**UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2021**

Reporting from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

# 1. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

# 1.1. Project details

1. IDENTIFICATION

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| Identification Table | | | GEF ID.: 5194 | Umoja no.: | |
| Project Title | | | Building resilience of communities living in degraded forests, savannahs and wetlands of Rwanda through an Ecosystem based Adaptation Approach(Rwanda LDCF) | | |
| Duration months | *Planned* | | 48 | | |
| *Extension(s)* | | 18 months added (total: 66 months) | |  |
| Division(s) Implementing the project | | | Climate Change Adaptation Unit  Climate Branch  Ecosystems Division | | |
| Executing Agency(ies) | | | Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) | | |
| Names of Other Project Partners | | | Musanze District  Kayonza District  Kirehe District  Ngororero District  Bugesera District  Gasabo District | | |
| Project Type | | | Full-Sized Project | | |
| Project Scope | | | National | | |
| Region | | | Africa | | |
| Countries | | | Rwanda | | |
| Programme of Work | | | Climate Change | | |
| GEF Focal Area(s) | | | Climate Change Adaptation | | |
| UNSDCF / UNDAF linkages | | | United Nations Development Assistance Plan 2018 – 2023 (UNDAP II)  Results Area 1: Inclusive Economic Transformation  Outcome 1.3: Sustainable management of environment, natural resources & renewable energy, climate change resilience | | |
| Link to relevant SDG target(s) and SDG indicator(s) | | | Goal 6 Clean Water and Sanitation  Indicator 6.6.1 Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time  Goal 13 Climate Action  Indicator 13.3.2 Capacity Building for Climate Change  Indicator 13.B.1 Support for Planning and Management in Least Developed Countries  Goal 15 Life on Land  Indicator 15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management | | |
| GEF financing amount | | | USD 5,500,000 | | |
| Co-financing amount | | | USD 9,244,000 (estimated as at CEO endorsement) | | |
| Date of CEO Endorsement | | | 10 November 2015 | | |
| Start of Implementation | | | 3 June 2016 | | |
| Date of first disbursement | | | 15 September 2016 | | |
| Total disbursement as of 30 June 2021 | | | USD 3,976,612.91 | | |
| Total expenditure as of 30 June 2021 | | | USD 3,977,545.52 | | |
| Expected Mid-Term Review Date | | | 24 August 2019 (Evaluation completion date) | | |
| Completion Date | | *Planned* | 31 December 2020 | | |
| *Revised* | 30 June 2022 | | |
| Expected Terminal Evaluation Date | | | 31 December 2022 | | |
| Expected Financial Closure Date | | | 30 June 2023 | | |

# 1.2. Project description

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| The “**Building resilience of communities living in degraded forests, savannas and wetlands of Rwanda through an ecosystem-based adaptation approach”** project,hereafter referred to as **“Rwanda LDCF”**, is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) / Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) with an initial duration of 4 years. The project implementation started in 2016 and was expected to end in December 2020, but is now being extended by 18 months and is now expected to end by June 2022. The Executing Agency for the project is Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) within the Ministry of Environment (MoE). United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the Implementing Agency for the project. In Rwanda the main partners in implementing the project are the local Government of the districts of Kayonza, Kirehe, Bugesera, Ngororero, Gasabo and Musanze. Other local partners include the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN), and several other ministries.  To address the problems caused by floods, droughts and landslides in Rwanda, the Rwanda LDCF project uses an Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) approach to restore degraded wetland, forest and savannah ecosystems and to increase the capacity of Rwandan authorities and local communities to adapt to climate change. The project has three main components:  **Component 1: National and local institutional capacity development for the use of an EbA approach**  This component aims to strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of national and local institutions and participating local communities to plan and implement EbA approaches in Rwanda. In order to achieve this, Component 1 will: i) increase the technical capacity of the members of the National Steering Committee (NSC) for the Rio conventions to develop large-scale EbA programmes; ii) increase the technical capacity of environmental committees, local authorities, relevant private sector actors and user groups on EbA planning and implementation; iii) update and increase the availability of technical knowledge on EbA best-practices and complementary green technologies; iv) increase awareness and knowledge of local communities, and school and university students on EbA and climate change; and v) increase the scientific knowledge base on EbA through the support of research projects.  **Component 2: Policies, strategies and plans for adaptation to climate change**  Under component 2, the Rwanda LDCF project focuses primarily on promoting the restoration and management of degraded ecosystems for EbA, to increase the resilience of local communities to climate change. This will be achieved by integrating EbA into relevant policies, strategies and plans in Rwanda. These revisions will be proposed at national and local levels.  **Component 3: EbA interventions that reduce vulnerability and restore natural capital**  Component 3 objective is to demonstrate proof-of-concept for the role of ecological infrastructure in increasing climate resilience and providing alternative livelihoods for local communities. The project is being implemented in six districts: Kayonza, Kirehe, Bugesera, Gasabo, Musanze and Ngororero, which include a total of 10 sites. Under component 3, the project interventions in the districts focus on: i) restoring wetlands, forests and savannahs to be climate resilient and provide additional benefits to local communities; and ii) diversifying local communities’ livelihoods to increase their resilience to climate change. These interventions are designed to collectively increase the resilience of local communities to prolonged drought, frequent floods and landslides. |

# 1.3. History of project revisions

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| **Version** | **Date** | **Main changes introduced in this revision** |
| Rev 1 (Project start): | 10 August 2017 | At the onset of the project, the project management team revised the project results framework, significantly adjusting activities, indicators, and targets. Some activities were removed because they had been undertaken by other stakeholders before the start of the project. The changes were submitted and approved by UNEP before the start of implementation.  Main changes related to refocusing and restructuring project activities and updating the project results framework accordingly. Project’s components/outcomes and outputs were not changed.  The budget was also adjusted. The most significant budget changes were almost halving the budget for Outcome 1 and reducing by a third personnel costs for project management A large portion of those funds were reallocated to Outcome 3, mainly to the construction of an Integrated Development Programme (IDP) green village in Musanze District, hosting 46 households resettled from Ruhondo island where they were living in high risk zone. |
| Rev 2 (Project First PIR): | 18 July 2018 | Revisions during the first PIR (2018) of the project related to changes in the project results framework to capture changes in project activities, mainly:   1. Cancelation of the construction of IDP green village with biogas system, rainwater collection system and greening component in Kayonza District. 2. Addition of a new activity: Construction of a selling point in order to relocate a local market found within 50 meters of Lake Kibare, to ensure complete protection of the lake’s buffer zone. |
| Rev 3: | 26 July 2018 | To adapt to the changing situation on the ground and priorities of Districts and communities, the project included the following livelihoods-related activities to address drivers of degradation, as approved by the National Steering Committee (NSC) on 26July 2018:   1. To install solar-powered irrigation system and water supply to cattle around Kibare lake in Kayonza District, Ndego Sector, Isangano and Byimana cells. 2. To increase the area of water hyacinth removal in Lake Cyohoha North in Bugesera District from 115 Ha up to 165 Ha.   These recommendations were approved by UNEP, and budget revisions to account for these changes were undertaken. |
| Rev 4 (After Project Mid-Term Review): | 13 January 2020 | Due to the recurrent pressures on wetlands, leading to their degradation, REMA requested studies on Environment and Natural Resources Management Framework, that include the National Wetlands Management Framework.  Changes in the Results Framework were done to adequately capture the additional project activities. New indicators/ targets were included for outcome 3. Indicators for outcome 2 were revised to make them SMART.  In the budget revision done earlier in 2019, the new activities were integrated under aggregate budget lines. As the result, the budget lines were a mix of different types of costs.  The budget was therefore revised to break down budget lines that accumulated several activities for clearer reporting and linkage to results (e.g. BL 2203). New budget lines for project staff’s field supervision missions were added. Further additional resources reallocation was done to account for under/ over costing items (e.g. to provide more resources for environmental and social assessments on BL 2101). |
| Rev 5 (Project 18-month no-cost extension): | 04 November 2020 | The original project completion date was December 2020. However, an 18-month extension was requested, proposing June 2022 as the new completion date.  As a result, a no-cost extension budget revision was done.  The resources were reallocated among the same budget categories over time, to account for the extra time requested. |

# 2. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

* 1. 2.1. UNEP Subprogramme(s)

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| UN Environment Subprogramme(s)  Climate change | **Specify the relevant Expected Accomplishment(s) & Indicator(s)** a) Countries increasingly advance  their national adaptation plans  which integrate ecosystem-based  adaptation  (ii) Increase in the number of countries that have technical capacity to integrate ecosystem-based management into national adaptation plans |
| The project is piloting ecosystem-based adaptation interventions across forest, wetland, and savannah ecosystems. Rwanda, through GEF financing and with UNEP as the Implementing Agency, has also secured funding for a national adaptation planning (NAP) project. The two projects are working closely together to leverage on the lessons learned, guidelines developed, and other work produced in this project to feed into the NAP process. Thus far, the Ecosystem-based Adaptation Guidelines for Climate-Resilient Restoration of Savannah, Wetland and Forest Ecosystems of Rwanda are being used in the NAP project, as well as lessons learned, particularly in the Ibanda-Makera forest. The NAP project is further expected to become a vehicle for sharing lessons, knowledge, and practices gained through this project, and for their integration with other sectoral plans and development planning.  [Section to be shared with relevant Regional and Global SubProgramme Coordinators] | |

* 1. 2.2. GEF Core Indicators (for all GEF 6 and later projects):
  2. N/A, as the Rwanda LDCF PIF was approved in GEF 5

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| GEF Core Indicators | **Indicative expected Results** |
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* 1. 2.3. Implementation status and risk

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|  | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 20\_\_ |
| PIR # | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | …. |
| Rating towards **outcomes** (section 3.1) | MS | S | MS | MS |  |
| Rating towards **outputs** (section 3.2) | MS | S | MS | MS |  |
| **Risk** rating (section 3.3) | L | M | S | M |  |

