



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2022 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

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1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	Latin America and the Caribbean
Country (ies):	Argentina
Project Title:	Strengthening governance for biodiversity protection by formulating and implementing the National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) (NSIAS)
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/ARG/023/GFF
GEF ID:	4768
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity
Project Executing Partners:	Environment and Sustainable Development Ministry (MAyDS)
Project Duration:	Initial duration: 4 years (48 months) Extension: 3 years (36 months) Total duration: 6 years (70 months)
Project coordinates: (Ctrl+Click here)	34°36'09.3"S 58°22'25.5"W

Project Dates

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	5 December 2014
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	15 July 2015
Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	Original: 14 July 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st extension: 31/07/2019 • 2nd extension: 31/05/2020 • 3rd extension: 30/06/2021 Final end date: 30 June 2022
Revised project implementation end date (if applicable) ²	Third extension: 30 June 2022

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	3,870,000 USD
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc³:	18,247,901 USD
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2022 (USD m):	USD 3,830,735

¹ As per FPMIS

² In case of a project extension.

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

Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2022⁴	USD 14,329,360.60
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M&E Milestones

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee Meeting:	8 July 2020
Expected Mid-term Review date⁵:	--
Actual Mid-term review date:	October to December 2017
Mid-term review or evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022)⁶:	No
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	March-July 2022
Tracking tools/Core indicators updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)	Yes

Overall ratings

Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):	Satisfactory
Overall implementation progress rating:	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall risk rating:	M

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	M
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Status

Implementation Status (1st PIR, 2nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):	6 th and Final PIR
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Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
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⁴ Please see last section of this report where you are asked to provide updated co-financing estimates. Use the total from this Section and insert here.

⁵ The MTR should take place about halfpoint between EOD and NTE – this is the expected date

⁶ Please note that the FAO GEF Coordination Unit should be contacted six months prior to the expected MTR date

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2. Progress Towards Achieving Project Objectives and Outcome (DO)

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

Project objective and Outcomes (as indicated at CEO Endorsement)	Description of indicator(s) ⁷	Baseline level	Mid-term target ⁸	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ⁹
Objective(s): Formulating and implementing the National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species (IAS)(NSIAS)						
Outcome 1.1: Increased effectiveness for protecting biodiversity, sensitive ecosystems, health and the economy at the national level by managing the IAS problem.		a) There are no unified border control systems taking into account the risk of IAS introduction or a risk analysis system based on an objective evaluation.		a) coordinated risk analysis and border control mechanisms agreed upon and, after enactment of the pertinent regulations, 100% of requests for introducing IAS will have been duly analysed by the system	90% During the reporting period, the National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species (NSIAS) was approved (May 2022), which includes prevention as a substantive axis and proposes specific actions. The MAYDS is in charge of evaluating the requests for the introduction of species to the national territory using risk analysis systems and ad-hoc complementary mechanisms developed by the project. IAS introduction control actions began to be coordinated through meetings with the national animal and plant health authority (SENASA) and through training activities for agents of federal control forces.	S

⁷ This is taken from the approved results framework of the project. Please add cells when required in order to use one cell for each indicator and one rating for each indicator.

		b) Many protected areas (PA) carry out IAS control actions and, to a lesser extent, isolated early detection and control actions, but they have no early detection systems.		b) early detection and immediate action systems implemented in at least 25% of the National Parks and in five provincial protected areas (PA) across the country, and at ports on the Atlantic coastline	90% The training actions for conservation agents triggered the development of key invasion prevention tools (watch lists, route and vector analysis systems) for practically all the protected areas considered in the objective of this subcomponent. The port-focused pilot was extended beyond the four ports initially included thanks to complementary efforts by the national maritime police (PNA). The NSIAS that was approved during the reporting period, proposes specific actions for early detection and immediate action.	S
		c) < 5% of annual operations plans of the countries PAs have a strategy for IAS management		c) IAS management strategies included in the annual operations plans (POAs) of at least 25% of the country's protected areas;	70% IAS management strategies has been incorporated in countries protected areas but without effective inclusion in POAs yet.	MS
		d) Score of 2/15 in the GEF Tracking Tool (Part VI on IAS, questions 1,2,4,5)		d) Score of 11/15 obtained in the GEF Tracking Tool (Part VI on IAS, questions 1,2, 4, 5)	12/15 Detection and monitoring actions are conducted on a regular basis in national parks and other nature reserves. Additionally, the province of Tierra del Fuego has completed training aimed at the early detection of beavers, specifically evaluated biosecurity issues associated with beaver eradication and recommended an optimal strategy	HS

⁸ Some indicators may not identify mid-term targets at the design stage (refer to approved results framework) therefore this column should only be filled when relevant.

⁹ 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).

					<p>currently under implementation. The national navigation safety authority, in association with the Argentinian Port Council, maintains regular IAS monitoring activities in marine and coastal areas and routine analysis of fouling and ballast water. Patagonian provinces maintain regular monitoring of the advance of the Didymo algae. The Province of Misiones has developed an alert system to detect new sites invaded by the Giant African Snail. Tierra del Fuego monitors the areas under Beaver management and designs, together with Chile, a strategy to avoid the expansion of the species towards the continental sector of Patagonia.</p>	
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<p>Outcome 2.1: National and provincial legal, regulatory and financial frameworks harmonized and support the effective implementation of the National IAS Strategy.</p>		<p>Score of 1/6 obtained in the GEF Tracking Tool (Part VI on IAS, question 3)</p>		<p>score of 3/6 in the GEF Tracking Tool (Part VI on IAS, question 3)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4/6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National agencies include specific regulations and strategies for preventing the introduction and spread of IAS and for controlling species of particular concern. Management is specially focused on species with known impacts on agriculture and human and animal health. Regulation of IAS centred on the protection of biodiversity is addressed by the national parks authority. • MAYDS, in coordination with the affected provinces, prepared and approved specific resolutions for the management of species of particular concern, including Bullfrog, Giant African Snail, Wild Boar, Red-bellied Squirrel, Beaver, Privet, Didymo algae and marine and costal invaders. 	<p style="text-align: center;">S</p>
<p>Outcome 3.1.: Coastal and marine ecosystems protected against invasive alien species through early detection and rapid response measures.</p>		<p>Score of 0/5 obtained in the GEF Tracking Tool (Part VI, question 5)</p>		<p>score of 3/5 obtained in the GEF Tracking Tool (Part VI, question 5)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5/5</p> <p>Additionally to what was previously mentioned, the country hosts a national database included in I3N (Interamerican Invasive Species Information Network). Records on IAS, occurrences, specialists, references and projects are organized following international standards and are fully compatible with the main initiatives at the regional and international level. Also, a National Information System on IAS hosted by the MAYDS will be finished during project’s operational closure.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HS</p>

<p>Outcome 3.2.: Recovery in progress of ecosystems and biodiversity highly or potentially affected by six IAS, and risks for health and the forestry and farming sector mitigated, by applying containment and/or eradication protocols</p>				<p>a) 3-6 containment, control or eradication protocols for IAS prove their effectiveness through ecosystem and biodiversity recovery indicators on xx hectares (baseline and target will be established in year 1);</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four protocols concluded (snail, tamarisk, privet and Ports), two communication strategies defined and implemented (Didymo and Red-bellied Squirrel). • Updates were made for the project <i>“Improvement of control and eradication systems of IAS in national and provincial Protected Areas (PA) and the private sector, in environments of Argentine Patagonia for the protection of endangered species”</i>. • NSIAS, which includes this topic, has been approved by Ministerial Resolution. 	<p>S</p>
		<p>b) Score of 7/48 obtained in the GEF Tracking Tool (Part VI, question 6)</p>		<p>b) Score of 24/48 (50%) obtained in GEF Tracking Tool (Part VI, question 6)</p>	<p>For this last GEF TT, it was agreed by the Project technical experts that a global score (including progress of all pilots altogether) had a higher relevance than individual scores as the global effect of the project is clearer to see. Thus, the final score for question 6 is 5/8 (62.5%). In some cases, specific funding (or in-kind) mechanisms have been developed to ensure the continuity of control actions (such as participation of hunters in the control of boars in the El Palmar National Park, the use of national resources for the restoration of forests in the control of beavers in Tierra del Fuego).</p>	<p>HS</p>

