

# GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

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## Table of contents

1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION .....	3
1.1 Project Details .....	3
1.2 Project Description .....	4
1.3 Project Contacts.....	5
2 Overview of Project Status.....	6
2.1 UNEP PoW & UN.....	6
2.2. GEF Core and Sub Indicators .....	7
2.3. Implementation Status and Risks .....	7
2.4 Co Finance .....	9
2.5. Stakeholder .....	9
2.6. Gender .....	10
2.7. ESSM .....	10
2.8. KM/Learning.....	11
2.9. Stories .....	13
3 Performance.....	15
3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes .....	15
3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress) .....	21
4 Risks.....	30
4.1 Table A. Project management Risk .....	30
4.2 Table B. Risk-log.....	30
4.3 Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks.....	34
5 Amendment - GeoSpatial.....	41
5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment (TM).....	41
5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions (TM) .....	42

**UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2024**  
**Reporting from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024**

## 1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

### 1.1 Project Details

<b>GEF ID:</b> 5290	<b>Umoja WBS:</b> SB-008055
<b>SMA IPMR ID:</b> 34663	<b>Grant ID:</b> S1-32GFL-000618/ P1-33GFL-001151
<b>Project Short Title:</b> Venezuela Biosafety	
<b>Project Title:</b> Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework in Venezuela in Accordance to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	
<b>Duration months planned:</b>	48
<b>Duration months age:</b>	83
<b>Project Type:</b>	Medium Sized Project (MSP)
<b>Parent Programme if child project:</b>	
<b>Project Scope:</b>	National
<b>Region:</b>	Latin America and Caribbean
<b>Countries:</b>	Venezuela
<b>GEF Focal Area(s):</b>	Biodiversity
<b>GEF financing amount:</b>	\$ 1,860,000.00
<b>Co-financing amount:</b>	\$ 2,072,000.00
<b>Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:</b>	2017-02-23
<b>UNEP Project Approval Date:</b>	2017-02-24
<b>Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):</b>	2017-08-09
<b>Date of Inception Workshop, if available:</b>	2017-11-23
<b>Date of First Disbursement:</b>	2017-09-13
<b>Total disbursement as of 30 June 2024:</b>	\$ 1,560,788.00
<b>Total expenditure as of 30 June:</b>	\$ 1,217,374.00

<b>Midterm undertaken?:</b>	Yes
<b>Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:</b>	2021-05-01
<b>Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:</b>	
<b>Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:</b>	2021-04-30
<b>Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:</b>	2024-10-31
<b>Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:</b>	2025-01-01
<b>Expected Financial Closure Date:</b>	2025-10-31

## 1.2 Project Description

Project Objective: Establish a platform of legislative, regulatory, social and infrastructure to implement the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety of biotechnology in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, in order to contribute to the global conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Components: 1. Completion and operation of biosafety legal framework. Component 1 seeks to ensure that the regulatory biosafety framework is completed, adopted and integrated within the National Strategy for the Conservation of Biodiversity 2010-2020 and its National Action Plan. 2. Development of appropriate institutional and human capacity for decision-making and regulatory compliance in biosafety. Component 2 focuses on strengthening the institutional and administrative framework to provide effective responses to LMO applications and communicate decisions in line with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB); and increasing human capacity, clarity, scientific and technological bases to make decisions regarding LMOs and control / monitor activities with LMOs in the country. 3. Development of appropriate capacities for public participation in decision-making. Component 3 seeks to enhance the level of public understanding of biosafety through participatory diagnosis, promote and systematize public participation in decision-making processes on LMOs, and support a coordinated governmental system for public access to information on biosafety in accordance with Article 20 of the CPB. 4. Strengthening of infrastructure for the detection and management of GMOs. The goal of Component 4 is to equip the Reference Laboratory for Detection of LMOs of the Ministry for Eco socialism and render it operational. 5. M&E and Project operations Project executed in a timely manner, achieving outcomes and producing high quality outputs. Executing Agency: The National Agency leading project execution is the Ministry of Eco socialism. The Fund Management Agency in charge of operations is the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Venezuela Country Office. Project Partners: Laboratory of the National Reference Centre for Genetically Modified Organisms, Mexico; collaboration with academic institutions, among which the Faculty of Agronomy of the Central University of Venezuela and the Institute for Advanced Studies (IAE); the National Competent Authorities (CAN): Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Agriculture and National Institute of Integral Agricultural Health.

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### 1.3 Project Contacts

<b>Division(s) Implementing the project</b>	Ecosystems Division
<b>Name of co-implementing Agency</b>	
<b>Executing Agency (ies)</b>	The People's Power Ministry of Environment (MINEC)
<b>names of Other Project Partners</b>	
<b>UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)</b>	Johan Robinson
<b>UNEP Task Manager(s)</b>	Anna Fanzeres/Robert Erath
<b>UNEP Budget/Finance Officer</b>	Solomon Kinuthia and Rachel Kagiri
<b>UNEP Support Assistants</b>	Gloritzel Frangakis Cano
<b>Manager/Representative</b>	Miguel Serrano
<b>Project Manager</b>	Miguel Serrano/Carliz Díaz
<b>Finance Manager</b>	Miguel Serrano/Carliz Díaz
<b>Communications Lead, if relevant</b>	

## 2 Overview of Project Status

### 2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

<b>UNEP Current Subprogramme(s):</b>	Thematic: Nature action subprogramme, Foundational: Environmental governance
<b>UNEP previous Subprogramme(s):</b>	Healthy and productive ecosystems Environmental Governance
<b>PoW Indicator(s):</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nature: (ii) Number of financial, public- and private-sector entities whose financial decisions and risk management frameworks take biodiversity and ecosystem services into consideration, and the increase in financial flows towards ecosystem management as a result of UNEP support.</li> <li>• Governance: (ii) Number of international legal agreements or instruments advanced or developed with UNEP support to address emerging or internationally agreed environmental goals</li> </ul>
<b>UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages</b>	<p>The Venezuelan United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) was published in September 2022 covering the period from 2023 to 2026. The Multi-Year Funding Framework's (MYFF) required to deliver the planned UNSDCF programme cycle amounts to USD \$694.8m. In line with the country's strategic priorities, the 2030 Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the focus is on three areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthen the resilience and development of the population with a gender perspective, equity, intergenerationally and a human right approach;</li> <li>2. Strengthen together the sustainable, resilient and innovative productive development of Venezuela aligned with environmental management and action against climate change, leaving no one behind;</li> <li>3. Advance towards the 2030 Agenda by promoting sustainable, inclusive and equal social cohesion.</li> </ol> <p>In the environmental dimension, in relation to the project theme, the United Nations aim to promote that: a) Public institutions have strengthened capacities, human talent, and financing possibilities to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of environmental management and disaster risk reduction policies; b) Habitat fragmentation and contamination and biodiversity loss are reduced, and progress is made in ecosystem and biodiversity recovery strategies; c) The creation of risk scenarios, exposure and vulnerability of communities to the occurrence of biological, technological and socio-natural risks, exacerbated by climate change, is reduced; d) Institutions that promote social and economic development maintain and expand measures to ensure environmental sustainability; e) There are spaces for international cooperation, technical assistance and exchange of capacities and experiences that function as support for environmental management and risk and disaster reduction policies; f) Citizen spaces are strengthened for the influence and promotion of processes that promote participation, equity and resilience in environmental policies, including women in their diversity; and g) Productive and consumption matrices are adapted with ecological criteria, as well as promoting international agreement on the</p>

	matter.
<b>Link to relevant SDG Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</li> </ul>
<b>Link to relevant SDG Targets:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed</li> <li>• 2.a Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries</li> </ul>