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| The project has been approved for extension, which moved the completion date from 31December 2020 to the 30June 2022.  The overall project progress towards its outcomes during this past year (1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021) remains moderately satisfactory. However, the progress varies greatly between the three project outcomes, and for Outcome 3, progress has in fact been highly satisfactory. In contrast, for Outcomes 1 and 2, there has only been limited progress towards the outcomes in the reporting period. The current Covid-19 health situation poses travel and meetings restrictions that prevent the full implementation of the training activities and stakeholder consultations under Component 1 and Component 2. The project management team is still investigating how best online system can be used, despite the limitations and challenges on internet connectivity within the districts. However, the project team adapted to the current situation and conducted some online activities including project steering committee meeting, validation workshops, consultation meetings with consultants and online data collection for ongoing consultancies. Training activities at the community level such as for beekeeping and livelihoods, however, are not suitable for online training and thus will have to be conducted when restrictions ease. Currently trainings and meetings in smaller groups are allowed, and the project team will adapt accordingly in order to fast track progress towards project outcomes.  The project progress towards its outputs in the reporting period is rated moderately satisfactory. Significant delays have been faced in the implementation of many project outputs, in particular due to the Covid-19 pandemic and related restrictions on travel and in-person meetings, trainings and other activities.  The main achievements during this period for Components 1 and 2 are:  1. Environment and Natural Resources Management Framework Studies have been completed;  with 11 final reports. These reports include management plans and guidelines for catchments, wetlands, water quality and M& E plan. The reports are available [here](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SRw8SPFBJoXvPmoif8zSqz26kBkoqeC3).  2. The EbA education specialist has been recruited and has produced the “Combined training manual and guidelines for integration of Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Pre-primary, Primary and Secondary Education”.  3. The Environmental and Social Safeguards Assessment and Audit study started in October 2020. With a few delays due to the unfortunate loss of the consultancy firm director and team leader due to Covid-19, the study has been prolonged for an additional three months. Final draft has been submitted and is now under review.  Under Component 3, regular relining (replacement of dead trees) and maintenance are continuing in most project sites. In some areas, the sub-activities have been closing and handover of the project to the communities and districts have been done. However, in Ngororero district and Kirehe district, significant flood damage occurred during the raining season April to May 2020, which required intensive relining (total replanting in some areas), and consequently the need for additional funding. Additional funds were needed for Kirehe District’s Rwampanga sub-activity, since the flood in that area was classified as a force majeure. For Ngororero District, since the provisional handover was done, the District undertook maintenance of the affected 4 ha. During the reporting period, the project has started the implementation of beekeeping activities for building communities’ alternatives livelihoods in areas around the restored natural forests.    The project steering committee meetings were held 3rd September 2020 and 24th March 2021 on a virtual platform.  Overall risk rating: The overall risk rating for the project has been reduced to medium (from “high” in the last PIR). The main factors contributing to the somewhat reduced level of overall risk are: improved community engagement and buy-in, as well as reduced encroachment in buffer zone restoration activities (thanks to the provision of additional water supply for cattle and irrigation), and improved technical capacity to design and implement interventions (thanks to continued capacity building and engagement of national and international experts). Furthermore, while the risks posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions remain significant, they have been slightly reduced as some of the restrictions on travel and in-person gatherings have now been lifted. In addition to the COVID-19 situation, medium and significant risks continue to be posed by climate variability and hazard events, delays in procurement processes, and potential environmental and social risks.  [section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal] |

* 1. 2.4. Co-financing

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| **Planned Co-finance**  **Total:**  $9,244,000  **Actual to date:**  $67,389,695  (729%)  as of 30 June 2021 | At CEO endorsement, co-finance commitments totalled $9,244,000 of grants from World Bank (LWH and RSSP projects), the Belgian Development Agency (BTC project) and Netherlands Government (PAREF projects). During execution, through a strong and participative process of collaboration between partner institutions, the project has leveraged significantly more co-finance than planned at the CEO endorsement stage. The amount in co-finance not only increased by more than 700%, reaching $67,389,695 as of 30 June 2021, but during implementation the project also identified 7 additional sources of co-finance from local partners.  Most of the co-finance has been allocated in EbA restoration activities, where government projects and districts have upscaled the LDCF project’s EbA restoration activities. The co-finance from districts was increased after training and integration of EbA in district development plans. This contributed significantly to the achievement of the project targets, especially for Component 3.  The co-finance contributions from the different sources are as follows:  1. MINAGRI / LWH and RSSP projects: USD 22,320,634  2. RWFA / PAREF project: USD 38,187,272  3. FONERWA / NUWEP project: USD 5,493,305  4. REMA/SPIU: USD 671,219  5. Bugesera District: USD 31,578  6. Kayonza District: USD 192,708  7. Kirehe District: USD 6,315  8. Musanze District: USD 345,325  9. Ngororero District: USD 141,339 |

* 1. 2.5. Stakeholder engagement

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| **Stakeholder engagement** | The project continues to demonstrate a strong and participative process of collaboration between REMA and the district-level institutions. As a result of strong alignment with district priorities and activities resulting from inclusion of project targets in district performance contracts, the project has also leveraged more co-finance than planned at the CEO endorsement stage (see detailed co-finance report).  Community involvement in the execution of activities has continued to be good, particularly on clearing of invasive species in wetlands, planting of agroforestry trees, and establishment of radical terraces. With regards to the buffer zone encroachment, as the project responded to the needs of the communities through the provision of water facilities and livelihood projects, currently livelihoods activities encroaching on the buffer zone have been reduced considerably (and will likely be completely eliminated). Therefore, the project may be able to maximize the benefits of the protection and restoration of the buffer zones. Engagement at the district level continues to ensure protection of ecosystems and resources, through continued awareness-raising and provision of livelihood improvement / diversification activities.  [section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal] |

* 1. 2.6. Gender

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| **Gender mainstreaming** | During project implementation, gender parity among beneficiaries is sought as much as possible. Training activities or restoration activities have included women as much as possible. Around 40% of people benefitting from project activities are women. Employment and trainings on the project activities adheres to the national policy requirement that at least 30% are women.  [section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal] |

* 1. 2.7. Environmental and social safeguards management

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| **Environmental and social safeguards management** | The Project Document flagged that the project intervention sites are close to protected areas and their buffer zones, and that environmental impact assessments (EIAs) would be conducted prior to the start of activities in compliance with government regulations, such as Article 30 of the Environmental Law No 48 of 2018 and the Ministerial Order No 001/2019 of 15/04/2019 that require projects, programmes and policies that may affect the environment to undergo EIA before obtaining authorization for implementation. During the project implementation, new activities were proposed and approved by the Project Steering Committee. These include, among others, limiting activities in buffer zones in compliance with national laws and small-scale irrigation for crops and livestock. While these activities can potentially support community access to water resources and the sustainability of project interventions (by reducing the degradation of the restored ecosystems by limiting activities in the buffer zone), they needed to be assessed for environmental and social safeguard risks.  UNEP endeavoured to support Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) to address these gaps. As soon as potential risks from new activities were detected, the project was re-screened using the UNEP environmental and social safeguards screening tool. Then, through desktop analysis, an Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report was produced to further assess the risks identified in the screening note. Following this analysis, an Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) Assessment was commissioned to assess the potential impacts that might occur, and to provide recommendations for monitoring and mitigation measures. The draft ESS report has been revised to capture the comments provided during the initial reviews, and has now been resubmitted and is under review by the project team.  Pending the finalization of the ESS Assessment report, some of the preliminary recommendations from the scoping study and the assessment to minimize, mitigate, and monitor risks include the following:   * Implement a water quantity and quality monitoring system to assess baseline conditions (without irrigation), rate of water extraction, and water levels of the wetlands, along with the impacts of the irrigation and other practices surrounding the wetlands; * Propose thresholds for sustainable water extraction; * Define the roles of major agencies and stakeholders in regulating water use from irrigation and ensuring environmental flows; * In future, a wetland management plan, compatible with biodiversity values, can be developed to inform sustainable land use and water use in the area; * Up-scale the oversight and monitoring activities of this project to other irrigation projects in the area that share the same hydrological system; and * Construction of further irrigation systems need to be compliant with the government’s EIA requirements.   In order to sustain water quantity and quality of the wetland, the following monitoring and mitigation measures have been undertaken by (or with support from) the REMA project implementation team to date:     * Cooperative (Komezimihigo Muhinzi Mareba) was established in the local community around the Murago wetland; * Water use and management committee was established by the local community; * A team of experts from the Rwanda Agricultural Board, Bugesera District Authorities and REMA has been mobilized and provides support to the irrigation scheme; * Local communities around the wetland were trained on wetland conservation and sustainable farming techniques; * Marking water limits during dry seasons and rainy seasons so that an extraction rate of water for irrigation affecting water quantity in the wetland can be monitored; * A trench was excavated to delineate the wetland’s buffer zone serves to retain nutrients from the farms that might run into the wetland; * Horse irrigation pipes with spray system were installed, not only to ensure efficiency of the water use but also to avoid soil erosion; * Crop residues are used for mulching to conserve soil moisture; and * The local community around the wetland have acquired rain water harvesting tanks.   These mitigation measures engage the local community as a main stakeholder to improve agricultural productivity while conserving water resources and taking action on ecosystem-based adaptation.  [section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal] |

* 1. 2.8. Knowledge management

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| **Knowledge activities and products** | The following documents have been produced by the project during its implementation period:   * Ecosystem-based Adaptation Guidelines for Climate-Resilient Restoration of Savannah, Wetland and Forest Ecosystems of Rwanda * Assessment of Climate Change Vulnerability in Rwanda 2018 * Baseline Assessment Report * Mid-Term Review * Scoping Assessment of Knowledge and Capacity Needs on Ecosystem-based Adaptation * Environment and Natural Resources Management (ENRM) Framework Studies; including 11 reports * Combined training manual and guidelines for integration of Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Pre-primary, Primary and Secondary Education * Project case study (currently under finalization): “Adaptation case study: Environmental and Social Safeguards in Rwanda” (in collaboration with UNEP) * Parts of a documentary film have been produced for Kirehe, Kayonza, Gasabo, and Bugesera Districts. Footage for Musanze and Ngororero Districts is still pending, and will be produced in Q4 2021. Thereafter, all the footage will be compiled into one documentary film.   The knowledge products can be found on the project website:  <https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/climate-change/what-we-do/climate-adaptation/ecosystem-based-adaptation/ecosystem-11>  The ENRM Framework reports can be accessed [here](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SRw8SPFBJoXvPmoif8zSqz26kBkoqeC3).  [section will be uploaded into the GEF Portal] |

* 1. 2.9. Stories to be shared

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| **Stories to be shared** | **ADDRESSING THE UNDERLYING DRIVERS OF DEGRADATION**  Lake Kibare, located in the Kayonza District, is one of the drought-prone areas in the country. The lake is connected to the Akagera river, which runs through the Akagera National Park. The Rwanda LDCF project implemented a delineation and protection of the lake buffer zone and enforcing of limits on land use within the buffer zone, including the relocation of agricultural, pastoral and commercial activities. The sustainability of the project restoration activities was at risk, as cattle and other animals feed on lakeshore vegetation when they come to the lake to drink. To provide the community with access to water, a solar powered water pump system was installed for the local Cooperative Farmer Pastoralists (COABONDE). Water supply prevents livestock from encroaching on the buffer zone. The irrigation will prevent the further degradation of the lakeshore and protect the restored bamboo and grasses used for restoration. The enforcement of land use limits also has shown to reduce grazing and watering of livestock from the lake.  Thus 790 cows are currently using the facility for their water supply. Additionally, the project planted 10 hectares of fodder up-stream of the Kibare Lake to avoid the use of the natural regeneration within the buffer zone as fodder.    Pic A: Plantation of Cloris gayana (native to Africa and used for regeneration, soil enrichment and erosion control) and Desmodium distortum (introduced species in Rwanda, legume aiding nitrogen fixation in soil, non-invasive) as fodder for the animals up-stream of the Kibare Lake  C:\Users\BERNARDIN\Desktop\PHOTO APRIL 2021\20210408_123630.jpg  Pic B: Installation of solar panels and control    Pic C: Water reservoir    Pic D: Construction of trough  [section to be shared with communication division/ GEF communication] |
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# PROJECT PERFORMANCE AND RISK

*Based on inputs by the Project Manager, the* ***UNEP Task Manager****[[1]](#footnote-2) will make an overall assessment and provide ratings of:*

1. *Progress towards achieving the project Results(s)- see section 3.1*
2. *Implementation progress – see section 3.2*

*Section 3.3 on Risk should be first completed by the Project Manager. The UNEP Task Manager will subsequently enter his/her own ratings in the appropriate column.*