				<p>c) adjustment of the National IAS Strategy and its implementation based on six reports on lessons learnt from pilot IAS control programmes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species was approved by Ministerial Resolution on May 24, 2022 under number 211/2022 (Official Gazette). 	HS
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<p>Outcome 4.1: Native forest and peat bog ecosystems under effective control of the American beavers in Tierra del Fuego (TDF) and affected or endangered biodiversity in recovery.</p>		<p>2,100,000 hectares of Isla Grande de Tierra del Fuego invaded by beavers (the whole of the Isla Grande).</p> <p>Actions for managing American beavers in Tierra del Fuego limited to the Tierra del Fuego National Park (PNTDF)</p>		<p>a) 121,280 hectares free from beavers</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">90%</p> <p>To date, progress has been made in: I) the review of the previous beaver management actions and the definition of priority actions involving relevant actors from the scientific and government sectors; II) the development of six workshops for the extension, training and articulation of key social actors; III) training of 17 promoters of environmental activities for public awareness through community and school activities; and IV) mapping active and inactive colonies and beaver dams in three surveyed sites: Corazón de la Isla - Cuenca Mimica (100% surveyed), Reserva Río Valdez (100% surveyed), Valle Tierra Mayor (90% surveyed). Reports were presented for each site indicating the location of active and inactive burrows and levees. However, in the reporting period, monitoring of environmental indicators could not be carried out due to the impossibility of acquiring the necessary supplies and laboratory tools to take and process the samples. This problem was associated with the lack of local suppliers and the short time available. On the other hand, the survey of active colonies was completed in practically all the demonstration sites. During the reporting period, the activities of component 4 and the lessons learned were systematized. The progress and closure of the project was presented at a new binational meeting held on May 23 and 24, 2022 in the city</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MS</p>
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					of Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego with participation of local and national authorities, as well as Chilean ones.	
				b) Benthic microhabitats in basin watercourses freed from beavers recovered to similar conditions as those watercourses not affected by beavers	<i>(see previous cell)</i>	
				c) Less organic matter in the sediments of watercourse beds in the basins freed from beavers		
				d) Streams in the Mimica River area and its surroundings recover their structure to become salmon spawning beds again		
				e) Assisted recovery of lenga trees (<i>Nothofagus pumilio</i>), guindo (<i>Nothofagus betuloides</i>) and Antarctic beeches (<i>Nothofagus Antarctica</i>) in progress in areas affected but not flooded by beavers (Appendix 7.g)		

<p>Outcome 4.2: Bi-national beaver eradication programme in implementation (at least in the Argentine territory of Tierra del Fuego)</p>		<p>There is no Plan of Action for the eradication phase of the Bi-National Strategic Plan since the necessary capacity-building is still missing.</p>		<p>Bi-national beaver eradication programme in implementation within two to five years after completion of pilot programs in each country. Two workshops and exchanges of experiences between both countries were held.</p>	<p>85%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a result of four bi-national meetings (the last one held on May, 2022 in the city of Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego) an agreement was made between the province of Tierra del Fuego and Magallanes region in Chile, for the continuity of coordination actions in the framework of the Binational Agreement, as to advance in the joint control and eradication of the Beaver, as well as information exchange. Additionally, TDF province developed an active communication strategy supported by resources and technical inputs from the project and Chile elaborated a management plan based in the one made by TDF. 	<p>S</p>
<p>Outcome 5.1: The implementation of the project is based on results-based management and results and lessons learned are applied in future operations</p>				<p>The outcomes of the project have been achieved and sustained</p>	<p>85%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lessons learned were acquired after the pass of the Official List of IAS Res., mainly on the need to strengthen MAYDS structure to address in a timely manner specific information requests or clarifications on the list, as well as its updates. 	<p>S</p>

Action Plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
<p>Outcome 1.1: Increased effectiveness for protecting biodiversity, sensitive ecosystems,</p>	<p>National Park Administration should oversee that IAS management strategies are effectively incorporated in all national protected areas POAs.</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and National Park Administration</p>	<p>According to national priorities and available funding, but no later than 2030.</p>

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
health and the economy at the national level by managing the IAS problem.			
Outcome 4.1: Native forest and peat bog ecosystems under effective control of the American beavers in Tierra del Fuego (TDF) and affected or endangered biodiversity in recovery.	Continue coordination of actions between countries leading to the development of a Bi-national beaver eradication programme.	National governments of Argentina and Chile and Provincial government of TDF.	End of 2022

3. Implementation Progress (IP)

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

Outcomes and Outputs ¹⁰	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹¹ (please avoid repeating results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹² in delivering outputs
Outcome 1.1 Increased effectiveness for protecting biodiversity, sensitive ecosystems, health and the economy at the national level by managing the IAS problem.				
Output 1.1.1 National Information System on IAS including updated information on: presence, distribution, characteristics and impact of IAS; experts within and outside Argentina with experience in management and/or taxonomy of species of interest; IAS management projects in Argentina	a) 150 scientists, technicians and naturalists registered and active as information providers in seven COFEMA regions: b) 9300 occurrence sites registered: Q3 Y6 c) 240 registered experts: Completed d) 120 registered projects: e) at least 1400 annual visits to database upon project completion:		a) Completed. b) 96 %. c) Completed. d) Completed.	By MAYDS decision, a call was opened for the inclusion of the National Information System on IAS (NISIAS) into the ministerial data infrastructure. A GIS was developed for the management of data in Tierra del Fuego and a system for managing information on IAS throughout the national territory. This Information System originally feeds from the INBIAR database (from the Universidad Nacional del Sur), and also retrieves attributes for some of its layers from other sources like the National Geographic Institute.
Output 1.1.2 Defined official list of IAS present in the country, organized into categories.	An official IAS list:		Completed. During this period, Resolution RESOL-2021-13-APN-SPARN#MAD	

		<p>(Resolution 13/21) was approved and published in the BORA¹³ on October 29, 2021, which approves the conformation of the Interinstitutional Technical Committee created in accordance with articles 15 and 16 of Resolution MAyDS No. 109/21. The functions of the Technical Committee include analyzing and modifying the Official List of invasive and potentially invasive alien species, suggesting and agreeing on tools and</p>	
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¹⁰ Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

¹¹ Please use the same unit of measurement of the project indicators as per the approved Implementation Plan or Annual Workplan. Please be concise (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

¹² Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

¹³ BORA: Official Gazette of the republic of Argentina

			protocols for the management of controlled use species (Category 2) and plans for the control and eventual eradication of restricted use species (Category 1).	
Output 1.1.3 National IAS Strategy – guidance document to coordinate actions on communication and education, prevention, early detection and rapid response, priority setting, control and eradication	National IAS Strategy signed with GoA, GoP participating in Pilot Programmes under Components 3 and 4, as well as by representatives of the six COFEMA regions: Q4 Y5		Completed. The National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species was approved by Ministerial Resolution on May 24, 2022 under No. 211/2022.	
Output 1.1.3.a Strategy for preventing introduction of IAS in Argentina (Sub-output of the National IAS Strategy)	A strategy including: a) List ranking the main introduction vectors and dispersal pathways b) Risk analysis system and protocols on aquatic and land plants and vertebrate alien species adjusted, and two SAyDS technicians trained in their use. c) 30 technicians trained in border control as regards the introduction of IAS (SENASA, Border Patrol, Customs; PSA, PNA) d) Adjustment of regulations on the introduction and use of alien species endorsed by CFEEI. e) two voluntary codes of conduct (for Botanical Gardens of the RAJB and vets and pet shops)		a) Completed. b) Two training workshops on invasion prevention tools with provincial referents of environment/flora/fauna areas with the objective of updating and extending the first workshop	

		<p>held on August 23, 2018. The second workshop, virtual, was held on October 6 and 7, 2021, with the participation of attendees from the provinces of Santa Fe, Salta, Tucumán, San Juan, Neuquén, Mendoza, Formosa, Tierra del Fuego, Córdoba, Río Negro, La Pampa, Entre Ríos, Buenos Aires, Chubut and Santa Cruz. The third training workshop was held on November 24 and 25, 2021, attended by representatives from Salta, Buenos Aires, Chaco, Formosa, Tierra del Fuego and APN.</p> <p>c) Completed. d) Completed.</p>	
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			e) Completed.	
Output 1.1.3.b Early detection and rapid response systems and protocols developed and implemented in national and provincial Protected Areas (PAs).	<p>a) At least 15 PAs have early detection and immediate response protocols and systems in place and operational.</p> <p>b) At least 80 conservation agents, including park rangers, trained in early detection techniques, immediate response, control and eradication.</p>		<p>a) Completed</p> <p>b) Completed</p>	
Output 1.1.3.c Prioritization, control and eradication systems developed and implemented for national and provincial Protected Areas (PAs)	<p>a) At least 15 PAs have prioritization, control and eradication systems in place and operational</p> <p>b) At least 80 conservation agents, including park rangers, trained in IAS prioritization, control and/or eradication techniques, linked to ecosystem restoration, composition and resilience actions</p>		<p>a) Completed</p> <p>b) Completed</p>	During the period from July 2021 to June 2022, purchases of inputs and products corresponding to the wild boar control experience in El Palmar National Park, the municipality Tapalqué and the province of Río Negro were completed.
Output 1.1.4 Knowledge and perception on IAS and the National IAS Strategy increased upon project completion by implementing a public communication and awareness-raising strategy (ECCP – particularly in support of the six pilot programmes, Outputs 3.2.1-6)	<p>ECCP implemented through communication measures focused on:</p> <p>a) official agencies;</p> <p>b) the public at large;</p>		<p>Completed</p> <p>Design, printing and distribution of communication and education materials.</p> <p>-National education booklet, Jujuy, Tierra del Fuego, Buenos Aires, Argentina.</p> <p>-Nature in trouble.</p> <p>-Press dossier - Tools for communicating about IAS</p>	<p>During the period from July 2021 to June 2022, new activities were added as part of the last extension of the project: several communication products:</p> <p>Update of 4 documentaries</p> <p>30 (10 themes) pieces for communication in social networks.</p> <p>1 general/comprehensive TV spot "Invasive Alien Species".</p> <p>23 individual spots by provinces</p> <p>12 Radio Spots - Podcasts.</p> <p>1 Development of an on-demand audiovisual web platform.</p> <p>8 online courses.</p> <p>8 2D animated pieces.</p> <p>25 infographics.</p>

