



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:	Latin America and the Caribbean
Country (ies):	Nicaragua
Project Title:	Strengthen institutional and technical capacities in the agricultural and forestry sectors of Nicaragua to respond to the requirements of the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/NIC/042/CBT
GEF ID:	10118
GEF Focal Area(s):	Climate change mitigation
Project Executing Partners:	Presidential Secretariat on Climate Change (SCCP) Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA) Ministry of Family, Community, Cooperative and Associative Economy (MEFCCA) National Forestry Institute (INAFOR) Nicaraguan Institute of Land Studies (INETER) Nicaraguan Institute of Agriculture Technology (INTA)
Initial project duration (years):	3 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:	August 24, 2020
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	January 14, 2021
Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	January 13, 2024
Revised project implementation End date (if approved) ²	

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	\$ 863,242
Total Co-financing amount (USD)³:	\$ 309,600
Total GEF grant delivery (as of June 30, 2023 (USD):	\$ 592, 625

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.

Total GEF grant actual expenditures (excluding commitments) as of June 30, 2023 (USD) ⁴ :	\$ 406,143
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2023 ⁵	\$ 163,841

M&E Milestones

Date of Last Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:	May 10, 2023
Expected Mid-term Review date ⁶ :	
Actual Mid-term review date (if already completed):	N/A
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date ⁷ :	December 2023
Tracking tools (TT)/Core indicators (CI) updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)	<i>[It is mandatory for projects to update the TT or CI before Mid-Term or Terminal Evaluation stage. For projects that have a planned MTR or TE in the next fiscal year, please indicate YES here and provide the updated TT or CI as Annex.]</i>

Overall ratings

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

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	<i>Low</i>
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Status

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

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
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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.

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.

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Budget Holder (BH)	Iván León, FAO Representative	ivan.leon@fao.org
GEF Operational Focal Point (GEF OFP)	Nadia Mujica, FAO GEF/GCF RLC Project Task Manager (PTM)	Nadia.mujica@fao.org
Lead Technical Officer (LTO)	Lucio Santos, Forestry Officer FOA	Lucio.santos@fao.org
GEF Technical Officer, GTO (ex Technical FLO)		

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

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

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	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 technical and institutional capacities in the agricultural and forestry sector in order to meet the requirements of the enhanced transparency framework reached under the Paris Agreement, in harmony	Outcome 1						
	1.1. Capacities at the interinstitutional technical team (ITT), whose members are INTA, INAFOR, MARENA, MEFFCA and INETER, are strengthened regarding ETF requirements for implementation of PNMACC guidelines, as well as PNDH mandates.	Indicator 3: Increase in participation by institutions and their staff, with equal opportunities for women and men (MARENA, INTA, MARENA, INAFOR, INETER, MEFFCA) in the preparation of country reports, according to ETF MPGs. (Scale: 1 - 4)	2	2	3	<p>To the date of this report, the number of participating institutions has increased by three, based on the scale of the project results framework, which requires the incorporation of MARENA, INAFOR, INETER, MEFFCA and INTA, as well as the Climate Change Secretariat at the Office of the President (SCCP), established once the project was already underway. With this addition, 100% of the objective to be met by the time the project concludes has been reached.</p> <p>The aforementioned entities, which form the Institutional Technical Team (MARENA, MEFFCA, INAFOR, INETER and INTA) continue to take ownership of the Enhanced Transparency Framework and its requirements as regards reporting at varying paces, and the effort has been made to provide equal opportunities for participation. Work areas at each institution that require strengthening have been identified.</p> <p>The increase in the level of institutional participation is evidenced by:</p>	(S)

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

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

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

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

<p>with Nicaraguan National Human Development Plan and the guidelines of the National Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Policy.</p>						<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The signing and implementation of four Letters of Agreement with interinstitutional technical staff at INTA, INAFOR, MARENA and INETER. These include activities keyed towards the strengthening of knowledge and capacities for the estimation of emissions factors in the agriculture and forest sectors (INTA and INAFOR), and the creation of land use and land cover maps (INETER), which are key to the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory (NGHGI). 2. The technical team at the SCCP implements actions jointly with the technical coordination team engaged by the project. This has contributed to improved time and execution management in terms of the project's results framework. In addition, the SCCP has taken up its role as the entity charged with following up on the country's climate change management. 3. Joint actions have been identified for the project Enabling the Preparation of Nicaragua's Fourth Communication to the UNFCCC, for the systematization of climate change adaptation experiences with intersectoral participation. 4. As concerns the NGHGI, the Climate Change Secretariat at the Office of the President, with technical support from the FAO project coordination team, coordinated technical exchange between the team charged with NGHGI and World Bank experts from Mexico and Chile, with the aim of incorporating the UNFCCC's most recent elements and decisions concerning presentation of the GHG inventories and the technical implications of advancing toward compliance with the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) under the Paris Agreement. As part of the necessary ongoing improvement of the NGHGI, a collaboration with the World Bank was coordinated by the SCCP for the development of standard procedures for NIR and for the data collection on activities of the LULUCF subsector, thus facilitating the process of estimating, recalculating and documenting the NGHGI. 5. There has been a review of the activities to be implemented by MARENA in light of the new institutional framework for climate change management. In this regard, the Ministry's activities are 	
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						<p>now geared toward strengthening MRV capacities to reduce GHGs by piloting REDD+ experiences in the Caribbean in the context of the GEF 9579 and 5277 projects. In addition, MARENA leads the establishment of a national AFOLU round table, to be strengthened by the project for purposes of preparing institutional arrangements for the sector's MRV process.</p>	
		<p>Indicator 4: Number of women and men enjoying equal opportunities on the interinstitutional team (INTA, MARENA, INAFOR, INETER, MEFCCA), the SNRCC and the SNPCC to strengthen their capacities to comply with ETF requirements in the four prioritized information flows, including gender equality and indigenous and traditional knowledge.</p>	0	25	50	<p>To date, capacities in a number of activities have been strengthened among 714 persons, 41% of which are women. This information is related not solely to ITT institutions, but includes also some that contribute to the National Climate Change Management System (SNGCC) and the National Production, Consumption and Commerce System (SNPCC). The next report will provide separate information by institution (both ITT members and non-members). Knowledge has been strengthened among the staff of participating institutions, including the target group and others who at the outset were not involved, such as the Ministry of the Treasury and Public Credit (MHCP), the Ministry of Development, Industry and Commerce (MIFIC), the Ministry of Education (MINED), the Government of the North Caribbean Autonomous Region (GRACCN), the Government of the South Caribbean Autonomous Region (GRACCS), the Institute of Plant and Animal Health Protection (IPSA), the Nicaraguan Municipal Development Institute (INIFOM) and the National Tourism Institute (INTUR), among others. This strengthening encompassed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An event intended to enhance capacities at institutions belonging to the SNGCC, keyed toward levelling knowledge regarding the ETF and its Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines (MPG), thus facilitating the gradual incorporation of climate transparency elements and requirements in data generation, quality control, processing and transfer, including information related to the status of GHG emissions/absorptions, adaptation, mitigation and support received; this event was coordinated with the FAO and UNEP global CBIT-AFOLU project. A total of 59 persons participated, of which 32% were women from different institutions and organisations (SCCP, CRS, MAG, INTA, UNA, UNIAV, UNAN, INETER, FEM, MEFCCA, IPSA, INAFOR, MHCP, MIFIC, MARENA, MINED, INIFOM, INTUR, GRACCS, GRACCS, EN, PN, PMA, FAONI, CIAT and CRS). In addition, INAFOR has held ETF capacity development workshops for members of the 	(S)

