 women have received environmental incentives and are implementing environmental restoration systems that contribute to the enhancement of their livelihoods.

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M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Yes	Protagonists are registered in a single registration form with their core family, identifying the head of the family and the dependants by sex and age. This form is administered in the OnTrack GEF platform.
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	The PIU includes a gender and indigenous peoples specialist.
Any other good practices on gender	Yes	Capacity-building of MARENA technicians (20 men and 18 women living in project area of influence) on gender analysis, awareness-raising for addressing gender issues in the project actions and implementation of the action plan.

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>	
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>Yes.</p> <p>A good practice is the creation of the 9 fire prevention brigades, one for each protected area, and the training of their 90 members. These protagonists are receiving equipment and training through talks and workshops on the prevention and control of forest and agricultural fires. Throughout the project, capacities will also be built on the use of the equipment and on additional prevention and control measures.</p> <p>Another practice favouring the management of the PAs is the organisation of 188 protagonists in 9 groups of young sentinel observers, who participate in patrols to monitor biodiversity. During the project life cycle, they will be trained on the use of the handbook for biodiversity monitoring and on how to identify indicator species in each PA.</p>
Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year .	<p>The project's communication actions are being promoted through the MARENA communication strategy, through local and national media using web page and social network tools.</p> <p>The activities have been continuously disseminated. The main challenge is to develop effective Knowledge Management based on the systematisation of the various participatory communication processes developed through most significant change stories of protagonists..</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.	
Please provide links to related website, social media account	<p>https://www.marena.gob.ni/ https://www.facebook.com/marenanicaragua/ https://twitter.com/MarenaNicaragua https://www.instagram.com/marenanicaragua/ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaO7XFy8JSVTNZxMwDH60yQ</p>
Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.	<p>PA management plans: https://www.marena.gob.ni/planes-de-manejo/ Álbum de áreas protegidas: https://www.marena.gob.ni/album-areas-protegidas/#1626291683037-86073b6b-b07c</p> <p>Forest fire primer: available in physical version.</p>
Please indicate the Communication and/or	<p>María Consuelo Castro Sánchez Especialista en monitoreo y seguimiento</p>

knowledge management focal point's name and contact details	<u>especialistamonitoreogef6@gmail.com</u>
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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.

Yes.

The project has an Indigenous People's Plan, which is aligned with the Nicaraguan Government's national strategy on this topic, and ensures that the project actions aim at the protection and management of the natural resources and ancestral world vision of indigenous and Afrodescendant peoples living in the area of influence of the project.

In coordination with the indigenous peoples of Prinzu Awala in the Northern Caribbean Coast Region, Matagalpa, San Lucas, La Sabana, Mozonte, José de Cusmapa and San Fernando, the following actions have been developed:

- i. 30 initiatives (6 subprojects and 24 farm plans) implemented together with indigenous communities with the participation of 208 protagonists (119 Miskitos and 89 Chorotegas)
- ii. Training events were held in the Limbaika Nature Reserve, Alamikamba Nature Reserve, Tepesomoto-La Pataste Nature Reserve, Serranía de Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve, and Yucul Genetic Reserve, with the participation of 187 indigenous protagonists (106 women and 81 men).
- iii. The Free, Previous and Informed Consent regarding the subprojects and farm plans was validated.
- iv. The Indigenous Peoples Action Plan was updated.

In addition, meetings were held with indigenous women to celebrate the 8th of March (International Women's Day) with 39 indigenous female protagonists of Miskito and Chorotega origin.

Each initiative includes a method for the monitoring of the implementation plan involving the indigenous communities and their ancestral organisational structures. For the second half of 2023, events are planned to evaluate the advances in the implementation of initiatives.

13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing ²⁵	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing ²⁶	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2023	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
Government	MARENA	Recurring expense	US \$2,583,529.00	U\$ 977,153.68		US \$2,583,529.00
Government	Proyecto NIC/Solidaria. Proyecto de Adaptación al Cambio Climático Mediante el Fomento y Desarrollo de la Reforestación y Protección de los Bosques - Componente 3	Recurring expense				
Government	II Fase del Programa de Gestión Comunitaria de la cuenca del Río Dipilto.	Recurring expense, Investments	U\$ 2,500,000	U\$ 2,500,000		U\$ 2,500,000