		<p>-Communication strategy -National Strategy on IAS.</p> <p>The dissemination of information on IAS and project results in the media continues.</p> <p>Increased content on the official IAS website and its dissemination among different audiences. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/biodiversidad/exoticas-invasoras</p> <p>New audio-visual materials will be available on the IAS website and on an on-demand platform once the MAYS implements it.</p>	<p>Development of 1 Video Game APP for IOS and Android systems.</p> <p>Due to time restrains, these products will be finished during the operational closure of the project.</p>
<p><u>Outcome 2.1</u> National and provincial legal, regulatory and financial frameworks harmonized and support the effective implementation of the National IAS Strategy.</p>			

<p>Output 2.1.1 Harmonized regulatory frameworks on IAS among jurisdictions and sectors (agriculture, forestry, fish farming, tourism, health, foreign trade, transport and the environment)</p>	<p>a) Regulatory frameworks harmonized in eight sectors Q2 Y6 b) 150 persons trained on IAS regulations in the Judiciary and Public Ministry</p>	<p>a) Completed b) completed</p> <p>During this period, Resolution RESOL-2021-13-APN-SPARN#MAD (Resolution 13/21) published in the BORA on October 29, 2021 was approved, offsetting up the Interinstitutional Technical Committee created in accordance with Articles 15 and 16 of Resolution MAYS No. 109/21.</p> <p>The National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species was approved by Ministerial Resolution (211/2022) on May 24, 2022.</p>	
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Output 2.1.2 Financing mechanisms developed for the National IAS Strategy.			Completed	
Output 2.1.3 Law on minimum standards and budget for IAS developed in a participatory manner and proposed to Congress			Completed	
Output 2.1.4 IAS topic placed on the Ministerial Agenda of the MERCOSUR Sub-Working Group No. 6	IAS integrated into the agenda:		Completed	
Outcome 3.1 Coastal and marine ecosystems protected against invasive alien species through early detection and rapid response measures.				
Output 3.1.1 Knowledge generation on IAS present in ports and surrounding areas along the Atlantic coast of Argentina completed, and implementation of system for IAS early detection, dispersal prevention and rapid response for managing new invasions, underway	a) Taxonomic lists updated and completed of the IAS present in at least three ports on the Atlantic coast. b) Early detection system and monitoring and rapid response protocol adopted by at least three		Completed	
Outcome 3.2.: Recovery in progress of ecosystems and biodiversity highly or potentially affected by six IAS, and risks for health and the forestry and farming sector mitigated, by applying containment and/or eradication protocols				
Output 3.2.1 Competent authorities and the population at large are informed through a communication strategy on the risks linked to the spread of the red-bellied tree squirrel and other species used as pets (in	A) 70% of competent authorities and of the public at large in the site selected after the perception survey and in the rural area of influence ('the site') will be aware of the negative impact of squirrels and support their control b) One (1) MAyDS resolution and three (3) provincial resolutions adopted, declaring red-bellied squirrels a harmful species.		Completed	

coordination with the awareness-raising strategy of the National IAS Strategy, Output 1.1.4)				
Output 3.2.2 Invasion of the Didymo algae halted in areas of high conservation value in the provinces of Río Negro, Neuquén, and Chubut	The risk of didymo algae invasion in at least 10 areas of high conservation value will be mitigated through measures related to the voluntary cleaning of fishing gear in 20 municipalities of the affected area, and outreach actions (in coordination with the National IAS Strategy's ECCP, Output 1.1.4).		Completed	
Output 3.2.3 Control of tamarisks (salt cedars) and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystem services in two natural protected areas (Ramsar sites of the Guanacache, Desaguadero and Del Bebedero Lakes and Llananelo Lake) of a high conservation value, in the Cuyo region.	Controlling tamarisk and restoring biodiversity and ecosystem services on 180 ha (90 ha in the Llananelo lake area and 90 hectares in the area of Guanacache, Desaguadero and Del Bebedero lakes)		Completed	
Output 3.2.4 Biodiversity of amphibians in Argentina's wetlands protected against the invasion of bullfrogs by implementing a national strategy on bullfrog management.	A national strategy underway, including: a) 100% of active and inactive farms and the distribution of the species in the country, duly surveyed; b) A regulation proposal to supplement the regulations governing bullfrog farms; c) Control protocols validated; d) A communication strategy coordinated with the National IAS Strategy's ECCP (Output 1.1.4).		a) 100% b) 100% c) 100% d) 100%	Validation of control protocols and development of a communication strategy, are activities that will need to be coordinated by MAyDS and ECIF (Interjurisdictional Fauna Coordinating Body).
Output 3.2.5 Biodiversity of the Paranaense jungle protected against the	Density of snail distribution reduced by at least 25% compared to the baseline to be established upon start-up of the pilot programme, through control,		80 %	

invasion of the Giant African Snail by applying control and eradication measures, together with public health measures related to IAS.	eradication and communication measures (coordinated with the National IAS Strategy's ECCP, Output 1.1.4). Q3 Y5		During the second half of 2021, we continued to provide technical support for the products designed as part of the communication strategy on the giant African snail in the province of Misiones.	
Output 3.2.6 Recovery of plant species of the native forest in NOA and of the livelihood of the Ocloya indigenous community, traditionally using these resources, by reducing the density and area affected by the glossy privet invasion.	At least 20 hectares under control as regards glossy privet, resulting in a reduction of at least 50% in glossy privet density, and assisted restoration using at least 1500 native plants, planted with the participation of the community, bearing in mind the gender perspective.		Completed	During the closing workshop of the project, representatives of the Ocloya People reported that they continue to work on the control of the species and renew their request for support from MAyDS and FAO for the continuity of these actions.
Outcome 4.1: Native forest and peat bog ecosystems under effective control of the American beavers in Tierra del Fuego (TDF) and affected or endangered biodiversity in recovery.				
Output 4.1.1 Governance and management structure for the Beaver Control and Eradication Programme, developed and operational.			Completed	
Output 4.1.2 Operational Plans and Eradication Protocols (POEs) for each			Completed	During the time covered by this report, and with the support of the project, the province of Tierra del Fuego

<p>of the Demonstration Units (DUs) under different ownership and invasion levels: 1) three DU for eradication on private property; 2) three DU for eradication in PAs; 3) one DU on privately-publicly owned lands.</p>			<p>acquired traps and cameras to monitor beaver activities, and trained personnel to support control actions of the species.</p>
<p>Output 4.1.3 Reinforced capacities in beaver management and eradication, including human resources and instruments for planning and monitoring.</p>		<p>90 % Systematization of results and lessons learned were completed. Staff was trained and supplies were acquired for beaver trapping and monitoring of the areas being managed.</p>	<p>Due to lack of availability, traps will be delivered during the operational closure or the project.</p> <p>Some limitations remain due to lack of local suppliers to acquire the necessary supplies and laboratory tools to maintain a sustained periodicity in the monitoring of invaded sites.</p>
<p>Output 4.1.4 Trappers, hunters and supervisors have appropriate capacities for the effective application of eradication protocols.</p>		<p>90% Inputs and tools are added to increase the capacity and effectiveness of control actions.</p>	
<p>Output 4.1.5 POE implemented at DUs</p>		<p>80 % • An environmental monitoring portal has been installed on</p>	