## 2.2. GEF Core and Sub Indicators

GEF core or sub indicators targeted by the project as defined at CEO Endorsement/Approval, as well as results

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	

Implementation Status 2023: 7th PIR

## 2.3. Implementation Status and Risks

	PIR#	Rating towards outcomes (section 3.1)	Rating towards outputs (section 3.2)	Risk rating (section 4.2)
FY 2024	7th PIR	MS	MS	M
FY 2023	6th PIR	MS	MS	S
FY 2022	5th PIR	MU	MU	H
FY 2021	4th PIR	MS	MU	S
FY 2020	3rd PIR	MS	MU	M
FY 2019	2nd PIR	MU	MU	S
FY 2018	1st PIR	MS	MS	M
FY 2017				
FY 2016				
FY 2015				

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### Summary of status

In the execution period from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, there was implementation of GEF funds of 32,324.30 USD, the execution budget of the national counterpart was 107,500.00 USD, including the national contribution in the technical and administrative execution of the project, as well as the organization of two national events with agricultural producers, researchers, public officials and seed marketing companies. and agricultural inputs. For Component 1 and Component 2, five meetings were carried out to disseminate the project's objectives to producers, researchers, public officials and companies of the agricultural sector, regarding the applicability of the Cartagena Protocol on the applicability of biosafety measures in the country's agricultural systems. The first meeting was carried out on July 27, 2023 at the IX Venezuelan Congress of Genetic Improvement and Agricultural Biotechnology in the state of Yaracuy, attended by 250 people (160 women and 90 men), with the participation of numerous national and international experts. The second meeting was carried out on November 23, 2023, the workshop "Capacity Creation for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) using Protein Analysis techniques", included the participation of agriculture producers, totaling 35 participants (21 women and 15 men). The third meeting, May 7, 2024, on the "Legal Framework for Biosafety in Venezuela" was held during the National Training Course on Disease Management and Detection in Musaseas with Emphasis on the Management of FOC TR4 Disease: the case Venezuela". This workshop was attended by 30 participants (17 women and 13 men). The fourth meeting, on May 17, 2024, was titled "Theoretical-practical workshop: "Biotechnology Applied to Plant Genetic Improvement", within the framework of the Training Plan for Plant Breeders of Venezuela." It was promoted by the "National Rice Foundation" (FUNDARROZ) for training of professionals responsible for areas such as: Genetic improvement of plants, Agri-food Biosafety, Cartagena Protocol on Biotechnology Safety, Detection of GMOs in the field, ports and airports. The workshop was attended by 5 women and 5 men. The fifth meeting, on June 12, 2024, in Puerto Ordaz, Bolívar state, was on the "Theoretical-Practical Workshop on Strengthening Capacities for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) through Protein Analysis Techniques". This workshop was attended by 25 people (7 women and 18 men).

Also, within Component 2, a practical guide for the detection of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) was implemented using methods based on immunoassays and reports on protocols for the standardization and validation of methodologies for the detection of genetically modified organisms. In addition, it was produced a guide for evaluation and analysis of risks of GMOs, based upon the Venezuelan national legislation and presenting a case study of an hypothetical release of a GMO in the field. Progress was also achieved, in the project website, with the administrative procedures and the accessibility of technical forms for applications on the use of GMOs.

Within Component 3, in March 2024, it was released a video presenting the laboratory for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO), including the description of the activities carried out by this institution. In addition, information material was shared with the Bioethics Committee of the Ministry of Popular Power for Science and Technology. This activity sought to disseminate the progress that the country has achieved in the detection of GMOs and the additional actions implemented by the Ministries of Science and Technology, Higher Education and Health, which are ministries with mandates in matters of biosafety.

Within Component 4, progress was reached with the preventive maintenance program for existing equipment in the Reference Laboratory for the detection of genetically modified organisms (LRDOMG) and a proposal for protocols for standardization and validation of methodologies for the detection of genetically modified organisms. Training activities are also being carried out with the recently hired personnel at the LRDOMG (July 2023 - June 2024).



For the closure of the year of 2023 (December 27), a technical meeting was held with MINEC Authorities to present the progress of the project and the perspectives for 2024.

## 2.4 Co Finance

<b>Planned Co-finance:</b>	\$ 2,072,000
<b>Actual to date:</b>	10,802,640
<b>Progress</b>	<p><b>Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges:</b></p> <p>To date, 87% of the programmed co-financing has been deployed. During the period covered by this report, \$107,500 was mobilized. This project is largely co-financed by the Government of Venezuela, and most of the PMU is publicly funded.</p>

## 2.5. Stakeholder

<b>Date of project steering committee meeting</b>	2023-07-23
<b>Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)</b>	<p>In 2023, the training activities allowed for the identification of the potential that national actors related to the agricultural sector have for applying regulations, protocols and/or standards that reduce the risks and dangers associated with modern biotechnology. Thus, identifying the country's capability to comply with the commitments assumed by the Republic when signing the Cartagena Protocol. However, there is still a need for Venezuela to put into practice three important components: 1) more participatory impact evaluation mechanisms, 2) improvement of public awareness and 3) improvement of public participation.</p>

## 2.6. Gender

<b>Does the project have a gender action plan?</b>	No
<b>Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):</b>	<p>Nevertheless, the project has been promoting a significant participation of women in all training events, such as:</p> <p>In the IX Venezuelan Congress of Genetic Improvement and Agricultural Biotechnology (July 27, 2023): women 160 (64%), men 90 (36%) total: 250.</p> <p>In the workshop on “Capacity Creation for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) using Protein Analysis techniques” (November 23): 2023 women, 21 (60%), men 15 (40%) total: 35.</p> <p>At the Technical meeting with MINEC Authorities (December 27, 2023): women, 10 (50%), men 10 (50%), total: 20.</p> <p>In the workshop on “Legal Framework for Biosafety in Venezuela” (May 7, 2024) women, 17 (56.66%), men 13 (43.33%), total: 30.</p> <p>At the “Theoretical-practical workshop: “Biotechnology Applied to Plant Genetic Improvement” (May 17, 2024): women, 5 (50%), men 5 (50%), total: 10.</p> <p>At the “Theoretical-Practical Workshop on Strengthening Capacities for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) through Protein Analysis Techniques” (June 12, 2024): women, 7 (28%), men 18 (72%), total: 25.</p>

## 2.7. ESSM

<b>Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)</b>	<p><b>Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?</b></p> <p>No</p> <p><b>If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?</b></p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>New social and/or</b>	<b>Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?</b>

<b>environmental risks</b>	No If yes, describe the new risks or changes?  N/A
<b>Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts</b>	Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period? No If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken? N/A
<b>Environmental and social safeguards management</b>	While the work on biosafety is essentially about detection and management of environmental and social risks associated with GMOs, this is an essentially normative project designed several years ago with no direct safeguards management activities.