					<p>Departmental Forestry Commissions (CODEFOR), which were attended by 336 persons, of which 29% were women.</p> <p>2. An event to strengthen capacities among members of the Land Use and Land Cover Monitoring System, specifically the uses of information technology to gain access to data on land use and land cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updating knowledge on good practices for monitoring of land cover change, as well as calculating uncertainties. • Developing a road map by which to implement improvements in data collection on land use change and land cover. • Transfer of knowledge for the application of Open Foris tools for geospatial data management. <p>This event took place with technical assistance from FAO regional advisors, with the participation of 33 technicians, of whom 24% were women of institutions linked to the generation of information related to land use (INETER, MAG, INTA, MEFCCA, INAFOR, MARENA).</p> <p>3. Capacity strengthening events, led by INAFOR, on general and specific matters regarding compliance with ETF in four information flows on land use and land use change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bimodal workshops to strengthen the technical capacities of technicians of the various institutions *(at the national and departmental levels), as well as universities, to ensure the validation of the methodology employed during the Third Cycle of the National Forest Inventory; 101 persons participated, 28% were women (INAFOR, MARENA, SCCP, MAG, INETER, SERENA, GRACCS, UNA, UNAN, BICU and URACCAN). • Workshop to strengthen capacities to validate the Field Manual for the Third Cycle of the National Forest Inventory and to work with Silva Metricus software. 15 persons participated, of which 33% were women from INAFOR. • Workshop to strengthen capacities in the management and adaptation of the Silva Metricus software for data collection, aimed at technicians at INAFOR's 17 departmental delegations. Of the 59 persons trained, 31% were women (INAFOR, UNA).
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						Capacity-building workshops were held for departmental technicians on allometric equations (information generation and management, selection and calibration of allometric equations). Participation was of 138 persons, of which 25% were women (INAFOR, INATEC, IPSA, MARENA, MEFCCA, MIFIC, SERENA, BICU, URACCAN, UNA).	
Outcome 2							
	Outcome 2.1: Technical capacities are strengthened for the monitoring, quantification and analysis of the data necessary for the generation of GHG emissions reports and the monitoring and evaluation of the prioritized sectors	Indicator 5: Number of evaluation, monitoring surveillance plans regarding GHG emissions in the agricultural and forestry sectors implemented, in keeping with ETF MPGs.	1	2	2	<p>To date, 3 plans for the monitoring, evaluation and tracking of GHG emissions have been developed, thereby surpassing the original target.</p> <p>The following progress is reported:</p> <p>First: Enhanced improvement in forest emissions factors through the preparation of the second National Forest Inventory (NFI) measurement cycle.</p> <p>Specifically, the INAFOR institutional team has advanced in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preparation of the methodological framework for the new NFI cycle, including its respective field manual; b. Implementation of the plan and onset of the second NFI measurement cycle by means of articulation and permanent work on the part of international technical assistance and the interinstitutional team c. Adjustment of the Silva Metricus software to the collection, processing and analysis of NFI data, as well as strengthening of the knowledge and skills needed to use it in the field; d. Generation of equations for two national forest species and strengthening of capacities at INAFOR to carry out these types of investigations <p>Second: An Agroecological, Climate Change and Soil round table has been established with direct support from the project. It is led by INTA and is intended as a space for discussing improvements to the MRV processes for mitigation and adaptation to climate change in the agriculture sector. The project has supported the design of an operations manual and a work plan for the round table as a space for the exchange of technical information on climate action and management.</p>	(S)