* 1. 3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

| **Project objective and Outcomes** | **Indicator** | **Baseline level** | **Mid-term target** | **End-of-project target** | **Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June 2021** | **Progress rating[[2]](#footnote-3)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Objective:**  **Increased capacity of Rwandan authorities and local communities to adapt to climate change by implementing Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) interventions in forests, savannas and wetlands** | 1. Degree to which capacity of targeted government institutions is strengthened at national and sub-national levels to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and assess effectiveness of EbA interventions. | 1. Current estimated level of capacity to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and assess effectiveness of EbA interventions is 3. Institutions have increasing capacity to monitor and identify climate risks. They are also able to design, budget and implement restoration interventions but not EbA interventions. Ecosystem restoration is prioritized by national institutions but not EbA. Therefore, EbA interventions are not currently implemented.  Knowledge gaps on EbA identified include:   1. low to moderate level of knowledge on locally-specific climate risks and vulnerability of people and ecosystems; 2. moderate level of organizational and individual capacity to plan and implement EbA strategies and actions; 3. low knowledge on developing mechanisms for including adaptation in current planning tools. | 1.NA | 1. Increase of at least 4 points in the capacity score of each institution.  (Max 10, Min 0) | 1. Capacity has not been measured at the mid-term, as only end-of-project targets are included in the Project Document. The capacity of the targeted institutions will be measured in the coming reporting period, as the project will be completed in June 2021.  Implementation progress and output-level detail are indicated in respective sections below. Some initial training activities have been provided in previous reporting periods. In the current reporting period, further delays for Outcome 1 training activities were encountered due to Covid-19 related restrictions.  However, during the reporting period, the EbA capacity enhancing training materials have been finalized by the consultant and validation is scheduled for the month of September. Some online trainings for national level stakeholders are also scheduled in Q4Y2021.  Furthermore, the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) Assessment was advanced in the reporting period, with the report currently being fine-tuned. The ESS assessment process and some of the report recommendations are raising awareness of the need for EbA interventions to reduce risks in order to reduce vulnerability to climate change in the short and longer term. | MS |
|  | 2. Number of individuals benefitting directly from project interventions disaggregated by gender. | 2. Zero | 2. NA | 2. At least 2,800 including 40% of which are to be women. | 2. The target has been exceeded:  - 2,453 people have been employed so far, mainly as casual laborers, with 52.3% women (1,283) and 47.7% men (1,170);  - 1,574 participants have benefited from training: 57.3% men (902) and 42.7% women (672).  - 1,229 households have benefited from project’s on-the-ground activities (average 5 members per house), which is a total of 6,145 people.  The numbers of beneficiaries are not added together as there are people that have benefitted both from training, employment, and directly from project interventions.  The level of benefits will be measured through a household survey at the end of the project. | HS |
| **Outcome 1:** | 1.1. A National Steering Committee (NSC) mobilised as a platform to promote large-scale EbA programmes in Rwanda and capacitated to plan large-scale EbA interventions (disaggregated by gender). | 1.1. TOR for the National Steering Committee (NSC) has been developed but no trainings of NSC have been held. | 1.1 NA | 1.1. At least 90% of the participants to the NSC members have been trained on EbA. | 1.1 The nomination of NSC members has been completed. The first NSC on Rio Conventions constituency meeting is expected to take place in Q3Y2021, followed by EbA training. As most of the NSC members are also members of the LDCF Project Steering Committee (PSC), they have already benefitted from some EbA trainings, upon which the NSC EbA training will build. | MS |
| 1.2 Number of local  government officials,  environmental committee  members and local community  representatives trained to plan,  budget and implement EbA  interventions (disaggregated  by gender). | 1.2. Rwanda has recently implemented a number of national strategies, policies and plans for ecosystem restoration but no local government officials, environmental committee members or local community representatives have the capacity yet to plan, budget and implement EbA interventions. | 1.2 NA | 1.2. By project end point, at least: i) 80 local government officials; ii) 110 environmental committee members including 15 members at the provincial level, 25 members at the district level, 30 members at the sectoral level and 40 members at the cell level; and iii) 80 local community representatives have capacity to plan, budget and implement EbA interventions (of which 40% of women). | 1.2 In previous reporting periods, 26 representatives of government institutions were trained on EbA, including 6 women and 20 men.  Further training activities planned are yet to be organized.  Delays in the implementation of EbA training are currently continuing, and progress is pending on the Covid-19 situation. However, online training will be provided in Q4Y2021 to national stakeholders.  The outcome of the training is the increased capacity for the integration of EbA approaches in medium- and long-term climate adaptation planning in different institutions, to reduce climate change risks. At the national level, EbA has become a more familiar concept, compared with the beginning of the project when it was a completely new adaptation approach in Rwanda. | MS |
| 1.3. Number of documents and technical EbA guidelines developed and disseminated to environmental committees and local authorities through the climate change adaptation portal. | 1.3. CC portal has already been created. A webpage is currently being developed on the portal for the LDCF1 project. This project will extend the role of this website through compiling the information of the project as well as other adaptation projects on a national scale. | 1.3 NA | 1.3. By project end-point, at least 3 technical EbA guidelines developed. | 1.3 The target has been achieved. In total, 4 technical guideline documents have been produced, including 3 documents that have been produced in this reporting period.  The following technical documents have been completed during this reporting period:  1.National Wetland Management Framework; 2.National Catchment Management Framework; and  3.Water Quality Management Framework.  In previous reporting periods, EbA restoration guidelines were developed for: i) wetlands; ii) savannah and iii) forests.  The produced documents are appreciated by different institutions, and they intend to use them in their short- and long-term planning processes to reduce the climate change impacts they are facing. | HS |
|  | 1.4. Number of educational resources on EbA developed by the project for communities living near project sites to increase awareness on EbA and support new competency-based curriculum at primary, secondary and university levels to address adaptation to climate change using EbA | 1.4 Zero | 1.4 NA | 1.4. By end point at least one training manual to support new competency-based curriculum at primary and secondary levels developed and one green campus guidelines to integrate EbA Developed, 4 awareness campaigns on EbA targeting local communities and National Curriculum development center staff. | 1.4 In the current reporting period, the EbA education specialist was recruited and has produced 3 training manuals:  - The training manual “Combined training manual for integration of Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Pre-primary, Primary and Secondary Education”;  - Training manual and guidelines for integration of EbA in Teachers Training Colleges and Technical and Vocational Education and Training Colleges; as well as  - Training guidelines for integration of EbA in Universities education programmes.  A Training of Trainers was conducted on the integration of EbA in education programmes from Pre-Primary to University level.  In next reporting period, trainers (including National Curriculum development center staff and government staff at district and sector levels) will provide training to local teachers and local communities. | S |
| 1.5. Number of master‘s theses on EbA in Rwanda produced and validated at research forum and university level | 1.5. No scientific studies on EbA in Rwanda published. | 1.5 NA | 1.5. At least 6 theses on EbA produced and validated at university level | 1.5 Eight (8) research proposals were selected for funding in 2019. Training of students in R statistical data analysis and Supervisors in EbA approaches were conducted from 10th to 13th November 2020.  MSc students have completed data collection and theses writing, they are now preparing manuscripts for scientific papers. | S |
| **Outcome 2:**  **Sectoral and local policies, strategies and plans strengthened to promote the restoration and management of degraded ecosystems for EbA.** | 2.1. Number of policy revisions proposed for cross-sectoral, sectoral and local policies, strategies and plans to incorporate EbA, and validated by the government. | 2.1. The majority of cross-sectoral, sectoral and local policies, strategies and plans promote ecosystem restoration. However, they do not promote EbA. | 2.1 NA | 2.1. At least 6 policy recommendations proposed and validated for cross-sectoral, sectoral and local policies, strategies or plans to incorporate EbA. | 2.1 In previous reporting periods, the report “Entry points for mainstreaming EBA in Rwanda: A review of key existing regulatory instruments” proposing policy recommendations such as integration with District Development Plans, environmental assessment processes, award systems for private sector, and synergies with Rio Conventions was developed, and was validated on July 16, 2019.  Policy briefs to disseminate the recommendations have not yet been completed. Consultations with stakeholders have been delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions. The planned policy brief topics are environment and climate change, land use, agriculture, water resources, and conservation and protected areas. These sector- or area-specific policy briefs will include EbA approaches in their recommendations, for instance on the restoration of catchments and watersheds with the aim of restoring water sources and enhancing agriculture. The policy briefs will be shared with relevant institutions and related trainings will be conducted, in close coordination with the ongoing NAP process in the country.  The policy briefs will be informed by the experiences and lessons learnt from the project, including the challenges faced such as damages from extreme weather events at several project sites. Adaptive management approaches will be considered in the policy briefs, given the changing climate and weather patterns in the country.  In early stages of project implementation, EbA targets of the project were incorporated in all 6 District Development Strategies. | MS |
| 2.2. Number of upscaling strategies developed to promote EbA based on project interventions. | 2.2. No upscaling strategy for best adaptation practices in Rwanda developed to date. | 2.2 NA | 2.2. National up scaling strategy developed. | 2.2 The National Upscaling Strategy on EbA has not yet been produced. This is because the strategy needs to include/capture all lessons learned from this project. | MS |
| **Outcome 3:**  **EbA implemented by local communities to restore degraded ecosystems in forest, wetland and savannah ecosystems and establish climate resilient livelihoods.** | 3.1. Number of households implementing climate-resilient agriculture practices including agroforestry in the project intervention sites. | 3.1 Households have on average between 12 and 22 trees on farm in project intervention sites. | 3.1 NA | 3.1. At least 500 individuals implementing climate-resilient agriculture practices including agroforestry in the project intervention sites. Beneficiary households have on average 30 trees on farm | 3.1. The target has been exceeded.  866 households are implementing soil conservation practices through radical terraces and agroforestry, implemented in previous reporting periods. 100 ha of radical terraces were constructed and valorized, including plantation of agroforestry in Ngororero District*.* Beneficiary households have on average 34 trees on farm after relining (replacement of dead trees) and maintenance (which have been the main activities undertaken in the current reporting period).  These practices are helping to reduce soil erosion and increase productivity, in the face of increased frequency of droughts and flooding. According to the local community, cultivations on terraces have increased their crop productivity four-fold. Agroforestry trees planted also increase shade in the farmlands, helping the farms to retain water by reducing fly-offs.  Local communities are organized in cooperatives to ensure the sustainability of the project activities, under the oversight of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources in Ngororero District in particular, and Ngororero District Authority in general. | HS |
| 3.2 Number of hectares of wetlands/Lakes restored with climate-resilient species in Bugesera, Gasabo, Kayonza and Ngororero. | 3.2 Zero | 3.2 NA | 3.2. At least 307 ha of wetlands/Lakes restored with climate-resilient species | 3.2 The target has been exceeded.  Total restored ha of wetland/Lakes:428ha, of which 307 ha in previous reporting periods and 121 ha (Nyandungu wetland) in the current.  The 428 ha is composed of:  - Murago wetland 52 ha;  - Lake Cyohoha North 115 ha;  - Kibare lakeshores 80 ha;  - Nyiramuhondi riverbanks 10 ha;  - Rwampanga lakeshores 50 ha (ongoing);  - Nyandungu wetland 121 ha;  - Construction of biogas technologies for 46 households completed in Musanze in October 2019, contributing to reduced fuelwood dependence and degradation of wetland buffer zone.  The restoration of wetlands, lakeshores and riverbanks is aimed at increasing communities resilience to droughts and floods, by improving water availability and reducing intensity of flooding.  According to fishermen around lake Cyohoha north, fish catches have increased three-fold and observations at Nyandungu wetland show that the numbers of various bird species, including cranes, have increased. These observations point to the restoration of the ecosystem functions at this site.  Continuing relining activities have been undertaken to replace the dead trees at all project sites, including in the current reporting period. | HS |
| 3.3 Number of hectares of forest restored with climate-resilient species | 3.3 Zero | 3.3 NA | 3.3 At least 20 hectares restored with climate-resilient species. At least 4 households have access to biogas technologies. | 3.3 The target has been exceeded.  Total 29 ha of forest restored in previous reporting periods:  - Sanza Natural Forest – 22 ha  - Gihe forest – 7 ha  The forest restoration is aiming to increase local communities’ resilience to intense rainfall events and landslides, through i) increased soil stability; ii) decreased sedimentation in watersheds downstream; iii) increased water infiltration; and iv) increased diversity of local communities’ livelihoods.  Following the restoration of Sanza natural forest, local communities in Ngororero District are now undertaking beekeeping activities and protecting the forest.  Continuing relining activities have also been undertaken, including in the current reporting period, to replace the dead trees at all project sites.  - 46 households have access to biogas technologies at Gacaca green village in  Musanze District. | HS |
| 3.4 Number of hectares of savannah restored with climate-resilient species | 3.4 Zero | 3.4 NA | 3.4. At least 300 hectares restored using climate-resilient species | 3.4 The target has been exceeded.  Total 538 ha of savannah restored in previous reporting periods:  - Rwinkavu hill – 200ha  - Ibanda-Makera – 88 ha  - Mushongi site in Kirehe District – 250 ha  The restoration of savannah is aiming to increase the resilience of local communities to droughts.  After restoration of Ibanda-Makera natural forest, local communities in Kirehe District are now undertaking beekeeping activities and protecting the forest.  Continuing relining activities have been undertaken, including in the current reporting period, to replace the dead trees at all project sites. | HS |
| * 1. Number of individuals receiving training, equipment and technical support to adopt climate-resilient livelihoods in   the project intervention sites. | 3.5 Zero | 3.5 NA | 3.5 At least 120 individuals,  of which at least 40% women,  have received training,  equipment and technical  support to adopt climate resilient  livelihoods in the  project intervention sites | * 1. The target has been exceeded.   Total 1,009 people (615 men (61%) and 394 women (39%)) received training, equipment and technical support in previous reporting periods, to adopt climate resilient livelihoods:  - Bugesera District: 207 people (140 men and 67 women)  - Ngororero District: 366 people (212 men and 154 women)  - Kayonza District:138 people (88 men and 50 women)  - Kirehe District: 236 people (129 men and 107 women)  - Musanze District: 62 people (46 men and 16 women)  In Musanze IDP green village, project beneficiaries are using biogas for cooking, solar powered lights, and rain water harvesting tanks. In Bugesera and Kayonza Districts, where the project supported local communities with solar powered irrigation systems, crop production has increased because they are cultivating even during the dry season. | HS |