			<p>Tierra del Fuego province's server, and data on beaver control was imported from the project associated activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the last binational meeting, teams from both countries defined how to integrate both information systems for data exchange. 	
<p>Output 4.1.6 Permanent Bio-security systems (control, monitoring and prevention of re-invasion) established and including: bio-security plan; systematic monitoring of ecosystem recovery indicators (see Outcome 4.1); and sustainable financing.</p>	<p>a) At least 160 persons trained in bio-security and re-invasion monitoring Q2 Y6 b) Database on actions of the Bio-security Plan for the whole Pilot Programme c) 121,280 hectares at 7 DUs under permanent control, and monitoring and prevention of re-invasion, maintaining beaver population at a level that avoids an adverse impact on the native forest and peat bog ecosystems</p>		Completed	
<p>Output 4.1.7 Increased knowledge and understanding of the TDF population on beaver invasion and the control measures at the end of Project activities by</p>	<p>a) Brochures and webpage prepared on the eradication pilot programme b) Lessons learnt and outcomes from the whole of the Beaver Pilot Programme experience, systematized and published</p>		Completed. During this period, different communication products - brochures, flyers, social	

implementing a communication strategy.		networks, games, merchandising, posters - developed within the framework of the ENEEI ECCP and the provincial IEE communication strategy were completed. Media communications on the development of actions in the territory and lessons learned about beaver management continued to be strengthened.	
Output 4.2.1 Chile and Argentina exchange experiences and coordinate the leaning process on the Pilot Programme on control and eradication, which will be used as feedback into the National IAS Strategy.	<p>a) Three (3) bi-national workshops to exchange experiences and coordinate pilot learning process. Q2 Y6</p> <p>b) One (1) national workshop to provide feedback for the National IAS Strategy.</p>	Completed. In May 2022, a fourth binational workshop was held in the city of Ushuaia. Representatives of the GEF projects in both Argentina and Chile presented their conclusions and main strategies for the	

			<p>continuity of actions at the national and binational levels. With 58 participants, the meeting was complemented with a training workshop for the use of the GIS developed within the framework of the project for data management on beaver invasion and control. Lessons learned were disseminated to key stakeholders and specific audiences.</p>	
<p>Output 4.2.2 Governance framework and Bi-national beaver eradication programme agreed upon</p>	<p>At least two bi-national workshops will have reached an agreement on a governance framework and Bi-National Programme</p>		<p>Completed</p>	
<p>Outcome 5.1: The implementation of the project is based on results-based management and results and lessons learned are applied in future operations</p>				
<p>Output 5.1.1 Project monitoring system is operational and provides systematic information on progress in achieving</p>			<p>Completed.</p>	

project outcomes and outputs.				
Output 5.1.2 Mid-term and Final Evaluations			Completed.	The final evaluation is in process
Output 5.1.3 Best practices and lessons learnt from the project, disseminated.				After the final evaluation, a workshop of lessons learned based on the final evaluation is planned by MAYS to define and implement a strategy to sustain the results of the project.

4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

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

- The National Strategy on IAS was approved by Ministerial Resolution.
- A Ministerial Resolution approved the creation of an Inter-Institutional Technical Committee to review and update the IAS Official List.
- MAYS project's coordination team was strengthened by hiring two technical consultants; FAO's executive coordination team was strengthened by hiring a consultant for administrative assistance.
- The procurement plan continued for the beaver component (Government of Tierra del Fuego) and for El Palmar NP, the Province of Rio Negro, and the Municipality of Tapalque within the framework of the wild boar control plan.
- Technical consultants for the beaver component were re-hired and a consultant in graphic design was hired for this component in response to a specific request from the Government of Tierra del Fuego.
- After a competitive selection process, the company Space Sur was hired for the services of "Development of a web platform for the National Information System on Invasive Alien Species (SNIEEI)". A GIS was developed for data management on beaver invasion and control.
- Following a competitive selection process, ICARO PRODUCCIONES SRL was contracted for the "Development and strengthening of communication material to implement the Communication and Public Awareness Strategy of the National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species (ECCP ENEEI)".
- All communication products developed within the framework of the previously mentioned contract were reviewed and adjusted according to the ENEEI and the ECCP.
- As of February 2022, the project evaluation process began.
- 14,726 copies of the following materials were designed, printed and started to be distributed among partner organizations: EDUCATION PAPERS (contents for teachers and classroom work: National, Jujuy, Tierra del Fuego Buenos Aires and non-formal education tools: Nature in Problems). In addition, the DOSSIER with COMMUNICATION TOOLS FOR JOURNALISTS, the COMMUNICATION STRATEGY (ECCP ENEEI) and NATIONAL STRATEGY ON EEI (ENE EI) were developed. Distribution will be finished during project operational closure.
- Training workshops continued for provincial technical referents on tools for preventing the introduction of new IAS with risk analysis systems.

- On June 28, 2022, the project closing workshop was held in the city of Buenos Aires with the participation of MAyDS and FAO authorities, as well as representatives of public and private organizations of the nation and the provinces. The technical team of the project presented the main contributions generated and the lines of work initiated. Representatives of indigenous peoples, national parks administration, the association of botanical gardens, and provincial governments highlighted the impact of the work carried out in their territories and/or work areas. The main conclusions were disseminated and the recording of the event, which was also live-streamed and viewed 993 times to date, is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gWndC4ueDE>.

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

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

	FY2022 Development Objective rating¹⁴	FY2022 Implementation Progress rating¹⁵	Comments/reasons¹⁶ justifying the ratings for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	S	S	<p>Development Objective rating: The tools, protocols, procedures, regulatory frameworks, cost analysis of impacts of IAS, budget proposals and implementation of NSIAS, ECCP and its communication and awareness tools, and coordination and training actions planned by the design of the project, were developed by the team of consultants in participatory processes with the main partner MAYDS, provincial partners, and other agencies. eg: PNA. Contributions to global environmental objectives were generated through interactions with countries and the GRIIS.</p> <p>Implementation Progress Rating: in the period of this report, MAYDS project coordination team and Tierra del Fuego Government were strengthened through the hiring of technical consultants to support activities related to IAS and the project.</p> <p>Elements included in the procurement plan continued to strengthen the Province of Tierra del Fuego, El Palmar NP, the Province of Rio Negro, and the Municipality of Tapalqué, as part of the wild boar and beaver control plans, respectively.</p> <p>A web platform for the National Information System on Invasive Alien Species (SNIEEI) is under construction and several communication pieces are being developed for different target audiences, which, all in all will reinforce national policies on IAS.</p>

¹⁴ **Development Objectives Rating** – A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.

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

¹⁵ **Implementation Progress Rating** – A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project’s components and activities is in compliance with the projects approved implementation plan. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁶ Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

Budget Holder	HS	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Project achieved its objectives despite having a complex scenario (changes in authorities, COVID19 pandemic and local and global economic crisis). Additionally, it left several lessons learnt and good practices that can be used by other projects as an example. ● Tools and communication material generated throughout the project and the ones that are finished during the operational closure of the project, will allow the scalability of actions related to IAS both at national and provincial levels, as they strengthen the topic visibility and different stakeholders capacities to address the challenge, from each role's perspective and scope.
GEF Operational Focal Point¹⁷	S	S	<p>The Ministry and its partners have strengthened their ties through training, exchange and capacity building activities, which will undoubtedly leave a solid installed capacity for the future.</p> <p>This project has been an essential pillar in the recent bilateral committee meeting between Argentina and Chile. Particularly both governments will continue working on beaver control.</p> <p>The project-closing workshop was a complete success. The presence of officials of all levels and places shows the commitment and the idea of continuity of the policies carried out and promoted by the project.</p>

¹⁷ In case the GEF OFP didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.

<p>Lead Technical Officer¹⁸</p>	<p>S</p>	<p>S</p>	<p>The project's progress towards its global environmental objective is satisfactory with the achievement of almost all the proposed outcomes and outputs. The National IAS Strategy was approved by Ministerial Resolution and also the creation of an Inter-institutional Technical Committee for reviewing and updating the IAS Official List, whose operation will facilitate the implementation of the Strategy.</p> <p>The web platform of the National Information System on Invasive Alien Species (SNIEEI) was developed, as well as an Information System for data and information management.</p> <p>The communication system for the implementation of the Communication and Public Awareness Strategy of the National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species (ECCP ENEEI) was strengthened, which is making it possible to carry out an important process of public awareness, education, training and political advocacy on the impact of IAS and contributes to the sustainability of the project.</p> <p>The coordinated work of knowledge and information exchange with Chile stands out. Through the project, the main aspects established in the Binational Agreement on the restoration of southern ecosystems affected by the beaver were achieved, and active collaboration commitments are being strengthened that will give sustainability to the post-project binational agenda.</p> <p>Tools, protocols, regulatory frameworks and technical capabilities have been installed at the national level and in the provinces.</p>
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¹⁸ The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer	S	MS	<p>The project achieved most of its intended outcomes, despite having had to deal with several challenges and delays during its implementation. There were several changes in authorities and in the project unit, it had to deal with a global pandemic and with the inherent difficulties associated with the work in isolated areas, being the control of beavers one of the objectives where the project required more support, but it was also an important opportunity to liaise and exchange experiences and learnings with a similar project in Chile. The project successfully provided support for the National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species and provided sound technical information on other species that will be used by institutions, leaving important capacities installed. An issue still pending is the appropriation and long-term financial sustainability of the results achieved. The national institutions and relevant stakeholders that participated in the project have the challenge to keep the momentum generated by the project going, as well as the interest and awareness of the public and political willingness that will maintain the control of invasive alien species as a national priority in terms of biodiversity conservation.</p>
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5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