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

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

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

Government	I Fase del Programa de Gestión Comunitaria de la cuenca del Río Dipilto.	Recurring expense, Investments	U\$ 5,500,000	U\$ 4,170,000		U\$ 5,500,000
Government	INAFOR (reported in PIR 1)	Recurring expense	U\$ 1,125,805	U\$ 5,061		U\$ 1,125,805
Government	MEFCCA (reported in PIR 1)	Recurring expense	U\$ 7,174,742	U\$ 2,850		U\$ 7,174,742
	Ejército de Nicaragua (reported in PIR 1)	Recurring expense		U\$ 1,454		
		TOTAL	U\$ 18,884,076	U\$ 7,656,518.68		

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

Included are:

- a) The contribution of the second phase of the Community Management Programme of the Dipilto River watershed, executed from 2020 to 2023; the programme implemented investments with the purpose of strengthening the social fabric of the communities, establishing systems of environmental restoration, improved water harvesting, improvements in potential water recharge areas in the Serranía de Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve (reforestation, soil conservation and demarcation works).
- b) The Nicaraguan Army contributed to the organisation and training of the brigades for the prevention of forest and agricultural fires; it also participated in field visits to determine the phytosanitary conditions and state of natural regeneration in the Limbaika and Alamikamba Nature Reserves. Its contributions to the project are in kind.
- c) NIC/Solidaria Project. Project for Adaptation to Climate Change through the Promotion and Development of Reforestation and Forest Protection – Component 3. Implementation starts in 2023, providing assistance in the identification of protagonists for the formulation of community initiatives to establish soil and water conservation works in the Serranía Dipilto y Jalapa Nature Reserve, the Cerro Quiabuc-Las Brisas Nature Reserve, the Tisey-La Estanzuela Nature Reserve and the Yucul Genetic Reserve.

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

Development Objectives Rating. A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Project is expected to achieve or exceed all its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”
Satisfactory (S)	Project is expected to achieve most of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Project is expected to achieve most of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve some of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Project is expected to achieve its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its major global environmental objectives
Unsatisfactory (U)	Project is expected not to achieve most of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, any of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits

Implementation Progress Rating. A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project’s components and activities is in compliance with the project’s approved implementation plan.	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as “good practice”
Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action.
Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

Risk rating will assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale:	
High Risk (H)	There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
Substantial Risk (S)	There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face substantial risks

Moderate Risk (M)	There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only moderate risk
Low Risk (L)	There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only low risks

Annex 2.

GEO LOCATION INFORMATION

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

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID	Location & Activity Description
Monumento Nacional Cañon de Somoto	13.45437279	-86.60068673	3616230	
Reserva natural Tepesomoto La Patasta	13.32480434	-86.60068673	3618417	
Reserva Natural Cerro Alamikamba	13.5265212	-84.18518547	3620940	
Reserva Natural Llanos de Limbaika	13.52185441	-84.04657706	3618014	
Reserva Natural Tisey La Estanzuela	12.99522513	-86.39130172	3619197	
Reserva Natural Quiabuc Las Brisas	13.10559445	-86.47089322	3618320	
Reserva Natural Cerro Tomabu	13.03136822	-86.2960529	3616015	
Reserva Natural de Recursos Geneticos de Yucul	12.91793932	-85.75287183		
Reserva Natural Serrania Dipilto- Jalapa	13.7550496	-86.36760615	3620173	
María Antonia Gutiérrez Rocha	13.0176196	-86.3582283		Plan de finca
César Martín Navarro Lazo	13.0215512	-86.3502321		Plan de finca
Apolinar Castillo Gutiérrez	13.0162813	-86.3581764		Plan de finca
Aníbal Mendoza López	13.0196522	-86.3537874		Plan de finca