## 2.8. KM/Learning

<b>Knowledge activities and products</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. IX Venezuelan Congress of Genetic Improvement and Agricultural Biotechnology. Enlace del evento (<a href="https://sovemeb.org/ix-conveme/?v=c6b15e38470c">https://sovemeb.org/ix-conveme/?v=c6b15e38470c</a>).</li> <li>2. New plant improvement techniques applying modern biotechnology. This activity was taught to professionals in the agricultural area as a training activity within the training program for genetic breeders. The examples and results are cited from updated research worldwide.</li> <li>3. Workshop on “Capacity Creation for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) using Protein Analysis techniques”, which was an activity that included the participation of agriculture producers, researchers, public officials and companies in the agricultural sector. In this workshop, the progress of this project was presented, the experiences in germplasm conservation in the country were presented, as well as the theoretical and practical foundations of the detection of GMOs at the protein level.</li> <li>4. Workshop on the “Legal Framework for Biosafety in Venezuela”, which was an activity during the National Training Course on Management and Detection of Diseases in Musaceae with Emphasis on the Management of the FOC R4T Disease. Venezuela case”, financed through the project: VEN 5023: Improving banana productivity through mutation breeding techniques to improve resistance to diseases in Musaceae (OIAI). The objective of the activity was to present the legislation on Genetically Modified Organisms.</li> <li>5. Theoretical-practical workshop on “Biotechnology Applied to Plant Genetic Improvement”, within the framework of the Training</li> </ol>
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	<p>Plan for Plant Breeders in Venezuela”, which has been promoted by the “National Rice Foundation” (FUNDARROZ).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Within the framework of the project, training of professionals in areas such as: Genetic improvement of plants, agri-food biosafety, the Cartagena Protocol on Biotechnology Safety, Detection of GMOs in the field, ports and airports, applied examples were also presented. with new genetic improvement techniques applying modern biotechnology.</li> <li>7. Theoretical-Practical Workshop on Capacity Building for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) using Protein Analysis Techniques.” The activity had the following objectives: ii) Raise comprehensive knowledge about the theoretical and technical bases of Biosafety and GMOs in Venezuela; ii) Introduced participants to chemical immunoassay methods for the detection of GMO Crops. 3. Create a space for the exchange of knowledge and experiences on biosafety in a Brazil-Venezuela border state.</li> </ol>
<b>Main learning during the period</b>	<p>During the current period, progress was made in the interaction between technicians, researchers and officials of the national authorities with competence in biosecurity. The five training activities carried out strengthened the capabilities of GMO detection in ports and airports, mainly in the Brazil-Venezuela border area. In the Brazil-Venezuela border area there is little information on biosecurity and a lack of personnel trained in biosecurity. Therefore, it is necessary to promote training measures through distance education strategies.</p> <p>In the country, the illegal entry of seeds into the agri-food system has been reported. In this sense, the national coordination of the project has sought to establish institutional relations with the National Institute of Integral Agricultural Health (INSAI). In this sense, its directors were advised on the acquisition of reagents for the detection of GMOs at the protein level.</p> <p>The National Institute for Agricultural Research (INIA) is currently carrying out a project that seeks the introduction of germplasm of musaceae resulting from the application of modern biotechnology. In this regard, national legislation on biosecurity was not clear. The project managed to update researchers on legal matters of biosecurity, identified the need to establish the national commission on biosecurity as an advisory body on the introduction of germplasm resulting from the application of modern biotechnology and to establish research strategies in confined sites and the evaluation of the risks associated with genetically modified organisms (GMO).</p>

## 2.9. Stories

<b>Stories to be shared</b>	<p>The IX Venezuelan Congress on Genetic Improvement and Agricultural Biotechnology in Yaracuy state, promoted by the Venezuelan Society for Genetic Improvement and Biotechnology (SOVEMED), allowed for the establishment of technical-scientific alliances with its members, allowing the applicability of the Cartagena Protocol to be disseminated in biosecurity activities in the country's agricultural systems. During this activity, researchers and producers were able to identify physiological characteristics of genetically modified corn; the method of direct exposure of seeds to herbicide concentrations is a method learned by producers that they can apply in their production units.</p> <p>Attendees at the Symposium: Current Status of GMO Technology had the opportunity to exchange experiences in biosecurity with international research institutions such as CIAT, where Decree 4525 of 2005 (Regulatory Framework for GMOs) currently in force in Colombia was discussed. The activity highlighted the progress of the project in the training proposal in the area of biodiversity and biosecurity for researchers in the country.</p> <p>The workshop "Capacity Building for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) using Protein Analysis Techniques", which was an activity that included the participation of producers, researchers, public officials and companies in the agricultural sector. This activity included seed marketing companies in the country, and the information provided by the workshop allowed them to acquire knowledge for the detection of GMO in the field, and these companies are trained to acquire their reagents and form their biosecurity committees in the companies as a monitoring strategy in their experimental units.</p> <p>The workshop "Legal Framework for Biosecurity in Venezuela", which was an activity in the National Training Course on Management and Detection of Diseases in Musaceae with Emphasis on the Management of the FOC R4T Disease. Case of Venezuela", financed through the project: VEN 5023: Improving banana productivity through mutation breeding techniques to improve disease resistance in Musaceae (OIAI). This activity allowed the establishment of an institutional link in order to address legal issues related to the introduction of germplasm of musaceae results of modern biotechnology. These accessions are tolerant to the fungus <i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> f. sp. <i>Cubense</i> race 4, which would be evaluated under confinement conditions to identify the genotypes adapted to the environmental conditions of Venezuela and thus establish a genetic improvement program from these introduced materials and respond to agricultural producers who have seen their banana production decimated by this fungus that is distributed in the main productive areas of the sector. In this sense, it was necessary to promote from the competent ministries the installation of the national biosecurity commission as an advisory body to the national executive.</p> <p>The theoretical-practical workshop: "Biotechnology Applied to Plant Genetic Improvement", within the framework of the Plant Breeders Training Plan in Venezuela", which is being promoted by the "National Rice Foundation" (FUNDARROZ). Within the framework of the project, training was provided for professionals in areas such as: Genetic improvement of plants, agro-food biosecurity, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosecurity, and GMO detection in the</p>
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	<p>field, ports and airports. This activity is part of the training program that the project has been promoting together with the National Rice Foundation. The professionals expressed the importance of biosecurity and the implementation of the Cartagena protocol in their research activities, since crops with phenotypic characteristics associated with genetic modification may occur in the field.</p> <p>The Theoretical-Practical Workshop on the Creation of Capabilities for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) Using Protein Analysis Techniques” in Puerto Ordaz, Bolívar state. The institutions trained in this workshop highlighted the importance of GMO detection at border crossings, since illegally imported seeds and grains have been reported and the genetic makeup of the seeds is unknown. The project made the training program in the area of biodiversity and biosecurity available to institutions such as the Science and Technology Foundation (FUNDACITE) - Bolívar state, the Guayana Experimental University and the Samuel Robinson National Experimental Teachers' University - Bolívar state, as an institutional contribution to the training of professionals and researchers who work in the state of Bolívar.</p>
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### 3 Performance