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

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
ESS 1: Natural Resource Management				
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats				
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
ESS 7: Decent Work				
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				

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

Initial ESS Risk classification (At project submission)	Current ESS risk classification Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ¹⁹ . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
C (Low)	<p>M (medium)</p> <p>This reclassification was made for the additional activities related to the last project extension, when activities were added for strengthening of the slaughter capacity within the framework of the Control Plan for Exotic Mammals of the NP El Palmar (PCMEI).</p> <p>Each province provides for one or more types of hunting, including: a) Control hunting; b) Sport hunting; c) Sport hunting of wild boar with dogs; d) Hunting for home consumption; e) Survival hunting; f) Commercial hunting. In addition, the National Parks Administration authorizes hunting in the National Parks: control hunting (invasive alien species), under the modality of firearms (the use of unleaded bullets is progressive).</p> <p>No funds are requested from the GEF for this activity. The National Wild Boar Control Plan is included as one of the population’s control tools, and it is articulated with the provision of supplies for the slaughter plants. The counterpart will contribute with scientific activities, transportation and fees, issuance of permits and other inputs necessary to perform the activity, to be covered with provincial funds.</p>

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

No grievances were received in the reported period.

¹⁹ **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

6. Risks

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

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
Component 1						
Sub-component 1.1.1 National IAS information system						
1	Little participation of specialists in the provision of data for the information system	L	Y		N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National personnel are committed, training is being conducted, and the system is working on an ongoing and sustainable basis.
2	The information system is not maintained in the long term	H	Y	The mitigation measures identified in the Prodoc (joint management of the system) were not continued by decision of the MAYDS as Executing Entity.	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instead of joining the system coordinated by Universidad Nacional del Sur since 2004, the MADyS as Executing Entity has decided to create an independent information system on invasive alien species. This may lead to a duplication of efforts and, according to previous diagnoses, uncertainty in long-term sustainability.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-component 1.1.2. Creation of an official list of IAS 						

²⁰ GEF Risk ratings: Low, Medium, Substantial or High

²¹ If a risk mitigation plan had been presented as part of the Environmental and Social management Plan or in previous PIR please report here on progress or results of its implementation. For moderate and high risk projects, please Include a description of the ESMP monitoring activities undertaken in the relevant period”.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
3	Criteria difference of productive sectors because of the inclusion of species of economic importance in the official list	M	Y	Promote clarification and consensus meetings with the agro-industry authorities. Implementation and outreach about the procedures designed to update the list.	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A resolution was approved in order to organize objections and proposals about the species included in the list and the assigned categories, and the official list updates, but up to date it has not been summoned.
Subcomponent 1.1.3.						
4	Difficulties in identifying IAS at checkpoints (1.1.3.a)	M	N	Design and implementation of a virtual training course to increase knowledge and capacities of critical stakeholders, including federal security forces and border control agencies.	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government has to guarantee enforcement, maintain training campaigns with personnel and include this action in ministerial continued activities.
5	Operational difficulties of control agencies to incorporate IAS monitoring into their responsibilities (1.1.3.a)	M			N/A	
6	Difficulties of staff to attend training events (1.1.3.b and c)	M			N/A	
Sub-component 1.1.4.						

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
7	"Noises" in communication and problems in the circulation of information and lack of communication among institutional actors	L	N	<p>Design of different instances of strengthening and socialization of strategic communication tools.</p> <p>Include content on IEE within the framework of the INAP and particularly as a training module within the framework of the Yolanda Law,</p> <p>Development of training courses on IEE under development and available on the MAYDS website, and other training instances to be coordinated in the future in order to provide sustainability to the capacity building of various stakeholders.</p>	N/A	<p>Within the framework of the ECCP ENEEI and having achieved the resolution of the State policy, the National Government has robust mechanisms and tools that guide the implementation of strategic communication on IAS. These tools also contribute to the sustainability of coordinated communication on socio-environmental issues throughout the country, and collaborate in giving coherence and strength through an interinstitutional, interjurisdictional and intercultural work scheme.</p>

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
8	Weakening of the commitment or communication agreement by provinces in the long term.	L	N	In the case of some provinces such as Misiones and Tierra del Fuego, capacities were strengthened and follow-up was provided by MAYDS and the team of specialist consultants to implement communication on local cases of IAS.	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the ECCP ENEEI and having achieved the resolution of the State policy, the National Government has robust mechanisms and tools to guide the implementation of strategic communication on IAS. Institutional challenges remain in MAYDS to provide continuity of long-term communication actions with the provinces.
9	Social resistance with regards to implementation of containment and / or eradication pilots (e.g. problems with 'charismatic' species or management / hunting tools	L	N	Development of the ECCP based on the pilots focused on charismatic species (red-bellied squirrel and beaver). Specific analysis of this challenge and development of strategic guidelines and specific communication tools.	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication campaign was designed for different publics, perceptions, interest groups, and distributed through different media. Critical opinion within the government environmental

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
10	Low participation of civil society organizations	L	Y	Active involvement of non-governmental organisations through letters of agreement for specific actions to control IAS (Aves Argentinas and Ambiente Sur) and for the development of voluntary codes of conduct (National Association of Veterinarians and Argentine Association of Botanical Gardens).	N/A	<p>agencies at the subnational level was created.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ECCP ENEEI delivers tools for its approach by a communication strategy that considers internal and external communication instances, segmented according to the different stakeholders.
11	Undervaluation of the problem by teachers and consequently a lack of appropriation and work on the topic in the classroom	L	N	Development of a series of printed and digital booklets for teachers to address the topic in the classroom. Motivation of alliances through the MAYDS Education area to generate a link between the topic and the contents to be addressed within the framework of the Environmental Education Law.	N/A	
12	Lack of appropriation by staff performing field work	L	N		N/A	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
13	Conflicts of interest	L	N		N/A	
Component 2						
14	Lack of coordination among relevant institutional actors, with different approaches and strategies, contradictory actions and overlapping of resources	M	Y	As it was mentioned the strategy of working at the Province level is already being implemented. The project for a federal law on IAS was presented to the new heads of the relevant areas after each change of authorities and again at the project closing workshop. In each instance, the superlative importance of this piece was insisted on as a tool for the implementation of consistent interjurisdictional policies.	Progress was made in articulation with the different provinces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is associated to the comment made above, in relation to the appropriation of project results, and the continued change of authority. As mentioned, efforts are being made to guarantee institutionalisation of project results.
15	Lack of private sector involvement in NSIAS financing	M	N			
16	Lack of insertion of the IAS theme in the public and legislative agenda, lack of consensus for a law on Minimum IAS standards	M	Y			
17	Lack of insertion of the IAS theme in the MERCOSUR public agenda	L	N			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete interest of MERCOSUR to include this issue in the agenda.
Subcomponent 3.1.1 Early detection system, prevention of dispersion and early action of IAS in ports and surrounding areas						

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
18	Difficulties for the detection of species in low densities	M	N	Active survey campaigns involving scientific researchers, divers from the PNA (Argentinian National Coastal Police) and sports divers.	Solved	● completed
19	Difficulties for the identification of marine species detected	M	N	Interaction with specialists in marine and coastal species through CONICET (National Research Council).	Solved	
Sub-component 3.2.1. red-bellied squirrel pilot and other potential IAS pets						
20	Resistance of pet shops to the dissemination of content that discourages the purchase of wild animals	M	Y	Development, consensus, approval and distribution of a voluntary code of conduct for veterinarians in coordination with the professional association at the national level.	Solved	● project phase completed

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
2 1	Resistance of animal rights' groups to any information that highlights negative aspects of the species	L	Y	Development of the ECCP based on the pilots focused on charismatic species (red-bellied squirrel and beaver). Specific analysis of this challenge and development of strategic guidelines and specific communication tools.	Solved	
Sub-component 3.2.2 Didymo algae pilot in the provinces of Río Negro, Neuquén, and Chubut						
2 2	Non implementation or failure of self-cleaning actions by sport fishermen	M	N	Development of specific posters highlighting the importance of cleaning fishing equipment and others. Implementation of easily accessible mobile posts.	Solved	● project phase completed
2 3	Failure to detect algae blooms with the required urgency	M	N		Solved	
2 4	Existence of other vectors of dispersion of importance, besides the fishing equipment and navigation (water used to fight forest fires, fish of pisciculture, wildlife, livestock)	M	N		Solved	
Sub-component 3.2.3. Tamarisk pilot in the Cuyo region						