Olga Maria Casco Cruz	13.0311716	-86.3500687		Plan de finca
Siriaca Sánchez Camas	13.0130618	-86.3471097		Plan de finca
Adrián Wade	13.8286154	-84.6366742		Plan de finca
Eliseo Rosales Rivera	13.4729204	-84.040939		Plan de finca
Herminia Guido Manuel	13.4729204	-84.040939		Plan de finca
Jairo Wade Stiven	13.4829013	-84.0951282		Plan de finca
Marcial Wade	13.4835022	-84.094761		Plan de finca
Saberio Mena Martínez	13.4762346	-84.0755884		Plan de finca
Guadalupe Aragón	13.4758307	-84.0611136		Plan de finca
Alejandro Willis Sánchez	13.5028312	-84.0792795		Plan de finca
Flavio Vargas Bendri	13.478393	-84.0562557		Plan de finca
Bonifacios Ramos	13.4828531	-84.228201		Plan de finca
Faustino Dávila	13.4897059	-84.2035049		Plan de finca
Eusebio Pérez	13.4723355	-84.2328079		Plan de finca
Gabriel Dávila	13.4925561	-84.2047547		Plan de finca
Mirna Morales	13.482654	-84.1739133		Plan de finca
Paco Polanco	13.4871961	-84.2011897		Plan de finca
Alicia Benlys Stiven	13.50854	-84.2214427		Plan de finca
Victorino Vidal Artola Suazo	13.4878842	-84.2013386		Plan de finca
Tomas Aguilar Sanders	13.5471713	-84.2163874		Plan de finca
Oligario Sandy Sánchez	13.4858612	-84.2257573		Plan de finca
Sergio Rugama Suazo	13.4768294	-84.1732342		Plan de finca
Guadalupe Donaire	13.5241309	-84.2607831		Plan de finca
Fidelina Bucardo Zacarías	13.4789194	-84.171133		Plan de finca
Octavio Jarquín Stulzert	13.5474036	-84.2104944		Plan de finca
Bernardino Bucardo Chávez	13.4798779	-84.1712324		Plan de finca
Jorge Felipe Chavarría Cornejo	13.476648	-84.2380747		Plan de finca
Andrés Abelino Sanders	13.4811233	-84.2384386		Plan de finca
Nubia Téllez Amador	13.5253323	-84.2509004		Plan de finca
Carla Mercedes González Acosta	13.5356391	-84.2649168		Plan de finca
José Daniel Ubeda	13.5557888	-84.2919705		Plan de finca
Carlo Emilio Alegría Siles	12.9127543	-85.8143738		Plan de finca
Josefa Dolores Alegría González	12.9125115	-85.8126699		Plan de finca

Vicente Anastacio Huete Bustillo	12.9190296	-85.7524264		Plan de finca
Victoria Sánchez Martínez	12.905739	-85.7599113		Plan de finca
Santiago Francisco Dolmus Peralta	12.9201135	-85.7541076		Plan de finca
Rosa Amanda Zelaya Aguilar	13.4317739	-86.7038926		Plan de finca
José Orlando Zelaya Aguilar	13.4349547	-86.702152		Plan de finca
Santos Leonel Mendéz Moncada	13.4372739	-86.7058535		Plan de finca
José Benito Zelaya Aguilar	13.4349293	-86.7036024		Plan de finca
Aureliano Salinas	13.4380866	-86.7048918		Plan de finca
José Leoncio Zelaya Aguilar	13.4308232	-86.7028222		Plan de finca
Amparo Filemón Rodríguez Ramírez	13.399187	-86.594435		Plan de finca
Víctor Hugo Huete Santander	13.3905277	-86.5963798		Plan de finca
Walter José Centeno Umazor	13.3959582	-86.5996589		Plan de finca
Juan Carlos Centeno Umazor	13.3972667	-86.5979849		Plan de finca
José Antonio González Gutiérrez	13.3969053	-86.598161		Plan de finca
Alvaro Santiago Centeno	13.3972139	-86.5932653		Plan de finca
Rimen Ovidio Tercero Ochoa	13.3037699	-86.6341104		Plan de finca
Yeris Gabriel Palacio Marín	13.2975482	-86.6464821		Plan de finca
Alba Nellys Vallejos Balladares	13.2945106	-86.6404762		Plan de finca
Ana Celia González Velásquez	13.2945106	-86.6404762		Plan de finca
Guillermo González Velásquez	13.2945106	-86.6404762		Plan de finca
Belmarín González Velásquez	13.2945106	-86.6404762		Plan de finca
Donaldó López Castellón	13.2945106	-86.6404762		Plan de finca
Silvio Augusto López Castellón	13.29735	-86.6536006		Plan de finca
Erick Torrez Gutiérrez	13.2945106	-86.6404762		Plan de finca
Eugenio López Báez	13.2975482	-86.6464821		Plan de finca
Restauración de Areas Degradadas en 16 fincas en la Reserva Natural de Alamikamba en las Comunidades de Alamikamba y Sarao. Municipio de Prinzapolka, RACCN.	13.5144743	-84.2320176		Sub proyecto
Restauración de las Areas Degradadas en 22 fincas de productores / as protagonistas indígenas de la Comunidad de Galilea en la	13.4624273	-84.0664912		Sub proyecto