#### 3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
1. Finalize and put into operation the legal framework on biosafety.							S
2. Develop the appropriate institutional and human capacity for decision-making and regulatory compliance in biosafety.							MS
3. Develop the appropriate capacities for public participation in decision-making.							MU
4. Strengthen the infrastructure for the detection and management of GMOs.							S
1.1 The biosafety regulatory framework is completed, adopted and integrated into the National Strategy for the Conservation of Biodiversity 2010-2020 and its National Action Plan in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol	1. Biosafety framework integrated and supported by binding documents (Policy, NCA).2. The biosafety framework takes into account the main considerations of CPB.	1. PC was ratified in 2003. 2. CNBio is not currently operational. 3. There are 7 competent national authorities in	1.1.1 The first draft of the biosafety policy must be completed and ready to be shared with the main actors and	1.1.1 Socialization of the biosafety policy with the interested parties and subject to national approval. 1.1.2 Final document of	95%	Currently, with under the Proposal for Biotechnology Safety Regulation, consultations have been held conducted with legal experts who will apply the respective revisions revise the proposed measures and submit them to decision-makers. During the course of the year, technical actions	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
		Venezuela. 4. There is a diagnosis of the legal framework that needs to be updated. 5. Need to generate national laws (for example, executive orders or administrative resolutions) of a more specific nature. 6. Guidelines should be generated for the analysis of requests.	eventually presented to the competent authorities. 1.1.2 National biosafety regulation elaborated 1.1.3 Designation of competent national authorities in biosafety matters. 1.1.4 Development of guidelines, protocols, sectoral and technical regulations for the management of GMOs.	biosafety standards presented to authorities. 1.1.3 National biosafety authorities have the necessary personnel to deal with matters related to CPB and biosafety. 1.1.4 Guidelines, protocols, technical regulations for the management of GMOs in the country (GMOs in transit, confined trials, risk assessment of emergency measures) completed and available. las ANC.		intervention will be articulated taken to promote the development of a ministerial resolution.	
2.1.The institutional and administrative framework is reinforced to provide effective	Country with capacity to process GMO applications.	Currently there is no system in place to process	1.Administrative system to handle applications with	1. Administrative system to handle applications	90%	Administrative and technical forms for GMO applications are available at the project website. will be published on	S



Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
responses to GMO applications and communicate decisions in line with the CPB.		GMO related applications. NCAs are those related to biosafety issues, but there is a lack of a clear structure or system for biosafety issues	GMOs designed and socialized with main stakeholders and NCAs. 2. National Biosafety Committee is operational.	approved by NCAs and under implementation. 2. National Biosafety Committee is operational.		the project website. Public consultations are expected to take place between August and December 2024. The National Biosafety Commission will be set up between August and December 2024.	
2.2. There is greater human capacity, clarity, scientific and technological bases to make decisions regarding GMOs	1. NCA can process applications and fulfil CPB requirements through technically qualified personnel. 2. Risk assessment can take place. 3. Technical recommendations from biosafety committee support decision-making.	Currently there is limited capacity in NCA personnel in terms of technical biosafety knowledge, which is an obstacle to review possible applications and issue recommendations for decision-making. Few personnel have been trained formally on biosafety and there is a need for hands-on	1. Personnel from NCAs trained in biosafety matters (risk assessment and decision-making). 2. At least 2 training activities have allowed discussion of biosafety gender related issues. 3. Proposal on how to issue technical recommendations for decision-making developed.	1. Personnel from NCAs trained in biosafety matters (risk assessment and decision-making). 2. At least 3 training activities have allowed discussion of biosafety gender related issues 3. Proposal on how to issue technical recommendations for decision-making socialized	87%	Knowledge Management activities that have been conducted during the reporting period were the following: "Training program in the area of biodiversity and biosecurity in Venezuela according to the Cartagena protocol". The practice of the guide for the detection of genetically modified organisms (GMO) was evaluated using methods based on immunoassays and reports of protocols for the standardization and validation of methodologies for the detection of genetically modified organisms, specifically for the detection of transgenic protein in leaves, tissues, cereals, seeds and flours. In addition, the consultation with the ANC on a guide for the evaluation and risk analysis of GMOs, directed to personnel	MS

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
		training experiences.				of land ports, airports and customs control ports for transfer, use, safe release, handling and transportation activities of GMOs, is initiated.	
2.3. There is greater human capacity, clarity, scientific and technology to control / monitor activities with GMOs in the country.	1. MO monitoring activities take place at various points (sea ports, airports and customs checkpoints).2. There is capacity to react on biosafety emergency cases.	Monitoring capacity is very limited or null. The country imports goods that may contain GMOs for food, feed and processing but nowadays there is no mechanism to confirm what is coming in as an import. Customs personnel are not aware of biosafety, not of possible monitoring measures in this respect. There is a need for technical capacity as well as for sensitization of	1. Identification of mechanisms for risk control and management, including technology and methods for GMO traceability/ detection. 2. Contingency protocols for emergency response drafted. Personnel from control points sensitized about biosafety and trained in the use of the monitoring techniques and protocols.	1. Analysis of main gaps to cover. 2. Memos and minutes of meetings with customs authorities and representatives of other control points. 3. Purchase of equipment 4. Training activities.	90%	It has been published a guide for the evaluation and analysis of GMO risks, based upon the Venezuelan national legislation and an associated case study on the f hypothetical release of a GMO in the field.Five training activities were carried out with the competent national authorities, agricultural producers, researchers and technicians.	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
		involved actors.					
3.1. Increase the level of public understanding of biosafety through operations based on participatory diagnosis.	Better understanding of biosafety at various levels (general public, NCA's personnel, related institutions).	Biosafety is not a subject included in technical or formal training programs, and there are currently no official campaigns to sensitize the general public and /or other actors on biosafety related issues. There is no formal study on the actual knowledge of biosafety on various society groups. However there is a need to socialize the issue in order to obtain support for the operation of the biosafety system.	Surveys for various actors designed and applied to at least 2 of the target groups Biosafety and biotechnology communication strategy drafted and approved by the EA. Discussion forums have taken place National BCH updated Project website developed and online by PY1 Development of informative materials.	Surveys for various actors applied to at least 4 target groups. National BCH updated. Development of informative materials Discussion forums have taken place.	90%	Information materials on GMOs were prepared for the project. This information must be validated with the ANC and approved by the MINEC Communication Management Directorate.Face-to-face surveys were applied in 03 theoretical-practical capacity-building workshops with technicians, researchers, agricultural producers and companies. The results have shown that the training provided to participants allowed them to build capacities in biosecurity and to exchange opinions and experiences in the field of activities carried out in the different ministries.	HS
3.2. Public participation in decision-making processes on	Better understanding of biosafety at various levels	Currently there are no public	Participation structures and	Participation structures and	90%	During this reporting period, a technical meeting was held with the	MS