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
25	Recovery of invasion in cleaned areas and / or re invasion from nearby foci	L	Y	Active involvement of the local community to continue and expand control actions.	Solved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> project phase completed
26	Resistance to cutting of trees by any sector of society	L	N		Solved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> project phase completed
Sub-component 3.2.4 Bullfrog pilot at national level						
27	Difficulty in detecting new foci of invasion	L	N		N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provinces formed a working group coordinated by MAyDS and provinces. Difficulty in defining and establishing a national management plan.
Sub-component 3.2.5. African giant snail pilot in the Paranaense jungle						
28	Re invasion of the snail from Brazil / dispersal of the snail outside the area of Puerto Iguazú	H	N	Institutional articulation that integrates MAyDS, National Parks, Government of Misiones, and Municipality of Iguazú.	Project coordination of SENASA empowered with the provincial key stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The institutional coordination between MAyDS, the Government of Misiones and the Project has already begun, and the progress can be seen in the previous sections of this report.
Sub- component 3.2.6. Privet pilot in the north of Argentina with the Aboriginal Ocloya community						

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
29	re-invasion of privet	M	N	Active communication with provincial authorities resulted in a ban on the cultivation of Privet in public nurseries. Continued control by Ocloya people helps in preventing reinvasion. Implementation of a communication campaign developed by the counterpart province within the framework of the ECCP ENEEI, encouraging citizen participation in order to prevent entry and dispersal and early warning of new invasion outbreaks.		Prevention measures are in place.
30	Colonization of restored environments by opportunistic IAS	L	N	Cultivation and early implantation of native species to promote the recovery of natural vegetation.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prevention measures are in place.
Component 4. Development of a pilot program to eradicate the American beaver, in the Province of Tierra del Fuego, based on the governance of Invasive Alien Species						
31	Humanitarian trapping standards do not include the use of snare traps	L	N			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is a principle of local coordination that is being reinforced since the change of the

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
32	Problems related to access to private land	L	N	Coordination with rural society and other key actors in the private sector.		provincial authorities in December 2019. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those with an M score are associated with the national economy, external factors that are not associated with the provincial's ability to take action. • The reactivation of concrete actions of systematization and communication in the province of Tierra del Fuego, as well as the strengthened collaboration established with Chile (that can be seen in the successful 4th binational workshop on the matter) show a clear pathway to prevent and mitigate these risks.
33	Delays in necessary approvals for the use of firearms.	L	N	Strengthening the governance of implementing agencies.		
34	Problems in the accomplishment of objectives, in the results and the effectiveness due to problems with authorizations to use arms with silencer	L	N			
35	Unwanted effects on larger native species than expected (e.g., on Huillin-Southern river otter)	L	N	Threat practically ruled out based on the results obtained, however it is recommended to continue monitoring for possible incidental captures.		
36	Biosecurity problems in "clean" sites	L	N	Monitoring and early action. Training of government agents. Purchase and use of equipment (camera traps). Promotion of public notices before sightings in "clean" areas.		

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
37	Risks of erosion due to dam rupture,	L	N			
38	Risks of sediment accumulation and flooding due to dam rupture	L	N			
39	Risk of fire in work area.	L	N			
40	Risk of carrion availability	L	N			
41	The purchase of supplies costs more than that estimated in the budget	M	N			
42	Variation of currency value	M	N			
43	Problems with budget implementation by the counterpart	M	N			
44	Delay in the eradication operation after having started the programme due to bad weather. Example: Loss of efficiency especially in the case of helicopter use, with increased costs	M	N			
45	Failures in the equipment	L	N			
46	Inability or difficulty in hiring and / or recruiting staff	L	N			
47	Difficulties/Problems in hiring conditions of the operative and technical staff.	L	N			

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
48	Emergency due to accidents	L	N			
49	Pressure groups such as animal protection associations, tourism entrepreneurs, fur industry entrepreneurs can affect the project and its scope, making efforts not to be applied to essential tasks	L	N			
50	Loss of community support	L	N			
51	Loss of support from owner / staff of the farm where the Pilot Project is developed	L	N			
52	Risks due to changes in Provincial political management	L	N			
New risks identified in the course of project implementation						
Component 1 y 2						
53	The implementation, and with it the possibility of empowering the structure of the MAYDS, and obtaining lessons learned during the execution of the project, are compromised, due to the extremely long analysis times of the normative proposals.	H	N	Insistence of the project team to advance in the issuance of specific regulations and implementation. (High-level meetings and Presentation of a POA 2020 and quarterly activities with that content).	Solved	
Subcomponent 3.1.1 Early detection system, prevention of dispersion and early action of IAS in ports and surrounding areas						

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
54	Difficulty in complying with the requirements foreseen in the implementation of the protocol	M	N	Promote the inter-institutional links between the MAyDS, PNA, the National Directorate for the Control of Ports and Waterways, CONICET (taxonomists) and the Port Management Consortium.		
Component 3.2.4 Bullfrog pilot at national level						
55	Difficulty in defining and establishing a plan	L	N			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provinces formed a working group coordinated by MAyDS and provinces.
Component 3.2.5 African giant snail pilot in the Paranaense jungle						
56	Establishment of sustainable communications and management strategies for the issue of giant African snail.	M	N	Institutional articulation that integrates MAyDS, National Parks, Government of Misiones, and Municipality of Iguazú.	Institutional strengthening for the communication of the Government of Misiones.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication consultants were hired to develop specific communication products and actions in and for the province of Misiones.
Component 4. Development of a pilot program to eradicate the American beaver, in the Province of Tierra del Fuego, based on the governance of Invasive Alien Species						
57	Difficulties in coordinating actions with Chile	L	N	Implementation of binational workshops		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a principle of local coordination that is being reinforced with the new change of the provincial authorities in December 2019.
58	Difficulty in maintaining control actions over time and at the cost of scaling them across the entire territory	L	N			

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²¹	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
59	Colonization of the Argentine mainland by the species.	L	N			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those with an M score are associated with the national economy, external factors that are not associated with the provincial's ability to take action.

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

FY2021 rating	FY2022 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
M	M	The project has improved its communication actions with different stakeholders, increased its visibility after the Resolution of the National IAS Strategy was passed and with the project coming to an end. Additionally, complementary communication material is being developed and updated to improve IAS information for different target audiences, such as educators, communicators, decision makers, kids, and general public. Structures have been reinforced and tools developed for the MAyDS to continue visibility actions, thus reducing the risk previously identified. However, MAyDS personnel structure needs to be reinforced to allow for a reasonable sustainability of actions and policies implementation monitoring.

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

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

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented
Project management	
<p>Recommendation 1 - Reinforce the theory of change through the identification of stages and intermediate results, prepared for management and impact promoters, with measures aimed at safeguarding the relation between products and results from the components and global development goals.</p>	<p>There are no new activities to report during the fiscal year. The project kept implementing the activities reported during the previous PIR. Progress was made in achieving the publication of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the first official list of invasive and potentially invasive alien species as the ministerial resolution 109/2021. • The conformation of the Inter-institutional Technical Committee created in accordance with articles 15 and 16 of Resolution MAyDS No. 109/21, on October 2021, Resolution 13/2021. • The National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species, approved by Ministerial Resolution on May 24, 2022 under No. 211/2022.
<p>Recommendation 2 – Generate a plurianual 2018-2019 implementation plan, identify critical point, key products, fundamental actions, the assignment of functions and responsibility in the implementation and execution as well as necessary policies for the achievement of the results.</p>	<p>During the reporting period, a weekly follow-up meeting of the MAyDS and FAO team continued to be implemented, as well as a weekly project follow-up meeting of the FAO management team and FAO administration.</p>
<p>Recommendation 3 - Strengthen the implementation of the Project performed by the MAyDS, with management based on results, with risk management mechanisms, improved and effective internal and external communications supported by a monitoring and evaluation mechanism. Design a closure and exit strategy for the Project, that considers the diffusion,</p>	<p>The pilots were used for strengthening the role of the MAyDS and mainly to promote the transference of lessons learned and generated tools for the project to the appropriate provincial agencies. Education publications were designed and are expected to be printed and delivered to the different provinces during project operational closure.</p> <p>The generated experiences were transferred, for the beaver component, to the corresponding authorities in the Province of Tierra del Fuego and actions were articulated with the team working on the beaver invasion in Chile. There was a 4th binational meeting between Argentina and Chile that permitted information and know-how exchange, which strengthens actions sustainability beyond the project.</p>