						<p>Notwithstanding the limited personnel available to promote the activities and outputs the project has committed to, INTA, for capacity strengthening purposes.</p> <p>a. In addition, the direct involvement of national and international technical assistance provided by FAO is strengthening the team in two areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of emissions factors for enteric fermentation by cattle. In accordance with the IPCC guidelines, a methodology has been defined, study areas have been identified using multicriteria selection, and currently the second phase of primary information-gathering is about to begin. This task is to be carried out in the framework of the new INTA-FAO Letter of Agreement. • Evaluation of adaptation technologies and formulation of a plan for their dissemination. Working together under project coordination, SCCP and INTA have prepared the terms of reference (ToRs) for this assistance. <p>Third: The INETER institutional team is carrying out activities leading to the creation of its own specific outputs, such as the 2020 current land use and land cover map and an analysis of the dynamics of land use change from 2018 to 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INETER has prepared and delivered a land use and land cover map for 2020 as an input to be used in Nicaragua's first Biennial Update Report (BUR 1). • The creation of a road map is underway to apply methodological improvements and creating standard operational procedures for the implemented improvements. <p>Fourth: With support from the World Bank through technical assistance provided by a Mexican expert, standard operational procedures for generating information were developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOP for sample design • SOP to quantify carbon by category and land use • SOP to collect data in the field • SOP to analyse data (estimates of emission/absorption factors) 	
		Indicator 6: Number of institutions that	0	5	10	8 institutions have become involved in processes related to capacity-building on monitoring of forests and other types of land	(S)

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		make up the Forest MRV Table and increase their capacities to use tools and guidelines for national forest monitoring.				<p>use (80% of the final target): INETER, MAG, MARENA, INAFOR, SCCP, INTA, MEFCCA and UNAN.</p> <p>INAFOR is articulating on a permanent basis with the National Forestry Commission (CONAFOR), the Regional Departmental Forestry Commissions (one for each department and autonomous region) and the institution's departmental delegations, for the purpose of designing and planning the second NFI measurement cycle.</p> <p>There has been broad-based institutional participation at both national and departmental levels by the INAFOR technical team, in an effort to strengthen methodological capacities for the second National Forest Inventory. More than forty work sessions and two national workshops took place.</p> <p>A Specialised Training Programme in Carbon Accounting and National GHG Inventories at Sector Level is underway, with the participation of 8 institutional technicians from MAG, INETER, INAFOR and MARENA. It is offered by the GHG Management Institute (GHGMI) through the 4 CN project, and is intended to increase institutional capacities in the use of tools and guidelines for the national monitoring of forestry and agriculture.</p> <p>A capacity-building event took place with the aforementioned institutions on the Land Use and Land Cover Monitoring System and uses of information technology.</p>	
Outcome 3							
	Outcome 3.1: Improved education, communication and institutional human capacity as concerns the mitigation of climate change, emissions reductions and its effects on the prioritised sectors.	Indicator 7: Number of bulletins published on the subjects of good practices, experiences and lessons learnt in matters of mitigation and adaptation to climate change.	0	3	6	<p>An exchange of experiences on the automatisisation of the MRV took place between the FAO-SCCP Nicaragua team and the CBIT team in Ecuador.</p> <p>A systematisation of climate change adaptation measures implemented by the NICAVIDA, NICADAPTA and AGRIADAPTA projects has been prepared. In addition, a monitoring and evaluation methodology of the measures at project level was designed and can now be incorporated to initiatives already ongoing or future projects that involve adaptation components. In connection with this project, Nicaragua has presented its Fourth International Communication on Climate Change in May 2023, in which the main mitigation and adaptation efforts are reflected, in</p>	(MS)

						compliance with transparency requirements set forth by the UNFCCC.	
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Measures taken to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings on Section 2

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Outcome 2: Technical capacities are strengthened for the monitoring, quantification, and analysis of the data necessary for the generation of GHG emissions reports and the monitoring and evaluation of the prioritized sectors	The development of INTAs planned activities took longer than planned. For this reason, a new Letter of Agreement was signed between INTA and FAO to undertake activities related to the following: gathering of primary information for the development of emissions factors from enteric fermentation by cattle; finishing the MACSS operational manual, and an event to build institutional capacities on monitoring and evaluation of agricultural technologies keyed toward adaptation to climate change.	FAO Nicaragua – INTA	June 2023
	As a joint strategy with the GCP/NIC/046/GFF Project, a process is underway for the design and subsequent signing of Letter of Agreement between FAO and UNAN-Managua on diploma course on climate change and the preparation of national GHG inventories. The course is aimed at technicians working at the institutions that are members of the National Climate Change Management System.	FAO Nicaragua – UNAN Managua	June 2023
	A teaching programme to develop an open lecture series on good ETF implementation practices and climate change management is being designed. This will be done with international technical assistance, and taking into account the national context.	FAO Nicaragua	July 2023 - september 2023
Outcome 3.1: Improved education, communication and institutional human capacity as concerns the mitigation of climate change, emissions reductions, and its effects on the prioritized sectors.	Professional services will be engaged to design the publication outputs and information generated by FAO and institutions participating in climate change projects, in order to facilitate their understanding and dissemination. Among the documents and outputs to be designed and disseminated is Nicaragua's BUR 1, the Fifth Greenhouse Gas Inventory, the report on the design of the monitoring, reporting and verification system of the AFOLU sector, the methodological framework and field manual for the National Forest Inventory, the methodology for the creation of land use and land cover maps and the National Climate Change Policy.	FAO Nicaragua	July 2023

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
<p>Outcome 1.1: Capacities strengthened among the interinstitutional technical team (MARENA, INTA, INAFOR, INETER, MEFCCA) regarding ETF requirements for implementation of National Human Development Plan mandates and guidelines 1, 5 and 6 of the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Policy in the agricultural and forestry sectors.</p>	<p>Indicator 3: Increase in participation by institutions and their staff, with equal opportunities for women and men (MARENA, INTA, MARENA, INAFOR, INETER, MEFCCA) in the preparation of country reports, according to ETF MPGs.</p>	<p>Design and implementation of a training programme for the ITT, for decision-making based on the inclusion of knowledge generated by the national processes, in accordance with ETF requirements.</p>	<p>Taking into consideration the institutional modification to climate change management in Nicaragua, with MARENA ceasing to be the main executing partner and being replaced by the SCCP, significant actions have taken place for the coordination of spaces for exchanges, as well as decisions on the inclusion of processes and procedures by which to incorporate the ETF and its requirements.</p> <p>On the other hand, the road map has been adjusted for the presentation of the next reports to the UNFCCC, as set forth in the ETF modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) of the Paris Agreement. This is an instrument for the planning and management of funds in order to ensure the sustainability of processes by which to formulate and present the reports.</p> <p>In addition, capacities among INAFOR technical staff have been strengthened for the</p>	<p>Due to institutional changes in the country's climate change management, further adjustments of the institutional arrangements have to be made; in keeping with the recommendations made during the review of the NGHGI and the Fourth National Communication, it was decided to include the design of institutional arrangements for the MRV system of the AFOLU sector</p>