**3.2** **Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs**

| **Outputs/Activities[[3]](#footnote-4)** | **Expected completion date[[4]](#footnote-5)** | **Implementation status as of 30 June 2020 (%)** | **Implementation status as of 30 June 2021 (%)** | **Progress rating justification[[5]](#footnote-6), description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay** | **Progress rating[[6]](#footnote-7)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COMPONENT 1: National and local institutional capacity development for the use of an EbA approach** | | | | | |
| **Output 1.1: A National Steering /technical Committee (NSC) mobilized as a platform to promote large-scale EbA programmes in Rwanda.** | June 2022 | 65% | 75% | With Covid-19 restrictions on meetings, there have been delays in the execution of this output. However, the following activities have been completed:   * ToRs for NSC establishment have been prepared and approved, * NSC members have been nominated, and * EbA capacity enhancing training materials have been prepared. | MS |
| **Activity 1.1.1** Establish the NSC using the ToRs developed by REMA to define the institutional framework and role of the members of the NSC | June 2022 | 65% | 100% | Nomination of the NSC members has been completed. | S |
| **Activity 1.1.2** Provide training to the NSC and NTAC members and Districts planners on the role of EbA in increasing the resilience of local communities to climate change and on planning large-scale EbA projects. | December 2021 | 65% | 70% | The consultant has finalized the training materials for EbA capacity building.  Validation of the training materials is scheduled to take place virtually via webex, in the first week of September 2021. | MS |
| **Activity 1.1.3** Hold the first two NSC meetings and promote EbA during the meetings, eg. Workshop sessions on the upscaling of EbA. | September 2020 | 65% | 70% | The first two NSC meetings will be conducted in September and October 2021. The first meeting was postponed to allow for an in-person meeting to take place, as the members come from different institutions.  . | MS |
| **Output 1.2: Training events organized for local authorities, environmental committees, and other target groups – with an emphasis on women and youth – to plan, budget and implement EbA interventions.** | December 2021 | 50% | 65% | Training of Trainers (ToTs) for Provincial, District and Sectors levels, as well as capacity building for project staff, were conducted in the reporting period. No other training was organized during the reporting period, due to Covid-19 restrictions.  Project team is planning to conduct the trainings in October-November 2021. | MS |
| **Activity 1.2.1** Provide training on EbA role, budgeting, planning and implementation, to the DEO and DEF of each district as well as other environmental specialists in planning, budgeting and implementing EbA interventions. | December 2021 | 50% | 50% | No training was organized during the reporting period, due to Covid-19 restrictions.  Project team is planning to conduct the training in November 2021. | MS |
| **Activity 1.2.2** Empower the civil society, private sector and environmental committees at provincial (three provinces), district (Five districts), sector (seven sectors) and cell (eight cells) levels, local communities’ representatives, District Project Technical Committees (DPCT) and high learning institutions on the use of EbA interventions. | December 2021 | 30% | 75% | Training of Trainers (ToTs) for Provincial, District and Sectors levels were conducted. The training of local communities by the trained trainers is still pending. Project team is planning to conduct the training in October 2021. | S |
| **Activity 1.2.3** Capacity building for project staff | December 2021 | 65% | 75% | Training on the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS) was provided to project staff in October 2020.  Field Staff and M&E have been trained on GIS-based M&E system in December 2020.  Catchment Management Monitoring and Evaluation System training was provided from 2nd to 4th December 2020 to REMA, Rwanda Water Board and District staff. The training was provided by the University of Rwanda after completing the consultancy on Environment and Natural Resources Management Framework study. | S |
| **Output 1.3: Technical EbA guidelines developed and distributed to environmental committees and local authorities.** | September 2021 | 65% | 85% | Technical EbA implementation guidelines for the restoration forest, savannah and wetland ecosystems were developed in previous reporting periods.  Training of Trainers (ToTs) from Provincial, District and Sectors levels were conducted in previous reporting periods, using the EbA technical guidelines documents. | MS |
| **Activity 1.3.1** Undertake Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for each of the proposed project activities that require an EIA as defined by the Ministerial Order N°004/2008 of 15/08/2008. | June 2021 | 30% | 85% | The Environmental and Social Safeguards Assessment and Audit study started in October 2020. With delays due to the unfortunate loss of the consultancy firm director and team leader due to Covid-19, the study has been prolonged for an additional three months.  Final draft has been submitted, reviewed, comments provided, and is now being fine-tuned. | MS |
| **Activity 1.3.2** Develop and distribute technical protocols, guidelines and policy recommendations for EbA promotion and climate-resilient restoration activities and agroforestry in wetland, savanna and forest to implement EBA practices. Sub-activities include:  a) identify suitable climate-resilient indigenous species for restoration of forest, savanna, wetland and agroforestry in Rwanda;  b) review past and current restoration activities which use indigenous species including the protocols to restore ecosystems and develop agroforestry used in Rwanda as well as indigenous knowledge on climate resilience, use, planting, maintenance of indigenous species; c. produce guidelines for planting and maintaining beneficial indigenous plant species for wetland, savanna and forest restoration as well as for agroforestry development; c) provide training to trainers from FFSs on the benefits of planting climate-resilient indigenous species, and on the use of the guidelines. | June 2021 | 95% | 95% | Training of Trainers (ToTs) from Provincial, District and Sectors levels were conducted using EbA technical guideline documents. The training of local communities by the trained ToTs is pending. Project team is planning to conduct the training in November 2021.  The EbA technical guidelines have also been used for EbA promotion and climate-resilient restoration activities and agroforestry in wetland, savanna and forest ecosystems to implement EbA practices. | S |
| **Activity 1.3.3**Review project documents, progress reports, lessons learned and other relevant documents on adaptation projects being implemented in the country to collate the best adaptation practices and promote them on the climate change adaptation portal | December 2021 | 10% | 50% | Lessons learned were collected in three Districts, Kayonza, Bugesera and Kirehe, for the production of a documentary film in July 2020, and in Nyandungu wetland (Gasabo District) in June 2021 (see activity 1.4.5). | MS |
| **Activity 1.3.4**Compile GIS data, aerial images, maps and local reports on the state of ecosystems to create a national map of priority ecosystems where EbA interventions can be implemented | June 2020 | 15% | 70% | Restored ecosystems have been mapped in all 6 Districts and shape files are available. After this, the project team will collaborate with project intervention Districts to identify and map priority ecosystems where EbA interventions can be implemented. | MS |
| **Output 1.4: Educational resources on EbA developed for communities living near project sites, and school and university students.** | September 2021 | 35% | 85% | A major achievement of the project this reporting period is the finalization and production of the:  - “Combined training manual for integration of Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Pre-primary, Primary and Secondary Education”;  - Training manual and guidelines for integration of EbA in Teachers Training Colleges and Technical and Vocational Education and Training Colleges; as well as  - Training guidelines for integration of EbA in Universities’ education programmes. | S |
| **Activity 1.4.1**Design and implement a public awareness-raising campaign for the communities living near the project intervention sites on EbA with a particular focus on the role of wetlands, forests and savannas as well as on the importance of conserving indigenous tree species. | September 2021 | 50% | 75% | Since project inception, continuous sensitization/ mobilization meetings have been conducted for the communities.  During current Covid-19 health crisis, community gatherings have been restricted.  Further awareness raising activities planned, include radio and television airtime after completion of the documentary films in Ngororero and Musanze Districts, meetings with local communities and key stakeholders throughout the project remaining implementation period. | MS |
| **Activity 1.4.2** Support the new competence based curriculum at primary and secondary levels to address adaptation to climate change using EbA by developing the capacity of NCDC (National Curriculum development center) , inspectors, teachers and head teachers in project intervention areas | September 2021 | 35% | 85% | The international EbA education expert was recruited and has produced the training manual “Combined training manual for integration of Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Pre-primary, Primary and Secondary Education”. Training of Trainers on integration of EbA in education programmes have been conducted. The ToTs will train other inspectors, teachers and head teachers. | MS |
| **Activity 1.4.3** Review university and technical college curricula to identify entry points for the establishment of programmes on adaptation to climate change using EbA and propose a detailed education programme on EbA using the lessons learned from Output 1.5 and Component 3. | September 2021 | 35% | 100% | The international EbA education expert was recruited and has produced a training manual and guidelines for integration of EbA in Teachers Training Colleges and Technical and Vocational Education and Training Colleges; as well as training guidelines for the integration of EbA in Universities’ education programmes. | S |
| **Activity 1.4.4** Develop training manual on the implementation of the education programmes on EbA supported in Activities 1.4.2 and produced in 1.4.3, and present the guidelines for MINEDUC validation, as well as to universities and schools. | September 2021 | 35% | 90% | The international EbA education expert was recruited and has produced:  - The training manual “Combined training manual for integration of Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Pre-primary, Primary and Secondary Education” (activity 1.4.2);  - Training manual and guidelines for integration of EbA in Teachers Training Colleges and Technical and Vocational Education and Training Colleges (activity 1.4.3); as well as  - Training guidelines for integration of EbA in Universities’ education programmes (activity 1.4.3).  The EbA education consultant has provided Training of Trainers for 18 National Curriculum development center staff and government staff at district and sector levels on the use of the developed training manuals on Climate Change and EbA in education programmes. Due to COVID-19 related restrictions, the training was conducted online from the 26th to 27th May 2021. Trainees were gathered in one place, while the international EbA education expert provided the training online. | S |
| **Activity 1.4.5** Conduct field trips for opinion leaders, civil society, NSC, NTAC, higher learning institutions representatives and environmental committees to the project intervention sites to demonstrate the effects of EbA and green technologies to promote the EbA pilot projects. | September 2021 | 30% | 30% | No progress in the reporting period, due to travel ban restrictions due to Covid-19. Since travel restrictions are now eased, this activity will be implemented from September to December 2021. | MU |
| **Activity 1.4.6** Project reporting activities: knowledge sharing products. | September 2021 | 40% | 60% | Documentary films were produced and aired on project activities in Bugesera, Kirehe, Kayonza and Gasabo Districts. Documentary films for project activities in Musanze and Ngororero Districts will be developed in November 2021.The following case study on the project in collaboration with UNEP is under finalization:  “Adaptation case study: Environmental and Social Safeguards in Rwanda”. | MS |