Reserva Natural "Llanos de Limbaika". RACCN.				
Restauración de las Areas Degradadas de la Reserva Natural "Llanos de Limbaika" en la Comunidad de Limbaika , con 20 familias protagonistas de la Región Autónoma de la Costa Caribe Norte.	13.4793011	-84.0993432		Sub proyecto
Protección de Fuentes de Agua , en 31 fincas de protagonistas mediante el establecimiento de Prácticas de Conservación de Bosques, Manejo de Sistemas Agroforestales en la Reserva Natural "Cerro Tomabú".	13.036712°	-86.278805		Sub proyecto
Restauración Ambiental en 30 Fincas de Productores / as, protagonistas de la Reserva de Recursos Genéticos de Yucul, a través, del Establecimiento de Sistemas Agroforestales.	12.9383812	-85.8633796		Sub proyecto
Reforestación de Bosque de Galería en 13 Fincas de productores / as protagonistas de las Comunidades Buena Vista, Quebrada Honda, El Rodeo en la Zona Núcleo en la Reserva Natural Serranías de Tepe Somoto - La Pataste.	13.3230135	-86.6204215		Sub proyecto
Manejo de Sistemas Agroforestales para mejorar las condiciones ecológicas, del Corredor Biológico del Pino en la Reserva Natural "Quiabuc - Las Brisas"	13.1317213	-86.4468225		Sub proyecto
Restauración Forestal en 20 Fincas en las Comunidades de San Pablo y Yucul Central. Municipio de San Ramón , Matagalpa.	12.9567213	-85.8700502		Sub proyecto
Manejo de Zonas de Recargas Hídricas del Río Estelí en la Reserva Natural "Tisey - La Estanzuela"	13.0418131	-86.3798888		Sub proyecto

Restauración y Conservación de Bosques de Galería en 11 Fincas de Productores / as, de la Sub Cuenca del Río Tapa Calí. Comunidades El Tablón y Las Playas. Municipio de San Lucas.	13.4376834	-86.7041189		Sub proyecto
Restauración Ambiental de Areas Degradadas afectadas por los Huracananes ETA y IOTA, en el Area Protegida Resserva Natural "Llanos de Limbaika" mediante implementación de prácticas de manejo de Regeneración Natural y Sistemas Agroforestales.	13.4645670	-84.0519449		Sub proyecto
Protección de Río Bayacun mediante el Tratamiento de Aguas Mieles, Protección y Conservación de Bosques de 12 Fincas ubicadas en el Area Protegida "Serranías de Dipilto y Jalapa".	13.7250644	-86.3062412		Sub proyecto
Restauración del Bosque de Galería en 11 Fincas de las Comunidades de Quisulí Arriba y Los Arados de la Zona de Amortiguamiento de la Reserva Natural "Serranías de Dipilto y Jalapa".	13.6843284	-86.4414585		Sub proyecto
Conservación del Corredor Pino Caribbea, para el Fortalecimiento de Biodiversidad mediante Gestión, Protección y Monitoreo Comunitario con Enfoque de Género y Multiculturalidad. Comunidad Alamikamba. Reserva Natural "Cerro Alamikamba". Municipio de Prinzapolka, RACCN.	13.5262012	-84.2342352		Sub proyecto
Restauración ambiental y rehabilitación de fuentes hídricas de áreas degradadas de la microcuenca Tapascalí con la participación de 54 productores/as de la comunidad El Rodeo del Municipio de San José de	13.2965483	-86.6427259		Sub proyecto

Cusmapa de la Reserva Natural Serranías Tepe Somoto - La Pataste.				
Manejo de Bosques de Galería y Zonas de Recarga Hídrica de las Microcuencas: La Vara, La Queserita y Jocote Pando ubicadas en la Reserva Natural Tisey-La Estanzuela	13.0003614	-86.3482186		Sub proyecto
Restauración Ambiental de áreas degradadas en la microcuenca El Naranjal para la rehabilitación de fuente hídrica en las comunidades del Horno 1 y 2 de la Reserva de Recursos Genéticos de Yucul.	12.9302809	-85.8367937		Sub proyecto
Mejoramiento de las Condiciones Ecológicas de 18 Fincas ubicadas dentro de la Reserva Natural Cerro "Quiabuc - Las Brisas" del Departamento de Estelí	13.1805498	-86.4574975		Sub proyecto

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