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

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

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

			<p>development of the new NFI measurement cycle, by designing and implementing the methodological framework and its field manual.</p> <p>INAFOR became the first institution capable of training technicians on the enhanced transparency framework by transferring its knowledge to the Departmental Forestry Commissions (CODEFOR). A total of 336 territorial technicians participated in this training.</p>	into this outcome, in accordance with ETF requirements.
<p>Output 1.1.1: The national ITT coordination platform, with members from the SNRCC and the SNPCC, is set up to provide follow-up, evaluate strategies and accompany policy proposals, in keeping with ETF requirements</p>	<p>Indicator 4: Number of women and men enjoying equal opportunities on the interinstitutional team (INTA, MARENA, INAFOR, INETER, MEFCCA), the SNRCC and the SNPCC to strengthen their capacities to comply with ETF requirements in the four prioritized information flows, including gender equality and indigenous and traditional knowledge.</p>	<p>Periodically summoning of the SNGCC to present and discuss specific outputs, strategies and next steps needed to meet ETF requirements.</p>	<p>The SNGCC is coordinated by the SCCP and among its functions is to validate and submit for approval by the President of Nicaragua all climate-related reports generated in the country. In keeping with this mandate, the SCCP has delivered to the SNGCC and the President of Nicaragua the Fourth National Greenhouse Gas Inventory, as well as the Fourth National Communication on Climate Change, which has already been presented to the UNFCCC.</p>	<p>Decree 15-2021 has replaced the SNRCC with the SCCP, and mandates the SCCP to coordinate the SNGCC.</p>
<p>Output 1.1.2 A training programme is designed and implemented for decision-making linked to the inclusion of knowledge concerning</p>	<p>Indicator 4: Number of women and men enjoying equal opportunities on the interinstitutional team (INTA, MARENA, INAFOR, INETER, MEFCCA), the SNRCC and the SNPCC to</p>	<p>Design and train technical staff on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) methodologies by which to adapt current agricultural technologies</p>	<p>The ITT institutions were trained on good practices in land use and land cover. INETER is currently implementing the proposed road map by which to develop improvements in the preparation of land use and land cover outputs.</p>	<p>The systematisation of trainings to the ITT will be a factor when preparing the open lectures series on good ETF implementation</p>

national processes, in keeping with ETF requirements.	strengthen their capacities to comply with ETF requirements in the four prioritized information flows, including gender equality and indigenous and traditional knowledge.	to climate change (INTA).		practices and climate change management (Output 2.1.1)
Output 1.1.3: programme to exchange and capture experiences is implemented that is keyed to the ITT and makes use of platforms and international research centres working to measure, report on and verify (MRV) emissions for the agricultural and forestry sectors, in keeping with ETF requirements.	Indicator 4: Number of women and men enjoying equal opportunities on the interinstitutional team (INTA, MARENA, INAFOR, INETER, MEFCCA), the SNRCC and the SNPCC to strengthen their capacities to comply with ETF requirements in the four prioritized information flows, including gender equality and indigenous and traditional knowledge.			
Output 1.1.4 ITT capacities are strengthened as concerns the M&E of adaptation activities in the agricultural and forestry sectors, in keeping with PNMACC guideline 1.	Indicator 4: Number of women and men enjoying equal opportunities on the interinstitutional team (INTA, MARENA, INAFOR, INETER, MEFCCA), the SNRCC and the SNPCC to strengthen their capacities to comply with ETF requirements in the four prioritized information flows, including gender equality	Design of an M&E proposal by which to adapt current agricultural technologies to climate change that encompasses support to the systematisation of adaptation technologies, the definition of indicators, the use of an evaluation methodology and capacity-building.	INTA is working with an expert to develop a training series aimed at incorporating the methodology by which to monitor and evaluate the transfer of agricultural technologies to the territories by means of its interventions (projects and strategies).	This activity is directly linked to activity P.1.1.3 regarding the design of an M&E methodology for agricultural technologies keyed to adaptation to climate change.

	and indigenous and traditional knowledge			
<p>Output 1.1.5</p> <p>A national methodological process is established and adopted by the SNRCC (road map) with the aim of following up on and presenting reports, in keeping with ETF requirements</p>	<p>Indicator 4: Number of women and men enjoying equal opportunities on the interinstitutional team (INTA, MARENA, INAFOR, INETER, MEFCCA), the SNRCC and the SNPCC to strengthen their capacities to comply with ETF requirements in the four prioritized information flows, including gender equality and indigenous and traditional knowledge</p>	<p>Design a road map for the delivery of reports.</p>	<p>A road map has been prepared that corresponds to the time frames set forth in the MPGs of the ETF of the Paris Agreement. Currently a road map is being used for decision-making as concerns the request of support needed to give continuity to the reports.</p>	<p>This achievement is the fruit of a joint effort with the project Enabling the Preparation of Nicaragua's Fourth National Communication and First Biennial Update Report delivered to the UNFCCC.</p> <p>To ensure the adoption of the methodological process and the continuity of the reports, it is necessary for Nicaragua to have a road map in place.</p>
<p>Outcome 2.1 Technical capacities are strengthened for the monitoring, quantification and analysis of the data necessary for the generation of GHG emissions reports and the monitoring and evaluation of the prioritized sectors.</p>				
<p>Output 2.1.1</p> <p>A national evaluation, monitoring and surveillance plan for GHG emissions in the agricultural and forestry sectors is drawn up, coordinated by MARENA in the</p>	<p>Indicator 5: Number of evaluation, monitoring surveillance plans regarding GHG emissions in the agricultural and forestry sectors implemented, in keeping with ETF MPGs.</p>	<p>Delivery of a series of open lectures on good ETF implementation practices and climate change management.</p>	<p>The scope and identification of requirements needed to prepare the ToRs is ongoing.</p>	