| **Output 1.5: Scientific studies prepared and forum for dissemination of knowledge on EbA effects created.** | December 2021 | 60% | 65% | Field work for data collection for the 8 MSc students have been completed.  Currently the MSc students are doing the data analysis. | MS |
| **Activity 1.5.1** Develop MoUs between REMA, the research partners – including UR, ICRAF and/or and civil society. These MOUs will contain: i) the responsibilities of each institution in the implementation of the research projects; ii) the timeframe of the research projects; and iii) a system to monitor the project performance at grassroot level and develop an upscaling strategy framework defining the role of the various government authorities in the upscaling process in collaboration with relevant stakeholders including economic sectors iv) including the maintenance of the research forum and data storage systems | June 2019 | 100% | 100% | The signing of the MOUs between Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) and University of Rwanda, to support research to enhance the knowledge on ecosystem-based adaptation was done in Q1Y2019 and has been extended until December 2021 owing to some delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. | S |
| **Activity 1.5.2** Review and publish scientific papers based on research findings. | September 2021 | 60% | 70% | MSc students have completed data collection and theses writing; they are now preparing manuscripts for scientific papers. | MS |
| **Activity 1.5.3** In collaboration UR, initiate a medium-term research forum on EbA including the data storage systems on EbA in Rwanda to increase the dissemination of the evidence base on the effects of EbA on the resilience of local communities. | September 2021 | 35% | 65% | It is planned that the MSc students’ research results, as well as knowledge products from the project, will be published on REMA climate change adaptation portal. EbA knowledge products are being published on the portal. The MSc research theses are pending final validation and will be published on the portal in Q4 2021. | MU |
| **Activity 1.5.4** Encourage young scientists to pursue research on EbA through call for proposals for masters students on the role of EbA in increasing climate resilience of local communities and the need for scientific evidence of this.(10 short-term research projects) | December 2020 | 90% | 100% | Following the call for proposals to support 10 EbA Master’s research projects, 14 proposals were submitted. During the review in July 2019, all 14 proposals were rejected.  Subsequently, an online training to students to reinforce their research capacity and EbA knowledge was provided in August 2019, and the proposals were revised.  The review of the revised 14 proposals was done, and 8 research proposals were selected for funding in 2019.  The selected proposals are:   1. Murago wetland ecosystem and its role to enhance climate-resilience of local communities in Rwanda 2. Contribution of restoration of Sanza Natural Forest in increasing local community resilience to erosion risks 3. Farmers’ perception and adoption of agroforestry technologies in eastern Rwanda 4. The role of riparian ecosystem dynamics for community climate change resilience in Lake Rwakibare, Kayonza District, Rwanda 5. The contribution of a model green village to climate resilience in Rwanda 6. Contribution of aquatic invasive plants management to the surrounding community of the Lake Cyohoha North 7. Assessment of agroforestry development of Mushongi in Kirehe District 8. Role of agroforestry on the restoration of Akanyaru, Murago and Cyohoha ecosystem complex to enhance resilience of riparian communities to climate change effects     In the current reporting period, training of students in R statistical data analysis and supervisors in EbA approaches were conducted from 10th to 13th November 2020. | S |
| **Activity 1.5.5** Revise the training/education content produced in Outputs 1.3 and 1.4 based on the findings of the research projects using an adaptive management approach. | December 2021 | 0% | 0% | Not yet started. | MS |
| **COMPONENT 2: Policies, strategies and plans for adaptation to climate change.** | | | | | |
| **Output 2.1: Revisions to national ecosystem management and development policies and strategies to promote EbA proposed, validated, and submitted for adoption by government of Rwanda** | June 2021 | 40% | 40% | The production of policy briefs is still delayed, with no progress since the last reporting period. The National EbA Consultant indicated that consultations of stakeholders have been delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions. The planned policy briefs are on the topics of environment and climate change, land use, agriculture, water resources, and conservation and protected areas. | MU |
| **Activity 2.1.1** Identify the entry points /linkages for EbA in the environment, biodiversity and forestry policies as well as in the water resources master plan / propose and validate policy recommendation for the integration of EbA principles into these documents , Produce policy briefs and disseminate them to planning experts, policy- and decision-makers, and other relevant stakeholders. | June 2021 | 50% | 50% | The entry points were identified. The production of policy briefs is still delayed. Consultations of stakeholders have been delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions. The consultant has now completed consultations and is finalizing policy briefs. | MU |
| **Activity 2.1.2** Hold a workshop to present these policy briefs and policy recommendations to the relevant planning experts. | September 2021 | 0% | 0% | The workshop will be organized when the policy briefs with recommendations will be completed. | MU |
| **Output 2.2: A national upscaling strategy developed to promote EbA.** | June 2022 | 60% | 80% | Environment and Natural Resources Management Framework Studies were completed in the current reporting period; 11 final reports available. The reports can be accessed [here](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SRw8SPFBJoXvPmoif8zSqz26kBkoqeC3).  Recommendations from the developed documents will be reflected in the national EbA upscaling strategy. They will also inform the implementation, by various institutions, of catchment management plans that include EbA measures, as part of EbA upscaling. They will also be used to develop new projects and mobilize resources for further upscaling of EbA approaches in Rwanda. | MS |
| **Activity 2.2.1** Assessment of national Climate change vulnerability index. | September 2018 | 100% | 100% | Final Vulnerability index report produced and disseminated on REMA website; link herewith: http://climateportal.rema.gov.rw/sites/default/files/Rwanda%20Climate%20Change%20Vulnerability%20Report%20%282019%29.pdf | HS |
| **Activity 2.2.2** Gaps analysis in knowledge on EbA in Rwanda and Developing a national strategy to promote the upscaling of EbA. | September 2021 | 50% | 50% | The Gap Analysis in Knowledge on EbA report was produced in 2019.  The development of a National Strategy to promote upscaling of EbA has not yet started (due to consultant maternity leave). It is expected to be conducted in Q4Y2021 and Q1Y2022. | MU |
| **Activity 2.2.3** Pilot project implementation: Nyabugogo wetland restoration | Cancelled | Cancelled | Cancelled | Nyabugogo Wetland restoration pilot was not an activity in the original plan of the project. It was later included in November 2017 by REMA request. However in November 2018, REMA requested its removal because a feasibility study is needed before implementing the restoration activities. As the result, the budget line 2203 was reduced and shifted to the study on wetland and catchment management framework (activity 2.2.5). The changes are reflected in the 2017 and 2019 budget revisions. | N/A |
| **Activity 2.2.4** Identify and select successful project activities to be replicated and develop an upscaling strategy framework defining the role of the various government authorities in the upscaling process in collaboration with relevant stakeholders and dissemination of information | June 2022 | 0% | 0% | Not yet started.  Continuous monitoring and evaluation of the field activities is undergoing to capture lessons/ success stories. As the full benefits of the EbA activities have a long-time horizon, this activity will be started towards the end of the project when successful project activities will be fully identified, starting in Q4Y2021. | MU |
| **Activity 2.2.5** Study on wetland and catchment management. | September 2021 | 30% | 100% | Environment and Natural Resources Management Framework Studies were completed in the current reporting period, with the production of 11 reports.  The reports can be accessed [here](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SRw8SPFBJoXvPmoif8zSqz26kBkoqeC3). | S |
| **Output 2.3: Policy-makers and decision-makers trained to integrate and promote upscaling of EbA interventions.** | September 2021 | 25% | 30% | The training and policy recommendations are yet to be finalized. Some delays are due to Covid-19 related restrictions. | MU |
| **Activity 2.3.1.** Develop policy recommendations for mainstreaming EbA into national assessment tools including Strategic Environment Assessments (SEAs), Environment Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Environment Audits (EAs) for the different sectors. | June 2021 | 40% | 40% | Policy recommendations will be developed after completion of activities 2.1.1 and 2.2.2. | MU |
| **Activity 2.3.2**Provide training to national EIA, EA and SEA experts, DEFs and DEOs, and other relevant technical staff in the environmental sector on the use of the policy recommendations developed in Activity 2.3.1 to promote EbA when reviewing sectoral projects. | September 2021 | 10% | 55 % | The training manual to be used for the training has been developed by the international EbA consultant. The training is expected to be organized in collaboration with the Department of Regulations and Pollution Control; DER&PC in REMA in charge of EIA, EA and SEA after completion of activities 2.1.1, 2.2.2, and 2.3.1. | MS |
| **Output 2.4: District Development Plans (DDPs) of pilot sites revised to promote the use of EbA.** | September 2020 | 100% | 100% | In previous reporting periods, the LDCF II project team held a series of workshops with the District Development Strategy Committee on the concept of EbA and on the integration of environment and climate change in Development Sectors’ Plans and District Development Strategy during the period 19-22 December 2017. EbA approach was integrated in Kirehe, Kayonza, Bugesera, Gasabo, Ngororero, and Musanze Districts Development Strategies (DDS) which extend from 2018 to 2024. | S |
| **Activity 2.4.1** Identify entry points for EbA into the DDS, develop and validate DDS revisions to support the integration of EbA and other relevant adaptation techniques into local-level planning and train district authority to integrate EbA into DDs. | September 2020 | 100% | 100% | The LDCF II project team have hold a series of workshops with the District Development Strategy Committee on the concept of EBA and in integration of Environment and climate change in Development Sectors’ Plans and District Development Strategy during the period 19 - 22 December 2017. This was followed by integration of EbA in DDSs which extend from 2018 to 2024, in Kirehe, Kayonza, Bugesera, Gasabo, Ngororero, and Musanze Districts. | S |
| **COMPONENT 3: EbA interventions that reduce vulnerability and restore natural capital** | | | | | |
| **Output 3.1: EbA implemented to restore wetland ecosystems to increase resilience of local communities to floods and droughts** | June 2022 | 85% | 90% | Most restoration activities in wetlands ecosystems are in the maintenance and sustainability building phase. The MoU between Bugesera District and REMA has been revised to account for the overall extension period of the LDCF II project until June 2022.  1. Lake Cyohoha: Continued extraction of invasive species that reappear.  2. Murago wetland: Relining has been completed, and maintenance is underway. Handover of project to communities is scheduled for July 2021.  3. Small scale irrigation, Murago wetlands: The installation of a small-scale solar powered irrigation system on 10 ha has been completed and the system is now functional. The system has been handed over to the beneficiaries for community management. Recommendations from the environmental and social safeguards assessment will be considered after the validation of the produced report.  4. Landscaping activities over 121 ha of Nyandungu wetland have been completed in the reporting period.  5. Organic Fertilizer Production: Pilot sites have been identified. BOQ and MOU have been completed.  6. Restoration of Nyiramuhondi riverbanks on 10 ha in Ngororero District. During the rainy season March to May 2020, 400 planted bamboos were scoured away by natural disaster (flooding and landslides). Ngororero District has in March 2021 conducted relining activities and covered the destroyed area, and continues with the maintenance.  Recommendations from this experience (and from other damages from extreme weather events) will be captured in lessons learnt documents to be produced by the project, and will be shared and implemented by other projects to reduce risks. They will also be reflected in the policy briefs to be developed under Output 2.1, and will inform the remaining trainings to be delivered by the project, as well as possible future revisions of the technical EbA guidelines and training materials. | S |