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
GMOs is promoted and systematized.	(general public, NCA's personnel, related institutions).Public participation mechanisms in place. Better understanding of biosafety.	participation mechanisms in place since there is actually no biosafety operation system established.	mechanisms as part of authorization process of GMOs, including a Claims Desk and Question and Answers system designed and socialized for NCA's feedback.	mechanisms as part of authorization process of GMOs, including a Claims Desk and Question and Answers system established.		national authorities responsible for biosafety, where the following advances were highlighted: 1. Continue and strengthen inter-institutional participation in the project's scheduled activities. 2. Designate focal points for the reactivation of the National Biosafety Commission. 3. Support the request for project expansion to UNEP, which will make arrangements with the GEF to be able to specify the pending actions and products. 4. Carry out coordinated work actions in order to respond to complaints and concerns of citizens regarding the management of GMOs in the mainly agri-food system. 5. Also continue with public training activities for decision-making on GMOs.	
3.3. A coordinated governmental system for public access to information on biosafety is supported in accordance with Article 20 of the CPB.	National BCH website is updated and shares important biosafety information.	The BCH needs to be updated.	BCH is revised and information is updated, including the new outputs of the project, country decisions and news, as well as any other relevant information.	BCH is re-revised and updated to include new project products.	90%	Information on the project components is included, as well as updates on training and dissemination activities within the framework of the work plan. In this regard, these results are contained on the project page and on the BCH national website.	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
4.1. Equip and operate the Reference Laboratory for Detection of GMOs of the Ministry of Popular Power for the Environment, the lead agency for Biosafety in Venezuela, responsible for supervision and control of GMO's in the country.	GMO detection capacity improved and supports countries' fulfilment of CPB requirements.	Nowadays the country has no GMO detection capacity that could serve as a national reference laboratory. The infrastructure of existing labs that are link to the NCAs is basic and requires improvements to undertake on regular basis GMO detection.	List of laboratory equipment revised and updated (by PY1). Purchase of equipment commence (by PY2). Laboratory improvements for operations begin (by PY2).	Laboratory equipment received and installed. Equipment test and setup. Laboratory improved and ready to operate.	85%	During this period, administrative work was carried out to adapt the work areas in the laboratory. The laboratory is awaiting the necessary reagents and equipment belonging to purchase order 402401-1 to standardize the protocols of the Real-Time PCR technique.	S

### 3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress)

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
1 Completion and operation of biosafety legal	Output 1.1: National Policy Document on Biosafety.	2023-07-30				MS
	Activity 1.1.1 Consultancy for the revision of existing NBF.	2020-03-30	100	100	A document of the national biosafety policy was drawn up. A document was prepared with the revision of the	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
framework.					existing biosafety regulations.	
	Activity 1.1.2 Consultancy for drafting a national BS policy.	2020-03-30	100	100	A proposal for a National Biosecurity Policy Regulation was drafted	S
	Activity 1.1.3 Consultation meetings, (2) high level political meeting for lobbying.	2023-05-30	50	50	1 consultation meeting has been held with the highest political level. The review by the MINEC legal advisory body is still pending.	MU
	Activity 1.1.4. Publication of the national BS policy.	2023-07-30	100	100	Publication of the national BS policy	S
	Output 1.2: National biosafety legislation in connection with existing laws.	2023-07-30				MS
	Activity 1.2.1 Consultancy for drafting BS regulation.	2020-12-30	100	100	An online consultation was carried out on the Biosafety Regulation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, it is expected that other consultations will be carried out in the last quarter of 2021.	S
	Activity 1.2.2 Consultation meetings, (2) high level political meeting for lobbying.	2023-07-30	50	50	1 consultation meeting has been held with the highest political level. The review by the MINEC legal advisory body is still pending.	MU
	Activity 1.2.3 Publication of the BS act.	2023-07-30	100	100	The BCH - National has been fully updated, but the update is required in the CBD BCH.	S
	Output 1.3: Sectorial rules/ resolutions and guidelines for the management of GMOs.	2021-07-30				MU
	Activity 1.3.1. Consultancy to develop sectorial rules and regulations.	2021-07-30	100	100	All consultation workshops were held for the development of national regulations. Sectorial rules pending finalization.	S
Activity 1.3.2. Consultancy to develop technical guidelines and	2020-02-28	100	100	The consultants developed the technical	S	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	protocols (transit, confined field trial, emergency measures, risk assessment.				guidelines and protocols for risk assessment in: Traffic, confined field testing, emergency measures, risk assessment.	
	Activity 1.3.3. Meetings (3) for the process of drafting guidelines as per point (e).	2020-02-28	100	100	Meetings for guideline writing processes, not all three meetings have taken place.	S
	Output 1.4 Guidelines and procedural manuals for LMO users, including importers / exporters, producers, processing industry and researchers.	2021-07-30				S
	Activity 1.4.1. Consultancy to develop guidelines and procedures as per output 1.1.4.	2019-12-30	100	100	Delivery of the report, as established in the consultant's TOR.	S
	Output 1.5 Administrative and technical forms for LMO applications.	2021-07-30				S
	Activity 1.5.1. Consultancy for development of administrative and technical forms for LMOs applications.	2020-11-30	100	100	Delivery of the report, as established in the consultant's TOR.	S
	Activity 1.5.2. Meetings to socialize forms to NCA.	2021-07-30	100	100	Training workshops with staff belonging to the National Authorities with Competence (Health, science and technology, food and agriculture).	S
2 Development of appropriate institutional and human capacity for decision making and regulatory compliance in biosafety.	Output 2.1. Centralized administrative system to handle applications with LMOs including a "single-centralized window".	2024-07-30				MS
	Activity 2.1.1. Consultancy for the development of an administrative system.	2020-11-30	100	100	Delivery of the report, as established in the consultant's TOR.	S
	Activity 2.1.2. Subcontract for the development of a digital system to process GMO applications.	2024-07-30	50	50	The requirements for applications with GMOs have been reviewed and made available on the website for making applications for GMO detection. We are still working on the observations together with the National Competent	MU