framework of the SNRCC.		Building technological capacities of the Ministry of Agriculture (MAG) for the purpose of implementing the agricultural MRV.	The procurement of information technology equipment that contributes to improved storage and management of the information generated by the institution, and which is of interest to the MRV of the agriculture subsector, is underway.	
Output 2.1.2 INAFOR capacities are strengthened in the use of tools (second NFI measurement and adaptation of the Silva Metricus) for national forest monitoring.	Indicator 6: Number of institutions that make up the Forest MRV Table and increase their capacities to use tools and guidelines for national forest monitoring.	Signing of a new LoA between FAO and INAFOR to finance the measurements needed for the Third National Forest Inventory cycle.	Currently INAFOR is implementing the second NFI cycle using an improved methodology that allows for capturing data based on a robust quality control protocol by which to estimate the emissions from five carbon pools in the forest sector, in addition to now having better links to data collected on changes in land use and land cover.	Due to institutional needs and good implementation performance by INAFOR, the decision was made to continue the information-gathering processes started by the project. Given that available funds were identified in the project budget, it was decided to support the institution's work plan for the second NFI cycle.
Output 2.1.3 INTA capacities are strengthened through specialised technical and methodological tools that help determine emissions factors in the agriculture sector; INAFOR capacities are strengthened to calibrate allometric	Indicator 5: Number of evaluation, monitoring surveillance plans regarding GHG emissions in the agricultural and forestry sectors implemented, in keeping with ETF MPGs.	Preparation of a study on Tier 2 emission factors from enteric fermentation in cattle.	A methodology was developed to determine emission factors arising from enteric fermentation in cattle, which will be implemented with funds agreed to in the FAO-INTA LoA 2. Still ongoing is the study with technical assistance from an expert in emission factors. Two allometric equations were developed (hazelnut pine and cedar), and INAFOR staff now has the capacity to develop additional allometric equations.	Due to the wide range of agricultural activities, a decision was made to delimit the scope of the output needed for the results of the Fourth NGHGI and the agricultural development policies focused on sustainable cattle-

equations in agroforestry systems and forests, in support of the reports generated in keeping with ETF requirements.				ranching. Thus, it was pertinent to concentrate efforts on the identification of more precise emissions factors with lower degrees of uncertainty for the follow up on GHG emissions and mitigation activities to be implemented in the country's sector development strategies.
Output 2.1.4 Methodologies are identified for the adjustment and implementation of adaptation activities in the agricultural and forestry sectors, in accordance with PNMACC guideline 1.	Indicator 5: Number of evaluation, monitoring surveillance plans regarding GHG emissions in the agricultural and forestry sectors implemented, in keeping with ETF MPGs.		Technical assistance was engaged to design and apply a technology systematisation, monitoring and evaluation methodology for climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector, which the country has promoted, and thus acquire knowledge of the state of the art on this matter, as well as on how to measure its impact over time.	
Outcome 3.1: Improved education, communication and institutional human capacity as concerns the mitigation of climate change, emissions reductions and its effects on the prioritized sectors.				
Output 3.1.1 Lessons learnt and knowledge acquired in the agriculture and forest sectors are shared on national and international platforms (e.g. the CBIT global coordination platform), in order to improve the	Indicator 7: Number of bulletins published on the subjects of good practices, experiences and lessons learnt in matters of mitigation and adaptation to climate change.	Procurement of equipment needed to technologically bolster the platform of the National Environmental Information System (SINIA)	A server for use by SINIA was delivered to MARENA, so as to ensure that the institution has the technological infrastructure needed for the storage and management of information concerning the country's climate change management.	In order to generate MARENA's bulletins, an improvement of SINIA servers was requested, intended to provide better technological infrastructure for information storage and management.

scheduling and presentation of reports, in accordance with enhanced transparency requirements.				
<p>Output 3.1.2 A dissemination plan is designed and implemented on good practices in climate change adaptation and mitigation, as per guidelines 1, 5 and 6 of the PNMACC, in the framework of enhanced transparency. It is aimed at public officials, universities and agricultural and forestry producers.</p>	<p>Indicator 7: Number of bulletins published on the subjects of good practices, experiences and lessons learnt in matters of mitigation and adaptation to climate change.</p>	<p>Generation of contents to disseminate the advances made in the country's climate change management practices.</p>	<p>3 documents regarding emissions factors are ready for publication, thus reaching 50% of the indicator.</p> <p>The outputs generated by the outcomes achieved thus far will be converted into materials to be used in trainings and for the dissemination of lessons learnt about climate change adaptation mitigation, among other topics. A graphic line will be created that contains the conceptual foundations and description of the processes developed in the course of the project. To that end, an expert in the design of communications outputs has been engaged. These outputs will be disseminated by various means, including the FAO and partner websites.</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)

The described advances of this reporting period, were mainly made in the fields of capacity strengthening, technical assistance and exchanges of experience among interinstitutional technical teams of INTA, INAFOR, MARENA, MEFCCA and INETER, in coordination with the Climate Change Secretariat at the Office of the President and FAO.