| **Activity 3.1.1**Project baseline survey focusing on communities vulnerability to climate change within the project intervention sites in wetland, forest and savannas areas through undertaking VIAs | September 2019 | 100% | 100% | The baseline report was finalized and validated during the 14-19 July 2019 Validation Workshop. | S |
| **Activity 3.1.2** Restore 130 hectares of Nyandungu wetland Gasabo district) | June 2021 | 0% | 100% | Landscaping activities on 121 ha of Nyandungu wetland have been completed. Number of hectares restored was revised from 130 ha to 121 ha after re-mapping of the wetland, which established that 9 ha were in the farms of local communities. | S |
| **Activity 3.1.3** Restore 10 Ha of NYIRAMUHONDI riverbank to decrease sedimentation and decrease the vulnerability of the local communities downstream to flooding and sedimentation (Nyabarongo tributary). | June 2022 | 90% | 95% | The activity has entered the maintenance phase as planting of bamboos (4,000 seedlings) has been completed on the 10 ha of the riverbank.  During the rainy season March to May 2020, 400 planted bamboos were scoured away by natural disaster (flooding and landslides). Ngororero District has in March 2021 conducted relining activities and covered the destroyed area, and continues with the maintenance.  Recommendations from this experience (and from other damages from extreme weather events) will be captured in lessons learnt documents to be produced by the project, and will be shared and implemented by other projects to reduce risks. They will also be reflected in the policy briefs to be developed under Output 2.1, and will inform the remaining trainings to be delivered by the project, as well as possible future revisions of the technical EbA guidelines and training materials. | S |
| **Activity 3.1.4** Restore at least 34 hectares of wetland ecosystem in Murago marshland (Mareba Sector, Bugesera District) to decrease the vulnerability of the local communities to floods and droughts. | June 2021 | 85% | 100% | During the reporting period, maintenance activities of the 52 ha restored were undergoing. All bamboos have been replanted with 4,800 bamboo seedlings.  The activity was handed over on 25th June 2021. Continuous maintenance for the sustainability of the activity will be carried out by Bugesera District and Rwanda Agricultural Board.  During activity execution, initially there was low survival rate due to prolonged droughts. Currently the bamboo is in good condition, after the relining and good rainy seasons. Moreover, further training of project beneficiaries will be conducted in October and November 2021 to ensure sustainability of the project activities. | HS |
| **Activity 3.1.5** Small scale irrigation technology from the buffer zone of Murago wetland on 34 ha | December 2020 | 90% | 100% | The system is fully operational, and the activity was handed over on November 16th, 2020 to the beneficiaries for community management. However, the District and RAB will continue to provide technical assistance to farmers for sustainability purposes. | S |
| **tActivity 3.1.6** Identify plant species for wetland, savannah and forest restoration focusing on indigenous species, train local people on restoration technics of the above ecosystems and develop the management system | June 2021 | 90% | 90% | ToTs for all project intervention Districts were conducted in Q4 2019. Trainings of local communities were delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions. The project team now plans to conduct the training Q3 and Q4 2021. | MS |
| **Activity 3.1.7** Removal of water hyacinth on 115 Ha from Lake Cyohoha and provide training to local communities on identifying, managing, removing and using alien invasive plants including water hyacinth in the wetland restoration areas and public awareness campaign in the areas adjacent to the wetland restoration sites focusing on the benefits of using organic instead of – or balanced with – chemical pesticides and fertilizers in wetlands. | June 2021 | 90% | 100% | From July 2018 to June 2019, the project target of 115 ha were cleaned of Water Hyacinth and other invasive species and maintained in Lake Cyohoha North.  The project is in the maintenance phase and sustainability building strategies. Extraction of water hyacinth and invasive species that have reappeared, is conducted regularly by the contractor.  A key challenge is the encroachment of communities with illegal activities in the buffer zone. Awareness raising campaigns will continue; last semester this was affected by meeting restrictions owing to Covid-19. Moreover, livelihoods support projects such as small scale solar powered irrigation and making organic fertilizer, and fish farming will help to address the problem of encroachment in lakes and wetlands buffer zones. | S |
| **Activity 3.1.8.** Establish pilot sites and provide training on the use of organic compost for agriculture in the agricultural land around the wetland restoration sites (using the information collected and guidelines produced in Activity 1.3.4). | Dec 2021 | 20% | 30% | The site for the construction of the organic fertilizer facility has been identified. Plan and layouts are available.  BOQ has been validated and the MOU with the contractor for the construction and training signed. | MU |
| **Activity 3.1.9.** Design and implement a public awareness campaign in the areas adjacent to the wetland restoration sites focusing on the benefits of using organic instead of – or balanced with – chemical pesticides and fertilizers in wetlands and develop monitoring systems for these restoration interventions within local communities. | December 2021 | 0% | 50% | Public awareness campaign is underway with communities around the Murago wetland. This is being done in collaboration between the project team, REMA and Bugesera District. Usually, local authorities lead the awareness campaigns with technical support from REMA and other related institutions such Rwanda Water Board Resources, Rwanda Forestry Authority etc.  Public awareness activities were conducted via TV and radio broadcast, especially during the World Environment Day 2021. | MS |
| **Output 3.2: EbA implemented to restore forest ecosystems in Sanza to increase resilience of local communities to floods and landslides.** | December 2021 | 85% | 90% | Most restoration activities in forest ecosystems are in the maintenance and sustainability building phase:   1. Terraces in Ngororero: Four hectares (out of a total of 100 ha) were affected by the landslides following the prolonged heavy rains in May 2020. In this reporting period, District undertook the rehabilitation of the damaged terraces, as well as relining activities. Recommendations from this experience (and from other damages from extreme weather events) will be captured in lessons learnt documents to be produced by the project, and will be shared and implemented by other projects to reduce risks. They will also be reflected in the policy briefs to be developed under Output 2.1, and will inform the remaining trainings to be delivered by the project, as well as possible future revisions of the technical EbA guidelines and training materials.   Agroforestry on the radical terraces is reducing soil erosion and crop damage from heavy rainfall events in the area. Plantation of agroforestry trees and valorisation of the terraces lead to the increase of land productivity and thus increase the adaptive capacity of local communities.   1. Sanza forest: Relining of indigenous trees and bamboo on the 22 ha reforested is still on-going on quarterly basis. Application of compost to enhance the growth is done. *Ficus cycomorus*, *Ficus thonnimghii,* and *Carapa grandiflora* (umushwati) tree species showed a low performance due to proximity of mining activity (resulting in challenges such as limited soil cover and small localized landslides), and were replaced by *Syzygium parviolium* specie which is better suited for these conditions. 2. Ngororero Community project: For the upcoming growing season, 20.58 ha of land has been mapped for the growing of modern seeds of banana cropping. 3. Beekeeping sub-activities: In Kirehe, the establishment of two apiaries with 30 hives each and the construction of a honey collection center have been completed. 112 beneficiaries from the community have also received introductory training in beekeeping. In Ngororero, the cooperative (Terimbere Muvunvu) grouping beekeepers surrounding Sanza natural forest has been created. Communities have started the collection of beehives. Trainings will continue up to the end of the project. These trainings together with support provided to local communities on the implementation of modern beekeeping approaches incentivize the protection of the restored natural forests (Ibanda-Makera natural forest in eastern province and Sanza natural forest in northern province), which will help reduce erosion that is regulated by these ecosystems. Furthermore, beekeeping provides an alternative income source to local communities, which will help to reduce overexploitation of soil from agriculture, and increase the adaptive capacity of local communities in the face of increasing length and intensity of droughts. |  |
| **Activity 3.2.1** Project baseline survey focusing on communities’ vulnerability to climate change within the project intervention sites in forest areas through undertaking VIAs. | Sep 2019 | 80% | 100% | The baseline report was finalized and validated during the 14-19 July 2019 Validation Workshop. | S |
| **Activity 3.2.2** Build radical terraces and promote the development of agroforestry on terraces on 100 hectares in Ngororero area using indigenous species and raising awareness on the benefits of indigenous species | June 2021 | 90% | 96% | The MoU between REMA and District was extended up to June 2021 for the activity of construction, valorisation and maintenance of radical terraces on 100 ha at Nyiramuhondi watershed in Ngororero District.The project is in maintenance by Ngororero District.  The community are growing the beans in the created radical terraces, but around 4 ha have been damaged by natural disasters, especially landslides in March-May 2020. The district conducted the rehabilitation of damaged terraces by reed and tree plantation on the destroyed buffer zone of Nyiramuhondi river in November 2020 and relining in March 2021.  Recommendations from this experience (and from other damages from extreme weather events) will be captured in lessons learnt documents to be produced by the project, and will be shared and implemented by other projects to reduce risks. They will also be reflected in the policy briefs to be developed under Output 2.1, and will inform the remaining trainings to be delivered by the project, as well as possible future revisions of the technical EbA guidelines and training materials. | S |
| **Activity 3.2.3** Restoration of 22 Ha of Sanza natural forest in Ngororero District sing a participatory forest management approach. | December 2021 | 90% | 95.5% | All plantings on the 22 ha have been completed. The project is in the maintenance phase.  Contractor has completed the relining activity around the mining pits and degraded areas in the forest, but 0.02 ha is still damaged due to landslide.  Trees damaged by small landslides and proximity of mining activities, have shown a low performance, and were replaced by proposed species in the recommendations made in the DPCT meeting which was held on 02 December 2020 at Ngororero District. For example, *Carapa grandiflora* (umushwati) were replaced by *Syzygium parvifolium* (umugote). On the up left of Satinsyi River it is recommended to use *Callitris robusta* and *Syzygium parvifolium* (umugote) in remaining enrichment sites where it is necessary. Recommended replacement species were judged better suited to the conditions on the site. | S |