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					Authorities.	
	Output 2.2. Technical Secretariat of the National Biosafety Committee created with specialized technical personnel.	2024-07-30				MU
	Activity 2.2.1.a. Meetings (4) to discuss the confirmation of the Biosafety committee and to validate proposal in national policy and law.	2024-07-30	75	75	Meeting of the Technical Committee (December 2023), Signing of the Commitment Act. Delivery of the report, as established in the consultant's TOR.	MS
	Output 2.3. Evaluation processes of environmental and health risks validated by the national authorities responsible for different uses of LMOs.	2024-07-30				MS
	Activity 2.3.1. (4) training workshops on biosafety risk assessment and management (cost: subcontract 60 + local arrangements 20).	2024-07-30	100	100	November 23, 2023, the workshop "Capacity Building for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) using Protein Analysis techniques" was held, where training was carried out on strategies for the evaluation and management of risks associated with released GMOs. to the environment intentionally. June 12, 2024 in Puerto Ordaz, Bolívar state and was called: Theoretical-Practical Workshop on Capacity Building for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) using Protein Analysis Techniques." Training was carried out on GMO mitigation and control strategies in the Brazil-Venezuela border area.	S
	Activity 2.3.2 (4) fellowships for NCA's personnel to be trained abroad.	2024-07-30	100	100	Four professionals from the country were trained through the course on evaluation	HS



Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					and analysis of Genetically Modified Organisms, Tecamac sector, State of Mexico from October 14 to November 1, 2019.	
	Activity 2.3.3. Mock exercise to validate the operation of the biosafety system.	2024-07-30	75	75	Four international training internships for laboratory staff were carried out, however, the rest of the training sessions were affected by the pandemic. 2 national trainings, one to train new staff entering the laboratory, and another for an undergraduate thesis.	MS
	Output 2.4. Specialized personnel trained to perform the tasks of monitoring and detection of LMOs at sea ports, airports and customs checkpoints.	2021-07-30				S
	Activity 2.4.1. (4) Training workshops on biosafety monitoring and detection techniques for custom officers and personnel at control points.	2021-07-30	100	100	The personnel from Venezuelan Bolivians, inspectors from the National Integrated Service of Customs Administration and Taxation (SENIAT), inspectors from the National Institute of Integral Agricultural Health (INSAI), personnel from the National Commission of Seeds (CONASEM), technical personnel from the Ministry People's Power for Agriculture and Productive Lands, Ministry of People's Power for Health, Ministry of People's Power for Food, National Institute of Agricultural Research (INIA) and staff of the Directorate of Inspection of the Ministry of People's Power for Ecosocialism among capacity	HS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					building.	
	Output 2.5. Mechanisms established for risk control and management, including technology and methods for LMO traceability/ detection, and contingency protocols for emergency response in case of accidents involving LMOs.	2024-07-30				MS
	Activity 2.5.1.a Consultancy to develop monitoring and detection mechanisms including: methods for LMO traceability/ detection, and contingency protocols for emergency response in case of accidents involving LMOs.	2020-02-28	100	100	A consultant developed the monitoring and detection mechanisms, the methods for traceability, detection of LMOs and their respective contingency protocols, in case of emergency in accidents involving LMOs.	S
	Activity 2.5.2. Meetings to discuss the product of consultancy and validation of the mechanisms.	2021-07-30	100	100	A meeting was held to discuss the forms that will be used for the validation of mechanisms.	S
	Activity 2.5.3. Purchase of equipment related to monitoring in control points.	2024-07-30	75	75	The purchase of laboratory equipment has been fully materialized, but the reagents are still to be delivered.	MS
3 Development of appropriate capacities for public participation in decision-making.	Output 3.1. Surveys and trend analysis on the level of information, awareness and changes in public opinion about biotechnology, biosafety and LMOs.	2024-07-30				MS
	Activity 3.1.1. Consultancy to develop survey forms, application of surveys and analysis of collected data. (2 phases before and sensitization activities).	2020-04-30	100	100	A consulting firm developed the survey forms and they were applied in communities and their data was analyzed.	S
	Activity 3.1.2 Publication of results (print and online).	2024-07-30	50	50	Some of the results of the consultations have been published on the project website in summary form. All TOR reports are in digital format, and the results of the consultations will be posted on the website in the next period.	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	Activity 3.1.1.c Meetings (2) to discuss survey results.	2024-07-30	50	50	Technical meeting with the MINEC Authorities to present the progress of the project and the perspectives for 2024, activity held on December 27, 2023. During the period, a meeting will be held to discuss the results.	MU
	Output 3.2. National Public Awareness and Information on LMOs and biotechnology including dissemination through websites.	2024-07-30				MS
	Activity 3.2.1.a Consultancy collection of biosafety related data for public awareness materials, and proposal on how to use/make available this information.	2024-07-30	75	75	Meetings with the Department of Communication of the MINEC for the digital dissemination of biosafety material, with information to raise public awareness about Genetically Modified Organisms.	MS
	Activity 3.1.3. Update of BCH with relevant biosafety information and project products on regular basis.	2021-07-30	100	100	All information is available on the project website.	S
	Activity 3.1.4. Consultancy for the development of the project website	2019-11-30	100	100	Delivery of the report, as established in the consultant's TOR.	S
	Activity 3.1.5. Subcontract to a firm for publication and printing of informative materials (brochures, banners, etc.).	2024-07-30	100	100	Printed posters for the dissemination of laboratory procedures.	MU
	Output 3.3. Participation structures and mechanisms as part of authorization process of LMOs, including a Claims Desk and Question and Answers system.	2020-04-30				S
	Activity 3.3.1. Consultancy for the development of a Q&A system and portal for public opinion on the NCA's website.	2020-04-30	100	100	A consulting firm developed the Q&A system and a consultation portal for the public opinion portal on the NCA website.	S
	Output 3.4. Discussion forums with the private sector to exchange views and queries.	2020-11-30				S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	Activity 3.4.1. Six (6) discussion forums.	2020-11-30	100	100	Discussion forums have been held according to the needs identified in the project, in some cases there have even been face-to-face meetings in the Laboratory to identify requirements and needs. Close to none private sector engagement.	S
	Output 3.5. Up to date sectorial information regarding GMOs presented and/or authorized by the country.	2021-07-30				S
	Activity 3.5.1. Coupled with act. 3.1.2 b (update of the BCH).	2021-07-30	100	100	The website is up and running. Although there is information available on sectoral legislation, there is no up to date information regarding GMOs available.	S
4	Output 4.1. An operational laboratory that has the necessary infrastructure to carry out analysis and detection of LMOs, which allows Venezuela to meet its obligations under the CPB.	2024-07-30				S
Strengthening of infrastructure for the detection and management of GMOs.	Activity 4.1.1. Consultancy for assessing the real need in terms of equipment at the moment of project implementation.	2020-11-30	100	100	Delivery of the report, as established in the consultant's TOR.	S
	Activity 4.1.2. Purchase of laboratory equipment, supplies, other materials for improvement of infrastructure (electric and plumbing connections, lab tables, etc).	2024-07-30	80	80	An important purchase of laboratory equipment, supplies, other materials for the improvement of the infrastructure (electrical and plumbing connections, laboratory tables, etc.) has been made, but it is still necessary to complete the internal adaptation of the same, so that comply with biosafety standards.	MS
	Activity 4.1.3. Installation of equipment and tests	2024-07-30	100	100	It has been elaborated a technical report for the electrical adjustments of	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					the Laboratory and (01) report on the infrastructure requirements necessary for the laboratory.	
	Activity 4.1.4. Consultancy Validation of detection protocols developed under Component 2.	2020-03-30	100	100	The methods and protocols for the validation of the GMO detection methods were obtained. The method for DNA extraction was validated. Two manuals were generated, or manuals of procedure in the laboratory and another one on the methods of detection by PCR in real time.	S
	Activity 4.1.5. development of MoU between the selected lab and the NCAs for operation.	2024-07-30	100	100	An agreement was signed with the Faculty of Agronomy of the UCV, for the training of the Laboratory staff and for the validation of the GMO detection protocols.	MU
5 Monitoring and Evaluation	Output 5.1. Project inception and closure workshops.	2021-07-30				S
	Activity 5.1.1. Coordination and hosting of the inception workshop.	2021-07-30	100	100	Inception workshop successfully held.	S
	Activity 5.1.2 Coordination and hosting of the closure workshop.	2025-01-30	0	0	Yet to be held.	S
	Output 5.2. Project SC meetings.	2025-07-30				S
	Activity 5.2.1 Coordination and hosting of the SC meetings.	2025-01-30	75	80	At least 10 SC meetings have been coordinated and hosted, on the one hand to meet the needs of the project and on the other to plan the activities within the framework of the project.	S
	Output 5.3 Project MTE and TE.	2025-01-30				S
	Activity 5.3.1 Coordination and participation in the evaluations.		50	50	MTE held in 2023; TE still to be held.	S