- a) Capacities were strengthened among technicians at institutions which are members of the National Climate Change Management System (SNGCC) regarding requirements of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) under the Paris Agreement.
- b) Capacities of ITT institutions (INETER, INAFOR, MAG, MARENA, MEFCCA, INTA and UNAN) to monitor land use and land cover were strengthened.
- c) INETER is using a road map to implement improvements in the monitoring land use and land cover.
- d) At INAFOR, technical capacities were strengthened in the use of Silva Metricus software and other tools needed to implement the methodology employed to measure the second NFI cycle.
- e) Two allometric equations were developed (hazelnut pine and cedar), and INAFOR now has the capacity to prepare additional allometric equations.
- f) The process to establish interinstitutional arrangements for an MRV system in the AFOLU sector has been started.

Among the difficulties encountered during this reporting period, the following stand out:

- a) Limited numbers of technical staff with scarce specific capacities for the accompaniment of the international consultant, who is currently carrying out studies on GHG emissions factors at INTA. A national expert was engaged as a mitigation measure and with the aim of strengthening the capacities of the institution's technical staff by providing direct technical support to the international consultancy.
- b) In general, there is a need to strengthen / consolidate capacities among the institutions' technicians in the application of MRV and M&E tools. In particular, there are opportunities for improvements in the systematisation of actions and measures promoted by INTA and MEFCCA.
- c) The formalisation of institutional arrangements for MRV is ongoing. As a measure intended to serve as a catalyst, experts have been engaged to support the design and conceptualisation of the MRV system, in coordination with the SCCP and national institutions, in order to promote ownership and the sustainability of the system as part of institutional functions.

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>I began to work on 1 January 2023 as project coordinator, and from that moment onwards, efforts have been made to comply with the AOP and the project's results framework.</p> <p>The results framework has been achieved by means of project management that takes into account the institutional needs for capacity-building and the learning curve required to properly execute modalities, procedures and guidelines of the enhanced transparency framework.</p> <p>To that end, a number of capacity-building processes, on both general and specific topics, have taken place to ensure that the state institutions involved in the project incorporate the new needs into their current modus operandi, or generate new institutional processes by using the knowledge acquired in the various activities undertaken in the framework of project implementation.</p>
Budget Holder	S	S	<p>The project has maintained a good pace of physical and financial execution, and since this is the last year of execution, it is expected that it will effectively achieve its contribution in terms of strengthening national capacities to comply with the MTR.</p> <p>On the other hand, important contributions have been made in terms of tools and instruments for forest monitoring, the first allometric equations were developed and the emission factors for enteric fermentation of cattle, one of the main subsectors of the national economy, are being generated, with greater contributions to the INGEI.</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>The main challenge for the rest of this year is to generate knowledge management products that include lessons learned, good practices, and technical studies developed during the life of the project.</p> <p>In the following semester, the final evaluation of the project will also be developed, which is expected to generate relevant inputs for the formulation of a next CBIT project that can escalate to strengthening the capacities of other sectors beyond AFOLU.</p>
GEF Operational Focal Point¹⁸	S	S	<p>The project management model coordinated between the Climate Change Secretariat of the Presidency and FAO has made possible to improve the dynamics of the physical-financial execution compared to the start of the project. During the last year, the project has managed to influence fundamental aspects for the improvement in the generation of information of interest for climate management, mainly for the agricultural and forestry sectors, through the strengthening of knowledge and improvement of technological infrastructures.</p> <p>At a strategic level and in line with national priorities and the country's new strategic political framework for climate change, the Project in its final stretch projects crucial results for the implementation of a monitoring, reporting and verification system for the agricultural sectors, forest and land use, with institutional arrangements according to national circumstances and aligned with the climate management model. In addition, and given the need for a good understanding at all levels of the requirements of the Enhanced Transparency Framework, the project prior to its closure plans to develop activities to strengthen knowledge aimed at decision makers with participation in the climate agenda of Nicaragua</p>

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

Lead Technical Officer¹⁹	S	S	<p>In 2023 the project continued to overcome challenges, as it began functioning under a new national coordination. Notwithstanding, most outputs in components 1 and 2 are being delivered in a timely manner. It must be taken into account that the work plan for this year underwent a significant adjustment due to modifications to the project implementation. At the outset the coordinating agency was MARENA, but starting in August 2021 this function was transferred to the Climate Change Secretariat at the Office of the President, meaning that component 1 became more ambitious. In addition to building a training programme based on ETF requirements, work began on the design of institutional arrangements for the MRV system of the AFOLU sector. This change is also a result of recurrent recommendations made by international advisors and LTOs, both as regards this project and the Fourth International Communication. Likewise, this change will favour the implementation of the National GHG Emissions Evaluation, Monitoring and Tracking Plan (output 2.1.1).</p> <p>For component 2 it has been necessary to adjust the form of identifying the best methodologies by which to adjust and apply the adaptation activities.</p> <p>Finally, as concerns component 3, the systematisation of project experiences and good practices is underway.</p>
GEF Technical Officer, GTO (ex Technical FLO)	S	S	<p><i>The project is entering its final stage of implementation and is expected to achieve its objectives. Significant advances have been made in terms of institution commitments and capacity, methodological advances for GHG emissions inventories as well as monitoring of GHG emissions. Efforts during the last year will be to consolidate the advances to date and strengthen outreach and knowledge management.</i></p> <p><i>The country is expected to submit its national Biennial Update Report (BUR) by December 2023 and new projects to support the new phases of CBIT and BTR/NC will be designed and submitted to GEFSEC during 2024</i></p>

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				
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats				
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
ESS 7: Decent Work				
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				

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.
Low	Low

<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>
No se recibió ninguna queja en el período de este reporte.