| **Activity 3.2.4** Design and implement Community Driven Development projects in Kayonza, Kirehe, Bugesera and Ngororero Districts | August 2022 | 50% | 70% | Ngororero district:  For the upcoming growing season, 20.58ha of land has been mapped for growing the modern seeds of banana cropping. The tender to provide the seed is completed at district level. Mobilization meeting with community having the land in selected sites for banana plantation have been conducted. Planting of banana seeds is scheduled for October 2021.  A cooperative (Terimbere Muvunvu) grouping beekeepers surrounding Sanza natural forest was created. The MOU and for the sub project focused on beekeeping is finalized. The 1st instalment has been disbursed to the district for the implementation of the activities. The community has started the collection of beehives around Sanza natural forest.  Kirehe District:  Communities Beekeeping Project started in May 2021 and is expected to be completed at the end of August 2022 for the duration of 15 months. The supply and installation of beekeeping equipment have been finalized for the establishment of two apiaries with 30 hives for each. The construction of a honey collection center is also finalized. 112 beneficiaries from the community have received training in beekeeping. | MS |
| **Activity 3.2.5** Provide training to local communities in forest restoration activities particularly in planting and maintaining indigenous species and develop monitoring systems for these restoration interventions within local communities. | December 2021 | 50% | 50% | Because of COVID-19 restrictions local communities’ trainings were delayed. Trainings are now planned for Q3 and Q4 2021 after mass vaccination against Covid-19 and permission to conduct physical meetings under special conditions, e.g. low number of people participating in the meeting, ensuring 1 meter distance between participants, etc.  Experiences and lessons learnt from the project to date will be reflected in the training materials, including the consideration of adapted approaches in response to recent extreme weather events. | MU |
| **Output 3.3: EbA implemented to restore savanna ecosystems in Kayonza District to increase resilience of local communities to droughts.** |  | 90% | 95% | Most restoration activities in savannah ecosystems are in the maintenance phase and sustainability building strategies:  1. Restoration of savannah ecosystem with indigenous tree species at Rwinkwavu hill on 200 ha.  2. Restoration of Kibare Lakeshores on 80 ha by plantation of bamboo, fruit trees and excavation of demarcation line.  3. Construction of a selling point and storage at Kibare: the selling point is not operational due to COVID-19 restrictions.  4. Solar Powered Irrigation at Byimana site Ndego: solar powered irrigation system is completed and operational. Final handover not yet done.  5. Supply and installation of solar powered water system for supply of water to 790cattle in Ndego Sector around Lake Kibare completed and operational. | S |
| **Activity 3.3.1** Project baseline survey focusing on community’s vulnerability to climate change within the project intervention sites in savanna areas through undertaking VIAs. | Sep 2019 | 80% | 100% | The baseline report was finalized and validated during the 14-19 July 2019 Validation Workshop. | S |
| **Activity 3.3.2** Promote the development of agroforestry using indigenous species on 200 hectares in Kirehe District by providing trees from nurseries and raising awareness on the benefits of indigenous species. | June 2022 | 89% | 95% | 250 ha in Kirehe District, Mushongi sector, were restored by plantation of different climate resilient agroforestry trees species. On the 29 May 2020, the sub-activity closed, and final handover of project activities was made to the communities. Local authorities and communities are responsible for the maintenance of planted trees on both sites (Ibanda-Makera and Mushongi) for sustainability of project activities, as agreed in signed MOU with Kirehe District. Maintenance will be done through an established national system of community works (uncompensated), where districts will provide trees where needed.  The restoration of Rwampanga Lakeshores (agroforestry - bamboo plantations) (50 ha) was completed as well. There were important flooding damages during April to May 2020 rainy season, which caused the complete loss (99%) of bamboos and 20% loss for the other trees. The project restoration sites suffer now of soil erosion from upstream the mountain to the lake. An additional $10,000 was needed to replant the bamboos. Relining activity is underway, at 70% completion rate.  Recommendations from this experience (and from other damages from extreme weather events) will be captured in lessons learnt documents to be produced by the project, and will be shared and implemented by other projects to reduce risks. They will also be reflected in the policy briefs to be developed under Output 2.1, and will inform the remaining trainings to be delivered by the project, as well as possible future revisions of the technical EbA guidelines and training materials. | S |
| **Activity 3.3.3** Restore at least 100 hectares of degraded savannas with indigenous species in eastern part using a participatory, forest management approach. | Dec 2021 | 80% | 95% | In previous reporting periods, 200 ha of savannah ecosystem were restored at Rwinkwavu hill. In this reporting period, relining activities have been undertaken in tree plantation season and regular maintenance is ongoing. | S |
| **Activity 3.3.4** Protection of KIBARE riverbank with bamboo plantation in Isangano Cell on 80 Ha. | June 2021 | 85% | 90% | Plantation activities have been completed on the 80 ha. Relining activities are still undergoing  Some human activities such as grazing are still encroaching the riverbank. Awareness raising and enforcement of environmental Law in collaboration with local leaders will continue once Covid-19 restrictions are waived. Moreover, LDCF II project is providing water to cattle keepers in their farms so that they do not take their cows for drinking water at Lake Kibare, as well as a selling point for commercial activities to support the diversification of livelihoods (to reduce pressure on the buffer zone). | S |
| **Activity 3.3.5** Construction of IDP model village with Biogas system, rainwater collection system and greening component in Kayonza District. | Cancelled | Cancelled | Cancelled | At 2018 PSC meeting, it was recommended to remove this activity and replace it by the construction of selling point to ensure the protection of Lake Kibare. | N/A |
| **Activity 3.3.6** Construction of IDP Model green Village for communities from RUHONDO island | January 2021 | 95% | 100% | The subproject was executed in from January 2018 and was handed over to Musanze District in May 2020, and is now under the management of the District. In total, 11 houses of 4 biogas systems, and 1 house of 2 biogas systems were constructed for a total of 46 households.  A post-evaluation by the project team found that:   1. Correcting of identified defects in the houses built is ongoing. 2. All provided 46 biogas systems were constructed but there are 6 systems that have been damaged and unable to produce cooking gas. 3. Additionally, some households do not feed the biogas system, so they do not produce the required cooking gas. 4. All cowsheds have been constructed and completed. 5. Some cowsheds that were damaged have been repaired.   All found defects have been corrected. | S |
| **Activity 3.3.7** Restoration of 50 Ha of Ibanda-Makera savanna natural forest | June 2021 | 85% | 100% | Relining over the 50 ha restored has been undertaken during this semester.  On 29 May 2020, the subproject was closed, and final handover of project activities was made to the communities. Local authorities and communities should own the maintenance of planted trees on both sites (Ibanda-Makera and Mushongi) for sustainability of project activities. | S |
| **Activity 3.3.8** Construction of selling point and storage at Kibare | June 2021 | 80% | 90% | The main building construction has been completed. Remaining activities are the waste management system and market fences, and pavement which was recommended by the MTR expert.  However, the selling point is not operational due to COVID-19 restrictions. | MS |
| **Activity 3.3.9** Scaling up Solar Powered Irrigation at Byimana site Ndego[[7]](#footnote-8) | September 2020 | 80% | 100% | The solar powered irrigation system is operational. | S |
| **Activity 3.3.10** Supply and installation of solar powered water supply for livestock – Ndego sector Kibare lakeshores7 | June 2021 | 5% | 90% | Contractor has been recruited, and equipment supplied.  Installation works of solar powered water supply system has been completed and it is operational. | MS |
| **Output 3.4: Training events, equipment and technical support for the establishment of climate-resilient livelihoods in wetlands, forests and savannas to enhance local communities’ resilience to the effects of climate change (Note: Trainings under component 1 above)** | June 2022 | 15% | 35% | Trainings conducted during this reporting period include:  - Hands-on training on beekeeping project in Kirehe District, - Training on the use, management and maintenance of solar powered water supply system for cattle in Ndego Sector, Kayonza District.  Previously trainings were provided on solar powered irrigation systems in Kayonza and Bugesera District, as well as use of biogas, solar energy system and rainwater harvesting techniques in Musanze District.  In terms of replication, Rwanda Agricultural Board (RAB), seeing the success of the innovative Murago wetland small irrigation model, installed additional six irrigation sites across the Bugesera District. RAB undertakes EIA for all large irrigation projects. | MU |
| **Activity 3.4.1** Design and implement the payment system for the community members hired for the restoration and building activities using bank accounts of local community members that are opened within a Saving Cooperative (SACO). | Dec 2018 | 0% | 100% | All casual workers on restoration and construction activities are paid through SACO and mobile money. | S |
| **Activity** **3.4.2** Provide local communities at Murago, Isangano and Mpanga restoration sites with training and equipment to develop sustainable fishing activities. | December 2021 | 30% | 40% | In previous reporting period, a fishing and aquaculture expert/consultant was recruited and provided a business plan report that was validated.  During this reporting period, the list of equipment for procurements havs been finalized and approved.  The tender for the acquisition of fishing equipment was undertaken and a new fishing expert contracted. | MU |
| **Activity** **3.4.3** Provide local communities living in Kayonza IDP model village training and equipment for handcrafting including weaving using NTFPs. | Cancelled | cancelled | cancelled | Since IDP model construction in Kayonza has been removed (see above 3.3.5), this activity also will no longer been undertaken. | N/A |
| **Activity** **3.4.4** Design community-based ecotourism projects in suitable project intervention sites to increase the direct benefits of ecosystem restoration and preservation to local communities. | Mar 2022 | 0% | 15% | Currently the tender for the consultant is being advertised. It was previously advertised 3 times and failed to get a successful bidder. | MU |
| **Activity** **3.4.5** Undertake a feasibility assessment to identify appropriate models for private sector financing of community-based EbA projects. | Mar 2022 | 0% | 15% | Currently the tender for the consultant is being advertised. It was previously advertised 3 times and failed to get a successful bidder | MU |
| **Activity** **3.4.6** Design two community-based EbA projects suitable to the models for private sector financing identified under Activity 3.4.6 and submit them for funding. | Mar 2022 | 0% | 15% | Currently the tender for the consultant is being advertised. It was previously advertised 3 times and failed to get a successful bidder | MU |
| **Activity** **3.4.7** Promote knowledge sharing between the targeted local communities on the climate-resilient livelihoods introduced through workshops developing and implementing for local communities who adopted the same climate-resilient livelihoods in different intervention sites of the proposed project. | Dec 2021 | 20% | 50% | Replication of Murago wetland small scale irrigation in other areas of the country by other institutions:  In this reporting period, Rwanda Agricultural Board (RAB), seeing the success of the innovative Murago wetland small irrigation model, installed additional six irrigation sites across the Bugesera District. RAB undertakes EIA for all large irrigation projects. | MS |
| **Activity** **3.4.8** Field trip of communities representatives /opinion leaders, civil society, SC, NTAC, higher learning institutions representatives and environmental committees to the project intervention sites to demonstrate the effects of EbA and green technologies to promote the EbA in all sectors. | Dec 2021 | 40% | 40% | In previous reporting periods, 12 members of the Murago Wetland Irrigation Cooperative in Bugesera District visited irrigation representatives of a local cooperatives scheme in Nyagatare District.  The members of the Project Steering Committee visited the sites of Ruhondo Island and Gakoro IDP model village Musanze village in August 2019.  No activity in the current reporting period, because of COVID-19 gathering and travel restrictions. | MS |