The Task Manager will decide on the relevant level of disaggregation (i.e. either at the output or activity level).

## 4 Risks

### 4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

Please refer to the Risk Help Sheet for more details on rating

Risk Factor	EA Rating	TM Rating
1 Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	Moderate	Moderate
2 Governance structure - Oversight	Moderate	Moderate
3 Implementation schedule	Moderate	Moderate
4 Budget	Moderate	Moderate
5 Financial Management	Moderate	Moderate
6 Reporting	Moderate	Moderate
7 Capacity to deliver	Moderate	Moderate

If any of the risk factors is rated a Moderate or higher, please include it in Table B below

### 4.2 Table B. Risk-log

#### Implementation Status (Current PIR)

Insert ALL the risks identified either at CEO endorsement (inc. safeguards screening), previous/current PIRs, and MTRs. Use the last line to propose a suggested consolidated rating.

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Lack of coordination between the various NCAs to effectively participate in the project due to the fact that not all of them have the same capacities (technically, financially and operationally).	All	M	N/A	H	H	H	H	H	=	This risk has continued to figure as High as National Biosafety Commission and Steering Committee meetings have not taken place.

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Possibility of rotation of staff participating in the project.	All	M	N/A	M	M	L	L	L	=	This risk has continued to figure as Low. The PMU and senior management in charge of the project have been consistently stable. The participation of technical personnel with a fixed position in the MINEC as the executing agency of the project. as well as in other relevant Ministries. has been guaranteed in order to maintain the institutional memory and the execution capacity of the project. even in changing political scenarios.
Loss of qualified human resources.	All	M	N/A	M	M	L	L	L	=	This risk has continued to figure as Low.
Political situation.	All	H	N/A	M	M	M	M	M	=	Given the fact that the project is executed by a Governmental Agency this risk is considered moderate.
Administrative issues	All	H	N/A	H	M	H	H	H	=	The risk has continued to figure as hHigh. The project took almost the entire reporting period to process an extension. Even considering the extended execution period. the project will need to retain a dynamic execution rate going forward.
Economic and commercial blockade	All	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	H	H	H	=	The risk has been maintained as hHigh. The economic and commercial blockade imposed on Venezuela directly affects the purchase of

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										supplies and equipment in international markets. the cost of shipments is expensive and late. which delays the arrival of the equipment to the laboratory. therefore the risk of the same on the project can be classified as medium to high.
Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	All	N/A					L	M	↑	This risk was classified as medium. The management structure by the ministries with jurisdiction has presented delays in the adoption of the project results.
Governance structure Oversight	All	N/A					M	M	=	This risk continues under the medium category, since monitoring mechanisms are maintained by the competent authorities and the project management.
Implementation schedule	All	N/A					H	M	↓	This risk has been reduced to medium, as progress has been made in meeting the dates established in the work plan.
Budget	All	N/A					M	M	=	This risk remains under the figure of medium, progress is being made in the description of the consultants and in the disbursement of the fifth budget provided for in the project.
Financial Management	All	N/A					S	M	↓	This risk was reduced to medium due to the progress made between the



Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										project management and UNDP and the distribution of activities based on the budget.
Reporting	All	N/A					M	M	=	This risk remains under the medium figure, the results reports are available and it is expected to progress in the next period to upload them to the ANUBIS platform.
Capacity to deliver	All	N/A					M	M	=	This risk remains at a medium level. Deliveries of materials and reagents have been delayed. However, progress is expected to be made in delivering all reagents and equipment and in the relevant efforts by UNDP and the monitoring by the national project management.
	All	N/A	N/A	S	M	S	S	S	=	There are delays with the observance of administrative matters. The project disbursement rate has been quite low and an extension has been granted to complete activities.