institutionalisation and the responsibility for the historic legacy of the products and results.	An inter-institutional technical Committee for the management of IAS at the national level was conformed by resolution 13/2021, including among its functions the periodic review and update of the official list of EEI and EEPI.
Recommendation 4 - Strengthen the responsibility on the position of Technical National Coordination of the Project in the National Direction of Biodiversity and Water Resources with the objective of favouring the strategic and political management, based on results.	As the role of the National Direction of Biodiversity has been held by five different people throughout the project, it has not been possible to follow this recommendation. During the reporting period, the direction personnel was reinforced but contract continuity is still uncertain. Since 2016, the national coordination of the project by the MAyDS is occupied by the same person, allowing for a historic memoire of the actions done.
PARTICIPATION, ARTICULATION AND GOVERNANCE	
Recommendation 5 - Strengthen the approaches and purposes of the articulation, participation and governance based on results and sustainability for the governance of the ENEEI and the management of the IAS.	Argentinian Port Council (Consejo Portuario Argentino) with the PNA the chances of continuity of this initiative increase once concluded the project. Interaction with the government of Tierra del Fuego and with the representatives of the beaver management project in Chile was strengthened. The information generated in Component 4 of the project was compiled and organized using common standards at the binational level. The 4 th binational meeting between Argentina and Chile took place and articulation was improved both at planning and at monitoring actions, as well as in information exchange.
Recommendation 6 - Identify points of relevance and contribution with other initiatives, with the purpose of linking and strengthening participation of groups of interest and the advance of results and sustainability.	Joint actions were finished with the provinces of Buenos Aires and with El Palmar National Park to strengthen local wild boar control initiatives, generating key infrastructure for the sustainability of these activities.
Recommendation 7 - Encourage joint efforts by the MAyDS and FAO, to explore and develop other initiatives of national interest, and international, regional and global agreements.	There are no new activities to report during the fiscal year. The project kept implementing the activities reported during the previous PIR
Recommendation 8 - Capture and systematize the learned lessons and share them within the project teams of FAO and the MAyDS with the	Lessons learned and systematization booklets are ready to be uploaded in the MAyDS website.

<p>purpose of thinking about possible solutions to the identified problems and the capitalization of opportunities.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 9 - Strengthening the Project’s team by hiring a professional able to perform a transversal approach that captures and systematizes fundamental points for the integral vision on IAS.</p>	<p>ENNEI document is ready for publishing both digitally through MAyDS website and in paper, as printing and shipping will be finished during project’s operational closure.</p>
<p>Recommendation 10 - Design a systematization strategy whose main purpose is to present the experiences and the results of the Project, capturing the experiences and lessons learned of the Project’s pilots by the application of different approaches, and integral vision that complements the technical aspects and considers among its results publishable products, newsletters, bulletins and the planning of divulgation strategies as part of the legacy of the Project.</p>	<p>ENNEI document is ready for publishing both digitally through MAyDS website and in paper, as printing and shipping will be finished during project’s operational closure.</p>
<p>CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES</p>	
<p>Recommendation 11 -. To develop a cross-cutting strategy for Native-American affairs within the Project and the pilots that fulfil the recommendations resulting from the agreed frameworks and national and international policies.</p>	<p>There are no new activities to report for this recommendation during the fiscal year.</p>
<p>Recommendation 12 - Encourage the generation of strategic alliances with the private sector regarding the impact of the IAS and corporative social responsibilities, clean</p>	<p>There are no new activities to report for this recommendation during the fiscal year.</p>

production initiatives and others.	
<p>Recommendation 13 - Support the governance and management of the beaver component, to safeguard the capacities of the MAyDS-TDF, to favour its sustainability and to study the resulting benefits from the exchange of experiences.</p> <p>To evaluate the adjustment to goal a) and the Result 4.1 from Component 4 that states: 121.280 hectares under control, that relates with sub component 4.1.5 and the goal of sub component 4.1.6 that indicates the Surface under the biosecurity system.</p>	<p>The local eradication initiative for the beaver resulting from the project was transferred to the Province of Tierra del Fuego, which is currently coordinating operation within its territory. The national government currently endorses this strategy and continues to work together with the Republic of Chile. The 4th binational meeting between Argentina and Chile took place and articulation was improved both at planning and at monitoring actions.</p>

<p>Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please describe</p>	<p>Holding of a closing workshop with the participation of key stakeholders and authorities from MAyDS and FAO (June 28, 2022 in the city of Buenos Aires). MAyDS mentioned its next steps to give continuity to project actions, especially in relation to the operation of an inter-institutional technical table for the management of IAS at the national level, including among its functions, the regular updates of the Official IAS List.</p>
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8. Minor project amendments

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

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

9. Stakeholders' Engagement

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

Stakeholder name	Role in project execution	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement
Government Institutions			

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

Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible	Guarantee the implementation of the ENEEI in the national territory.	Approval of key resolutions, including the ENEEI itself. Strengthening of institutional capacities. Coordination with other public and private organizations.	Effective implementation of the public policies included in the ENEEI.
Parques Nacionales	Increase efficiency in wild boar control by promoting the use of products derived from removed animals.	Development of infrastructure for the adequate slaughter of wild boars.	Maintain a rate of extraction of animals compatible with the reduction the size of the wild boar population.
Gobierno de Misiones	Prevention of the expansion of the giant African snail.	Design and implementation of communication tools to promote the early detection of new sources of invasion.	Respond in a timely manner to reports of new giant African snail detections.
Gobierno de Tierra del Fuego	Effectively manage the invasion of beavers.	Systematisation of experiences associated with component 4 of the project. Development and implementation of beaver communication and control actions. Strengthening governance. Training of key actors.	Promote the effective involvement of the different government agencies to implement an adequate and sustained management strategy for the species.
Gobierno de Rio Negro	Increase efficiency in wild boar control by promoting the use of products derived from removed animals.	Implementation of experimental control of wild boar with traps. Development of infrastructure for the adequate slaughter of wild boars.	Maintain a rate of extraction of animals compatible with the reduction the size of the wild boar population.
Municipalidad de Tapalque	Increase efficiency in wild boar control by promoting the use of products derived from removed animals.	Development of infrastructure for the adequate slaughter of wild boars.	Maintain a rate of extraction of animals compatible with the reduction the size of the wild boar population.
Prefectura Naval Argentina	Prevention of the introduction of marine and coastal species in ballast water and fouling. Monitoring and early detection in ports.	In the reporting period, the PNA intensified its monitoring actions, expanding activities to new ports on the Argentine Atlantic coast.	The commitment of the PNA seems strongly consolidated. Among the main challenges is the articulation with academic organisations to speed up the identification of new taxa detected.
Non-Government organisations (NGOs)			
Association of Argentine Veterinarians	Dissemination of the voluntary codes of conduct developed in association with the project.	Communication tools for distributing the voluntary code of conduct were completed.	Effectively communicate the voluntary code of conduct to professionals distributed throughout the national territory.

Argentine Association of Botanic Gardens	Dissemination of the voluntary codes of conduct developed in association with the project.	The network of botanical gardens continued to consolidate its contribution to the ENEEI.	Obtain economic resources to adopt risk analysis systems and to adapt the collections to the ENEEI.
Private sector entities			
²³Others[1]			
FAO			
New stakeholders identified/engaged			

Please report on progress, challenges, and outcomes on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan included at CEO Endorsement/Approval (when applicable))

Significant progress was made with the Province of Tierra del Fuego in relation to the establishment of a Geographic Information System for beaver control, in coordination with the Chilean counterpart, and in establishment of working agreements for a better monitoring and control.

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

10. Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on Gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable) during this reporting period.

The project did not include gender-specific indicators at its design stage. During this reporting period no gender-specific activities were done.

Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages.	NO	N/A
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	Yes	The absence of an interdisciplinary team of the Provincial and / or National State that could contribute to the gender approach in these situations has been identified. A permanent team could promote activities that achieve visible and lasting impacts over time, beyond the approach provided by the Project.
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):	N/A	
a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources		
b) improving women's participation and decision making		
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women		
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Partially	Following the MTR, the Project included gender disaggregated data for all activities that counted number of participants.
Staff with gender expertise	No	
Any other good practices on gender	No	

11. Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in Knowledge Management Approach approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval during this reporting period.