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	Lack of support from government authorities during Project implementation.	Low	Yes	This initiative has taken place upon petition of the government of Nicaragua, once it ratified its adhesion to the Paris Agreement. The Project proposal was prepared in a participatory fashion, jointly with the interinstitutional technical team (ITT) appointed by the government. This evidences there is a high level of commitment to its execution, in accordance with national priorities.	<p>The project is being implemented with the participation of the entities composing the National Climate Change Management System that are directly linked to the ETF, as was programmed in the Project Document.</p> <p>The implementation of the ETF of the Paris Agreement is taken up and appears in Nicaragua's most important planning instrument, the 2022-2026 National Plan to Fight Poverty and for Human Development, specifically in its <i>guideline 11 Measures to confront Climate Change</i>. This indicates the importance the country lends to this matter.</p>	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²¹	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
2	Low levels of institutional participation during implementation of response activities developed by the project.	Low	Yes	<p>Support measures:</p> <p>i. The Project will strengthen the SNRCC's work and its coordination mechanisms with the SNPCC to ensure that ITT members continue interested in participating.</p> <p>ii. The institutions will guarantee the participation of its technicians in the various training and experience exchanges activities.</p>	<p>The Climate Change Secretariat at the Office of the President is the entity that follows up on and supports the implementation of Nicaragua's commitments to international organisations specialising in climate change. The Secretariat's role is to coordinate, as its functions include validating and submitting ETF reports, with a view to UNFCCC Objective, articles 2, 4, 7 and 14, for approval by the President of Nicaragua.</p> <p>This ensures the permanent and future participation of the institutions both in the project and the national reporting processes.</p>	

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 Ann

3	Sustainability of Project results over time.	Moderate	Yes	<p>Once the Project concludes, the institutions must ensure the continuity of the activities by means of the national budget, insofar as allowed by the country's economic situation.</p> <p>FAO will apply the Capacity Development approach to guarantee the sustainability of Project results over time. This approach recognize three dimensions of action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individual dimension that refers to a wide range of actors as policy makers, researches and staff of organizations. 2. The organizational dimension that includes public organizations, civil society and networks of organizations. 3. The enabling environment that is the context in which individuals and organizations work and includes a country's institutional set-up, power structures and policy and legal frameworks. 	<p>During project implementation the foundation was laid to ensure the sustainability of the results and processes in order to obtain a framework that supports national reporting to UNFCCC, in accordance with ETF requirements.</p> <p>Furthermore, sectoral progress has been made in capacity-building, to develop specific issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) INAFOR has concluded the planning phase of the second NFI measurement cycle, which includes a financing plan; b) INTA is working on the determination of emissions factors from enteric fermentation in cattle, to be used in future GHG measurements of the cattle-ranching sector. It is also working on the design of an M&E system for climate change adaptation. c) INETER is working on a methodology to generate information on land use and land use change, so it can be generated in a constant and documented fashion. 	
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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
Low	Low	The overall risk classification remains low.

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: In 2022, the recommendation was made to advance with the design of institutional arrangements, as this is one of the most important recommendations for progress towards the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) under the Paris Agreement	Component 1 was widened towards the construction of institutional arrangements of the AFOLU sector, which started in June 2023 due to the hiring processes for an international and national team.
Recommendation 2: Harmonisation of methodologies for the collection of data about forestry and land use activities, as the country has implemented different methodologies for the GHG inventory and the level of reference for REDD+	A training was held about good practices to improve estimates of land use and land cover areas. A road map for the implementation of the improvements was generated and is already under execution.
Recommendation 3: Continuation of support to INAFOR in the implementation of the third cycle of the National Forest Inventory	<p>INAFOR has started the institutionalisation of the National Forest Inventories by its Department of Measurements, Reports and Verification.</p> <p>However, compliance with climate change requirements demands financing resources that currently exceed the funds available in the institution. The project covers some of the requirements, but it will be necessary to continue dialogue and negotiations with potential partners to overcome these financial constraints.</p>
Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please summarize	The design of institutional arrangements of the MRV system will allow the country to know its financing needs and gaps that could be included in the BTR.

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	Change of the project coordinating institution from MARENA to the SCCP	August 2021	Project Steering Committee
Financial management			
Implementation schedule			
Executing Entity	Change of the project coordinating institution from MARENA to the SCCP	August 2021	Project Steering Committee
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			
Climate Change Secretariat at the Office of the President (SPCC)	Guarantees the achievement of planned project outputs, supported by FAO as the GEF Implementing Agency.	General coordination of project implementation	Institutional strengthening of the Climate Change Secretariat for the enhancement of the sustainability of project outcomes
National Forestry Institute (INAFOR)	INAFOR will be the main actor for output 2.1.3, responsible of generating data for the calculation and updating of the "Emissions factors", and for the construction of allometric equations for the forestry sector and agroforestry systems. It will also play an active role for the achievement of outputs 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 2.1.1 and 3.1.1.	Collection of data for the new measurement cycle of the National Forest Inventory. The institutional ownership of the Silvametricus tool for the collection and analysis of forestry information is in process.	Identification of new financing sources to guarantee the sustainability of data collection and analysis, in order to comply with the new National Forest Inventory and its continuous development.
Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies (INETER)	This entity generates relevant information for the forestry and agricultural sector, land use and land use change. It is a member of the National Climate Change Management System (SNGCC) and the National Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System (MRV) for the AFOLU sector, and will therefore be the main actor in relation to outputs 1.1.3 and 2.1.1.	Advances in the ownership of satellite monitoring processes for the analysis of land use and land use changes with the help of technological tools, one of them being SEPAL Advance in the documentation of processes to guarantee methodologies and protocols for the collection, processing and reporting of data on land use and land use change, as part of the institutional actions to ensure long-term sustainability.	To strengthen the capacities of the technical staff of the institution, 2 specialists will be engaged to support and accompany them in the updating of its methodology for the creation of maps and statistics about land cover and land use in Nicaragua.