3.3. Risk Rating

**Table A.** Risk-log

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Risk** | **Risk affecting:** | **Risk Rating** | | | | | | | **Variation respect to last rating** | |
| Outcome / outputs | **CEO ED** | **PIR 1** | **PIR 2** | **MTR** | **PIR 3** | **PIR 4 (this PIR)** | **PIR 5** | **Δ** | **Justification** |
| Risk 1: Current climate and seasonal variability and/or hazard events prevent implementation of planned activities. | Outcome 3 | M | M | S | S | M | M |  | = |  |
| Risk 2: Communities do not support interventions and do not adopt ecosystem management activities for adaptation during or after the term of the proposed project because of limited immediate benefits of EbA. | All outcomes & outputs | M | M | M | M | M | L |  | ↓ | Intensive awareness campaigns and stakeholder consultations were done before the start of the project and at the early stages of implementation. Local communities support EbA projects provided that they are supported with sources of livelihoods to compensate for the lost uses of the restored ecosystems. Some of the livelihood support projects provided include a selling point, solar-powered small scale irrigation system and beekeeping. Continued engagement of banana growers that have not allowed radical terracing on their property on the benefits to soil conservation is also taking place. In general, awareness raising on the benefits of ecosystem restoration for the communities is continued. |
| Risk 3: Loss of government support may result in poor prioritisation of proposed project activities. | All outcomes | L | L | L | L | L | L |  | = |  |
| Risk 4: Institutional capacity and relationships between line ministries are not sufficient to provide effective solutions to climate problems that are complex and multi-sectoral. | All outcomes | M | L | L | L | L | L |  | = | Districts and government institutions have received training on EbA. REMA, MINECOFIN, RDB, RWB, MINAGRI, RAB, REB and the District authorities have very good working relationships that allow technical support to the District level and allow for political will to execute and sustain activities in the Districts. |
| Risk 5: Limited technical capacity to conduct preliminary studies and design the implementation of activities. | All outcomes | M | M | M | M | S | M |  | ↓ | Field officers have been engaged. International consultants: CTA, EbA expert, Education expert and Vulnerability assessment expert have been hired.  Key experts from national institutions have been officially nominated to support the implementation of technical project activities  Previous LDCF I project manager was engaged as a national technical advisor on the project.  Continued capacity building through training in the project and working alongside international consultants is envisioned. |
| Risk 6: Priority interventions implemented are not found to be cost-effective. | All outcomes | L | L | L | L | L | L |  | = |  |
| Risk 7: Baseline project activities not achieved as planned. | All outcomes | M | L | L | L | L | L |  | = | All baseline activities have been achieved as planned. |
| Risk 8: Climate change adaptation priorities undermined by national emergencies or civil unrest. | All outcomes | L | L | L | L | L | L |  | = |  |
| Risk 9: Large-scale infrastructure development takes place within project areas. | Outcome 3 | L | L | L | L | L | L |  | = |  |
| Risk 10: Uncontrolled settlements into the natural ecosystems | Outcome 3 | M | M | M | M | M | M |  | = | Encroachment along the 20 m and 50 m buffer zone for wetlands and lakes respectively has importantly been reduced due to faciltation of local communities’ access to water (water supply for cattle and small scale irrigation) .  With due consideration of potential environmental risks from water extraction from wetlands and lake, additional activities such as water supply points/ small-scale irrigation have been provided to the community in response to the underlying drivers of degradation and to ensure sustainability of the restoration activities. |
| Risk 11: Procurement delays in recruitment of consultants | All outcomes |  | H | H | H | H | H |  | = | Procurement of consultancies have been delayed, including experts on EbA.  Although there are improvements in the length of the procurement process, the project still encounters some failures in recruitment of experts such as the environmental economics expert. |
| Risk 12: Environmental and social risks | Outcome 3 |  |  |  |  | H | H |  | = | The Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) Assessment study is currently underway. The report has gone through several rounds of review, and is being finetuned. Environmental and social risks, and mitigation and monitoring mesures, will be added after the finalization and validation of the ESS assessment. |
| Risk 13: Variations in the budget, including across components, can be challenging to monitor | All outcomes |  |  |  |  | S | L |  | ↓ | In past years, the project went through several budget revisions. For example, in 2019, due to restructuring of activities (new activities added), two budget revisions were needed 2019. In year 2020, budget revision for a 18-month no-cost extension was completed.  However the risk is now low, as a budget revision for 2021 was not needed and the project is no longer anticipating a lengthy budget revision process, based on the process put in place in 2020. |
| Risk 14: Covid-19 health crisis |  |  |  |  |  | H | S |  | ↓ | The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted heavily on the project implementation with related travel and meeting restrictions. The project was planning to organize several trainings in 2020-2021, which could not be undertaken under these circumstances. However, as some of the restrictions have now been lifted or relaxed, many of the postponed trainings and meetings can now be implemented under special arrangements allowed for small groups. Where applicable and necessary, the project team will also adopt a Training of Trainers approach to widen the reach of smaller training events. |
| **Consolidated project risk** |  | n.a | L | M | M | S | M |  | ↓ | The overall project risk rating has been reduced to Medium (from Significant in the last PIR). The main factors contributing to the somewhat reduced level of overall risk are: improved community engagement and buy-in, as well as reduced encroachment in buffer zone restoration activities (thanks to the provision of additional water supply for cattle and irrigation), and improved technical capacity to design and implement interventions (thanks to continued capacity building and engagement of national and international experts). |

**Table B.** Outstanding medium & high risks

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| **Risk** | **Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)** | **Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period** | **Additional mitigation measures for the next periods** | | |
| What | When | By whom |
| Risk 1: Current climate and seasonal variability and/or hazard events prevent implementation of planned activities. | Consult RWFA at the district level on alternatives to current restoration protocols (e.g. increase of proportion of grevillea, acacia and other species that are more drought resistant)  Consider opportunities for assisted natural regeneration  Consider cost and opportunities for irrigation  Reconstruct destroyed terraces, wherever possible and plant trees to consolidate the soils  Explore options to strengthen terracing with use of different materials. | Consultations have been made with the RWFA  Relining and replanting have been done | Continued relining to replace tree losses, with due consideration of the increased risks from extreme weather events and of the project experiences to date  Furthermore, the project experiences with damages from extreme weather events will be incorporated in the design of the remaining project trainings, as well as in the policy briefs to be developed under Output 2.1. Collaboration with other ongoing or planned projects for the revision of the EbA guidelines and training materials will be sought. | Continuous monitoring with relining during the remaining course of the project  In the remaining project implementation period | Districts  REMA |
| Risk 5: Limited technical capacity to conduct preliminary studies and design the implementation of activities. | Identify and develop human resource capacity as required.  Identify whether staff trained by the LDCF1 project is available to carry out certain tasks in order to increase technical capacity in-country.  Include funds in the project budget for preliminary studies to hire international consultants to complement the research team.  Engage field officers to work closely with the project manager of the proposed project to ensure timely delivery of project outputs. | Continued engagement of field officers, the engagement of additional technical experts, and continued capacity building | Continued engagement of technical experts, and provision of capacity building to project teams and communities for the technically sound design, implementation and maintenance of interventions | Continuously | REMA |
| Risk 10: Uncontrolled settlements into the natural ecosystems | CEO ER: Raise awareness of the national and local government on this potential risk.  Raise communities’ awareness on the benefits of restored natural ecosystems for their livelihoods.  Maximise the economic benefits from sustainable natural resource management.  Increase the capacity of district authorities to enforce policies for natural resource protection.  2020 PIR: The project still encounters heavy encroachment along the 20m and 50 m buffer zone for wetlands and lakes respectively.  The project has engaged with communities and they requested irrigation and water supply for their livestock. These options are pursued with due consideration to potential environmental risks to water extraction from wetlands and lakes. | Provision of water to cattle keepers in their farms so that they do not take their cows for drinking water at Lake Kibare, as well as a selling point for commercial activities to support the diversification of livelihoods (to reduce pressure on the buffer zone). Awareness-raising activities and the enforcement of environmental law have been limited in the current reporting period due to the COVID-19 related restrictions. | Continued awareness raising and enforcement of environmental law, in collaboration with local leaders.  Continued provision of water to cattle keepers in their farms so that they do not take their cows for drinking water at Lake Kibare, as well as a selling point for commercial activities to support the diversification of livelihoods (to reduce pressure on the buffer zone). | Continuously | REMA, in collaboration with local authorities and leaders |
| Risk 11: Procurement delays in recruitment of consultants | Share the ToRs proactively on other platform and link it to the Rwanda Government online system  Provide short guidelines application to prospective applicants | Sharing the ToRs | Continuing working with UNEP to share ToRs on larger platforms, and to support applicants in navigating the procurement system | Q3 2021 | REMA/ UNEP |
| Risk 12: Environmental and social risks | Prioritize the implementation of the Environmental and Social Assessment and Audit and monitor the implementation of recommendations | Implementation of the Environmental and social audit and assessment | Prioritize the –review and validation of the report and accelerate the implementation of recommendations | Q3 2021 | REMA |
| Risk 14: Covid-19 Health crisis | With the uncertainties linked to the Covid-19 situation, management should monitor changes regularly. Ensure regular project team communications and online meetings. Ensure that all project staff have internet based communication via telephone, laptops etc. Training of project team on Microsoft Teams.  Precautionary approach should guide decision making process. Provide protection gears to project management team/ consultants/ anyone on duties on the project activities.  Take into consideration uncertainties linked to the evolution of the Covid-19 crisis and limitation of international or local travel , gatherings, in the planned activities and calls for tenders, in order to assess the best options for recruiting the necessary expertise without delaying implementation,  Request 18 months no-costs extension of the project | Online meetings project team and PSC meetings  Protective gear provided to project management  Limitation on travel – local and international  Request for 18-month no-cost extension | Online meetings and trainings, smaller-group gatherings, trainings-of-trainers | Until end of pandemic | REMA |

**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.   
**Medium 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 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.

1. For joint projects and where applicable ratings should also be discussed with the Task Manager of co-implementing agency. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Marginally Satisfactory (MS), Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Outputs and activities (or deliverables) as described in the project logframe (and workplan) or in any updated project revision. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. The completion dates should be as per latest workplan (latest project revision). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. As much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. To be provided by the UNEP Task Manager [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. After several consultations with communities and districts officials, it was proposed for the project to provide water extraction for farmers to ensure sustainability of the restoration of the buffer zone around wetlands. Districts of Kayonza and Bugesera suffer from recurrent prolonged droughts that forced communities to move further close to the lakes for farming for human and livestock consumption. During project 2017 budget revisions, it was proposed to construct solar irrigation systems around the Murago wetland. The Project NSC further convened 26th July 2018 proposed further to the team to undertake the following activities: i) install solar powered irrigation system and water supply to cattle’s around Kibare lake in Kayonza District, Ndego Sector, Isangano and Byimana cells ii) Construction of the selling point to relocate market activities conducted within 50 meters of Kibare Lake to ensure total protection of the ecosystems and iii) small scale irrigation Rwakigeli Lake to increase farmers climate change resilience from recurrent prolonged droughts. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)