### 4.3 Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

Additional mitigation measures for the next periods

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
Lack of coordination between the various NCAs to effectively participate in the project due to the fact that not all of them have the same capacities (technically, financially and operationally).	Two workshops have been held with the participation of the project partners to raise awareness of the obligations of the parties. The institutional commitment has been achieved and, in fact, the staff of the National Institute of Hygiene (Min. Health) and the Institute of Advanced Studies (IDEA) and the UCV will act as advisors in the improvements made in the Laboratory. In addition, the staff of the Dr. Arnaldo Gabaldón Institute for Advanced Studies (Min. Health), supported the project by making a long-standing provision on its long-standing platform to offer a diploma in biosafety.	Letters have been sent to NCAs for more direct engagement in project activities and preparations for a 1st Steering Committee meeting were underway.	Organize systematic Steering Committee Meetings in which a roadmap for inter-institutional collaboration is agreed upon and implemented. Mobilize the National Biosafety Commission. Observe MTR recommendations.	Jul 2024 to the end of the project	GEF OFP National Project Coordinator
Political situation	To mitigate the risks related	To mitigate the risks related	Continue to sustain efforts	Jul 2024 to the end of the	Project PMU

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
	to political issues. basically rotation of high-level personnel in the different NCAs and in the MINEC itself. the project created an internal structure that is based at the National Coordination and Direction of the Project. which are the responsibility of the Focal Points of the Protocol and of the GEF. but with non-removable charges. which guarantees the permanence of the personnel during the execution of the project. the institutional memory and the due follow-up of the project work plan.	to political issues. basically rotation of high-level personnel in the different NCAs and in the MINEC itself. the project created an internal structure that is based at the National Coordination and Direction of the Project. This has continued to protect the project from external risks	to protect the PMU from external volatility	project	
Administrative issues	Since the beginning of this project. the funds have been executed with the UNDP as the fund management agency. but the response time of the UNDP in relation to the requests of the MINEC has	More regular issues with fund management agency	Ensure reporting is done in a timely manner. Enhance coordination between MINEC. UNEP and UNDP	Jul 2024 to the end of the project	PMU. UNEP. UNDP

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
	not been resolved. It continues to be a long, slow and complicated process. which delays the execution of the project. so it is necessary to establish a measure to mitigate this risk. The acquisition of equipment has taken up to 01 year. from the date of request and the equipment and reagents have not yet arrived in the country. which constitutes a great risk given that when the reagents arrive they may be close to expiration.				
Economic and commercial blockade	Carrying out calls for suppliers in the region at the end.Consult local suppliers on the availability of the requested equipment and supplies.	In the process of strengthening consultations with local and regional suppliers. the incorporation of new companies has been achieved. to guarantee an increase in the rooster of UNDP suppliers.	Promote consultation meetings. Promote national procurement.Promote regional procurement.Increase the rooster of suppliers in UNDP to guarantee that the teams arrive in less time.	Jul 2024 to the end of the project	MINEC-UNDP
Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	Training workshops have been held with the ministries responsible for	During this period, meetings have been held with the relevant ministries to	Continue with the activities of exchange of results and applicability of procedures	Jul 2024 to the end of the project	CNP, National Project Coordinator

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)</b>	<b>Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>By Whom</b>
	biosecurity, however, the structure has experienced delays in adopting the project results.	explain and publicize the legal and procedural options available to the country for the management of GMOs.			
Governance structure – Oversight Implementation schedule	The national project management has monitored actions related to decision-making by actors involved in GMO management activities in their certification systems and procedures based on their standards and regulations.	Supervision and monitoring are maintained through discussion tables based on the interaction between joint activities in the area of GMOs and compliance with the requirements described in the Cartagena Protocol and the standards and procedures of each ministry with jurisdiction.	Working meetings and monitoring of activities related to GMOs in the relevant ministries.	Jul 2024 to the end of the project	CNP, National Project Coordinator
Implementation schedule	In previous reports, this risk remained high due to delays reported by the fund management agency. However, in the current period, progress has been made in meeting the deadlines set out in the work plan.	Progress has been made in developing a work plan between the National Project Directorate, UNDP and the Technical Coordination of the project that seeks to deliver results within the timeframes established in the work plan.	Comply with the activities described in the work plan	Jul 2024 to the end of the project	DNP, UNDP, National Project Coordinator
Budget	The budget was being executed based on the work	Progress was made on expense reports and budget	Comply with the items described in the budget	Jul 2024 to the end of the project	DNP, UNDP, National Project Coordinator

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
	<p>plan defined by the National Project Directorate and the technical coordination; however, there were delays in the administrative management of the project by UNDP due to changes in the administrative process platform. This situation was resolved and progress was made in financial execution in the following period.</p>	<p>reviews in order to define the items of the technical coordinator of the project and the consultants related to the adaptation of the laboratory, as well as on the progress of the fifth disbursement planned in the project.</p>	<p>defined in ANUBIS (GEF) and the Quantum platform (UNDP) based on the work plan</p>		
Financial Management	<p>In previous periods, there were delays in the financial management of the project by UNDP due to changes in the administrative process platform. This situation was resolved and in the following period progress was made in financial execution.</p>	<p>During the current period, actions were taken between the national project management and the UNDP to advance budget reports and reviews in order to prioritize activities related to the training of the competent national authorities and the equipment of the laboratory. In this regard, the efforts between the project management and the UNDP are highlighted.</p>	<p>Technical meetings between the national project management, technical project coordination and the UNDP.</p>	<p>Jul 2024 to the end of the project</p>	<p>DNP, UNDP, National Project Coordinator</p>

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
Reporting	In past periods, there have been administrative delays and delays in budget execution by UNDP, which caused delays in the execution of activities that allowed for technical and financial reporting of the project.	During this period, reports on training and technical workshops associated with the adaptation of the laboratory have been carried out, the reports of the results are available and it is expected that progress will be made in uploading them to the ANUBIS platform in the following period.	Coordination on the dates established in the work plan by the national project coordination and the UNDP to deliver the reports within the established times.	Jul 2024 to the end of the project	CNP, UNDP, National Project Coordinator
Capacity to deliver	In past reports, delays have been reported in the project results and in the delivery of materials and reagents for laboratory activities. However, progress is expected to be made in the delivery of all reagents and equipment and in the related efforts by UNDP and the follow-up by the national project management.	During the current period, progress has been made with the other competent authorities in adopting the results of the project in their activities through training activities. The delivery of results and the delivery of equipment and materials for the laboratory are also awaited.	Coordination with national authorities responsible for the adoption of results in their processes and the definition of times for the delivery of equipment and materials within the framework of the project.	Jul 2024 to the end of the project	CNP, UNDP, National Project Coordinator

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. Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks. Moderate Risk (M): There is a probability of

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



## 5 Amendment - GeoSpatial

### Project Minor 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 Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines. Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate

#### 5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment (TM)

Minor Amendments	Changes
Results Framework:	No
Components and Cost:	No
Institutional and implementation arrangements:	No
Financial Management:	No
Implementation Schedule:	
Executing Entity:	No
Executing Entity Category:	No
Minor project objective change:	No
Safeguards:	No
Risk analysis:	No
Increase of GEF financing up to 5%:	No
Location of project activity:	No
Other:	

Minor amendments

## 5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions (TM)

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
Amendment 1	Extension	2022-03-28	2022-04-12	2023-09-30	No-cost extension; Revised budget and revised workplan
Amendment 2	Extension	2023-09-26	2023-09-26	2025-04-30	No-cost extension; Revised budget and revised workplan

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 Description	Activity Description
Reference Laboratory for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms of the Ministry of Popular Power for Ecosocialism	10.3181	-67.6505	-	Laboratory technical operations	GMO detection
Ministry of Popular Power for Ecosocialism	10.5026	-66.9160	-	Project administrative operations	Administrative activities

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

[Annex any linked geospatial file]