<p>Nicaraguan Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA)</p>	<p>As member of the SNGCC and SPCC, it will be responsible for developing a mechanism to articulate and coordinate these two systems for the preparation of reports required by the ETF. As member of the SNGCC, it will be responsible for the development of its institutional capacity to calculate factors of national GHG emissions in the agricultural sector through output 2.1.3. It will also play an active role for the achievement of outputs 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.4, 1.1.5, 2.1.1, 2.1.4 and 3.1.2.</p>	<p>In the framework of capacity-building for monitoring, quantification and data analysis for reporting, two studies are being developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GHG emission factors in the agricultural sector • Evaluation of adaptation technologies and dissemination plan 	<p>The contract for an international specialist is being extended for the purpose of building the capacities of the institution’s technical staff; the specialist will accompany studies of the Tier 2 factor emissions of enteric fermentation in cattle.</p> <p>The development of a methodology to evaluate and monitor agricultural technologies for climate change adaptation is underway, as well as the cross-cutting of gender topics.</p>
<p>Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA)</p>	<p>This national institution is a member of the National Climate Change Management System (SNGCC) and the National Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System of the AFOLU sector.</p>	<p>MARENA is implementing 2 pilot initiatives for the reduction of emissions from deforestation and degradation of forests (REDD+), as part of the GEF 5 and GEF 6 projects. To this end, the MRV System of the REDD+ mechanism is being updated and will then be integrated into the National MRV System of the AFOLU sector.</p>	<p>Capacity-building is needed for MRV, with emphasis on payment for results, since MARENA has new staff who will attend to these activities.</p>
<p>Ministry of Family, Community, Cooperative and Associative Economy (MEFFCA)</p>	<p>As member of the SNGCC, it will play a key role for the achievement of outputs 1.1.4 and 2.1.4, to adapt methodologies, train its staff and validate case studies on monitoring, evaluation and adjustment of adaptation actions</p>	<p>It has systematized climate change adaptation experiences, and is currently building capacities to use and document a M&E methodology for climate change adaptation measures promoted through national programmes, strategies and projects.</p>	<p>It is necessary to continue to build capacities for M&E and for the systematization of lessons learnt and the dissemination of good practices.</p>
<p>NGOs²³</p>			

²³ Non-government organizations

Private sector entities			
Others²⁴			
New stakeholders identified			
Ministry of Agriculture (MAG)	<p>This national institution is a member of the National Climate Change Management System (SNGCC) and the National Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System of the AFOLU sector.</p> <p>Initially, this entity's role had not been included in the project, but it has been identified as strategic due to the need to link the collection of information on mitigation with the agricultural census and surveys.</p>	It has participated in the trainings on the use of tools for the monitoring of land use and land cover, as well as in working sessions for the development of MRV in the AFOLU sector.	For the comprehensive strengthening of MRV in the AFOLU sector, it is indispensable to build capacities in the collection, processing and analysis of data about climate change in the agricultural sector.
Ministry of Women (MINIM)	Initially, this entity's role had not been included in the project document; however, its importance for the enrichment and sustainability of gender reports and climate change has been identified.	The institution has developed a proposal for gender and climate change indicators for purposes of international reporting, and it has actively participated in the SNGCC sessions it has been invited to.	Broadening of capacity-building to sustain the generation of information and reporting on gender and climate change.
National Autonomous University of Nicaragua (UNAN)	Academic institution	Participation in trainings on methodologies for the implementation of the new cycle of the National Forestry Inventory and on Silva Métricos.	Broadening and sustainment of capacity-transfer regarding climate change, reporting to the UNFCCC, MRV and NGHGI.

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>It has participated in training sessions about the use of monitoring tools for land use and land cover.</p> <p>As a highly acknowledged academic institution, it is supporting national capacity-building processes on topics related to climate change and inventory.</p>	
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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 capacity-building process of the national entity in charge of the design and implementation of the national gender policy (Nicaraguan Ministry of Women) was developed through the signing of a Letter of Agreement with FAO and has been satisfactorily finalised.
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	N/A	
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):	yes	<p>Equal participation of technicians in the institutional capacity-building processes as well as in all project-related activities is promoted.</p> <p>In this sense, INAFOR has only reached 30% participation of female technicians in its processes; even though there is awareness-raising and promotion of women's participation in the processes, working groups are mainly composed of men.</p> <p>Professional women make up 80% of INETER's technical personnel that is participating in the project activities.</p>
a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources	N/A	
b) improving women's participation and decision making	N/A	
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	N/A	
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Yes	Tools for the collection and processing of sensitive gender data have been developed and are being implemented in the counterparts INTA and MINIM.
Staff with gender expertise	No	
Any other good practices on gender	Yes	The national project team consists of 50% women and 50% men, and a woman is currently in charge of its coordination.

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.	Due to its nature (capacity-strengthening), the project includes knowledge management activities directly related to its results framework, which are already under implementation.
Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year .	The project does not have a communications strategy. However, it plans to disseminate the implementation outcomes with the assistance of the FAO Communications Unit.
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.	N/A
Please provide links to related website, social media account	N/A
Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.	https://www.fao.org/redd/news/detail/es/c/1390716/ https://twitter.com/faonicaragua/status/1640826920764858377?s=46 https://twitter.com/faonicaragua/status/1640743736631066627?s=46 https://twitter.com/faonicaragua/status/1633980589823909888?s=46
Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point's name and contact details	Enmanuel Castro enmanuel.castromunoz@fao.org

12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

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

The project aims at strengthening capacities of the institutions forming the National Climate Change Management System (SNGCC), to fulfil the national commitments regarding climate change. The project does not implement actions with indigenous peoples. However, it is important to indicate that the interactions with stakeholders in the Caribbean Coast Autonomous Regions of Nicaragua, such as the Regional Governments, represent a form of participation of indigenous and native peoples, as these are the structures that represent their interests.

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 institutions	SCCP					
	MARENA			60,641		18,1924
	INTA			39,600		118,800
	INAFOR			14,400		43,200
	INETER			16,800		50,400
	MEFCCA			10,800		32,400
United Nations System Agency	FAO			21,600		64,800
		TOTAL		163,841		491,524

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

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

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

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