<p>Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.</p>	<p>By interacting with the project's focal point before the National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET), the board of this agency included the topic "Operation and management of biological invasions" among the strategic issues to consider for the so-called 2020 revenue to the career of Scientific Researcher. (https://convocatoria.conicet.gov.ar/temas-estrategicos/). This call is disseminated nationally and represents a specific opportunity for young researchers to guide their scientific careers towards solving problems related to invasive alien species.</p> <p>Updating knowledge on the extension, impact and management actions of the IAS is managed through the creation of a National Network of Information on IAS and of appropriate mechanisms for the effective application of these data (National Information System on Exotic Species Invasive, SNIEEI). Composed of several databases, it records information regarding the existence of IAS, its sites of occurrence, specialist contacts, bibliography and projects related to these species. The databases allow access to information for different stakeholders of various levels of knowledge (scientists, students, decision makers, journalists, among others). It also has a tool for exchanging information through forums, which contribute to the sustainability of knowledge and the exchange of experiences and lessons learned among the key stakeholders involved in prevention, detection and early control, communication and education on IAS, regulations related to species and the jurisdictions of occurrence or management, among others. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/biodiversidad/exoticas-invasoras/sistema</p> <p>Presentation of the objectives, scope and products achieved by the project in: (i) meetings of MERCOSUR (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay), (ii) bilateral meetings with the Republic of Chile, (iii) South-South cooperation framework with The Dominican Republic, (iv) international validation databases (eg, GRIIS, IPBES) and (v) presentations made in various national and international conferences, which allowed the dissemination and generation of interactions that contribute to achieving global environmental impacts.</p> <p>We reviewed and validated all the information about IAS in Argentina of the SNIEEI, available in the Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species (GRIIS), an initiative supported by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and implemented within the framework of the Global Registry of Information on Invasive Alien Species. In this way, the information of Argentina was available for use at the international level.</p> <p>The elaboration of a Communication and Public Awareness Strategy based on an objective, solid and representative diagnosis at social and territorial level, allowed focusing and adjusting actions towards results that are more efficient and with a higher degree of certainty regarding possible impacts. In particular, it was key to gauge the true impact of the reactions originating in social sectors for which IAS interventions are particularly conflictive. The diagnosis showed that it is important to address general and specific scenarios for the design of campaigns. To increase efficiency, it is key to identify perceptions and attitudes dependent on contextual factors in order to select focused messages, and to elaborate adjusted environmental education and media dissemination actions. The study showed that the increase in the levels of knowledge, perception and acceptance of management measures by citizens is directly associated with the strength and sustainability of a coordinated and</p>
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	<p>committed interinstitutional and interjurisdictional work for the implementation of the communication and public awareness strategy.</p> <p>Additionally, following the MTR, 11 documents containing the systematization of achievements and lessons learned were developed, revised and agreed upon. However, they haven't been published or uploaded to the MAyDS website yet.</p>
<p>Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.</p>	<p>Yes. The Project has a Communication and Public Awareness Strategy (ECCP) designed and validated in a strategic and adaptive communication framework. A Study of Knowledge and Social Perception of IAS (SKSP) was the basis for the design and implementation of the Communication and Public Awareness Strategy (ECCP) V1. A second SKSP allowed to have a final validated version of the ECCP (March 2020). The implementation of strategic communication is now conducted by the MAyDS press area and it is shared with other provincial, municipal, and local counterparts (such as Protected Areas) and institutions that also generate communication content and pieces to different audiences and in different territories.</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic and the Dengue epidemic in Argentina with a high impact on public health occupy communication spaces. The current global scenario of informed, interested and sensitized citizens about the importance and complexity of the problem of biological invasions presents an opportunity for the implementation of the National Strategy for Communication and Awareness of Invasive Exotic Species (ECCP - NSIAS).</p> <p>Project closing workshop allowed for increased visibility of the IAS topic, both at national and provincial levels, and generated a positive momentum to communicate about the project achievements, as well as challenges ahead.</p> <p>The publication of the National Communication Strategy (in a printed version) was designed and will be printed and distributed among key national and local stakeholders during Project's operational closure, allowing an increase in visibility and strengthening of local capacities.</p>
<p>Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected Global Environmental Benefits. Please indicate any Socio-economic Co-benefits that were generated by the project. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related</p>	<p>The fight against invasive species in Argentina²⁴. Francisco Estive knows first-hand the value of water for life and agriculture. He spent his childhood in close contact with nature in Mendoza, and his family depended on wetland cattle ranches for their livelihood. Francisco joined the ranger team at the Laguna de Llancañelo Provincial Reserve, a desert wetland system fed by meltwater from mountain glaciers almost 100 km away. Glacier melt is a source of water for the region's livestock pastures and the Provincial Reserve, which is home to more than 150 species of threatened migratory birds, such as the black-necked swan and the southern flamingo. However, combined with the impacts of climate change, invasive alien species are affecting water flow and salinity and threatening both livelihoods and the region's valuable biodiversity.</p> <p>Three generations of the Ocloya people, an example of indigenous commitment to the environment, health and culture²⁵.</p> <p>Globalized society is taking note of their capacity for resistance and resilience in the face of the challenges brought about by human modifications to the environment, such as IAS, desertification, climate change, emerging diseases and food production. In particular, communities are involved in the control of IAS that threaten their biological and cultural heritage and in the recovery of affected environments. This is the case of the community of the Ocloya people who is working to curb the spread of ligustrum.</p> <p>Meanwhile, in the heart of the Yungas, some 60 kilometers from the capital of the province of Jujuy in northern Argentina, shines the restless spirit of Adriana Benencia, an 18-year-old member of the Ocloya Laguna del Tesorero Pueblo community, who is committed to a</p>

²⁴ See full story in English here: <http://www.fao.org/gef/news-events/detail/es/c/1293651/>.

²⁵ See full story in Spanish here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cl2-iKAColi3HGH2DaurHG7YdvQxu--w/edit>.

<p>photos and photo credits.</p>	<p>project that is faithful to the indigenous commitment to the environment, health and culture.</p>
<p>Please provide links to related website, social media account</p>	<p>https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/biodiversidad/exoticas-invasoras https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/biodiversidad/exoticas-invasoras/medios</p>
<p>Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.</p>	<p>See notes here: https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/biodiversidad/exoticas-invasoras/medios</p> <p>Systematization and Lessons learned (temporarily published on MAYS website but removed later:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-ta6zsQrkqiALqbJgtE7m8FR1rjvMUPs/view?usp=sharing • https://drive.google.com/file/d/1E0S0ewXaADI7wretfiY6bvTwFSgxEBmz/view?usp=sharing • https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Hm6oPKxh9oMAdMiPBa1gTOtrhOGQAmfO/view?usp=sharing • https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YBL1VUXv47c6_OxnPv5JBKhvaVIEJzK/view?usp=sharing • https://drive.google.com/file/d/1euu_wyabRO50FcuCt-NVjwYZ5QI9LL/view?usp=sharing • https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j0BJAM81TvkBhwqgr3kdoS1_XcN5EmW_/view?usp=sharing, • https://drive.google.com/file/d/1n6dU0aF8H8CJE8LryUAOWWAMy2gz5Hn/view?usp=sharing • https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qwzpflyMK3egZopJ8w5CQob_hsVm_7ni/view?usp=sharing • https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ux5igPEtpS7Ocvk6DSE9CuKaqt7N/view?usp=sharing • https://drive.google.com/file/d/1x0px8RKak-vU-Yod8NAIHBFmXGwKKmi/view?usp=sharing <p>Audio-visual material on the ministry's official channel: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSg5QSf0eFRMolBGURP6c-TMX8uVpDcXi https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3YlyLqv8FKQ&ab_channel=MinisteriodeAmbienteyDesarrolloSostenible</p> <p>Project Closure workshop: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gWndC4ueDE</p>
<p>Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point's Name and contact details</p>	<p>The communication focal point is the MAYS Communication Area team whose references are:</p> <p>Eleonora Lanfranco - elanfranco@ambiente.gob.ar</p>

12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

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

Members of the Ocloya indigenous people of the province of Jujuy participated in the closing workshop of the project commenting on their experience in the implementation of the pilot Ligustrum reaffirming their continuity in the actions conforming themselves as guardians of nature. At the event, they presented a note asking for resources to improve monitoring and control actions in their community. MAYS committed itself to formally submitting the note through the entry desk.

13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing ²⁶	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval (in USD)	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2022	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
MAYDS		OPNac	\$ 2,375,000.00	\$ 1,109,537.80	\$ 437,980	\$ 1,109,537.80
CONICET		OPNac	\$ 803,682.00	\$ 938,355.92	\$ 232,119	\$ 938,355.92
INTA		OPNac	\$ 83,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 10,000	\$ 70,000.00
SENASA		OPNac	\$ 176,900.00	\$ 202,840.29	\$ 15,000	\$ 202,840.29
CUDAP		OPNac	\$ 8,417,774.00	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0 ²⁷
APN		OPNac	\$ 335,588.00	\$ 727,170.00	\$ 483,143	\$ 727,170.00
PNA		OPNac	\$ 294,118.00	\$ 298,095.03	\$ 4,950	\$ 298,095.03
Mendoza		OPNac	\$ 901,961.00	\$ 122,622.00	\$ 69,808	\$ 122,622.00
Buenos Aires		OPNac	\$ 78,400.00	\$ 19,350.00	\$ 0	\$ 19,350.00
Municipio de Tapalqué		Organismo Municipal	\$ 0	\$ 3,165,691.95	\$ 0	\$ 3,165,691.95
Chubut		OPNac	\$ 1,969,078.00	\$ 2,163,997.51	\$ 0	\$ 2,163,997.51
Jujuy		OPNac	\$ 169,717.00	\$ 99,300.00	\$ 2,500	\$ 99,300.00
Misiones		OPNac	\$ 184,686.00	\$ 56,755.07	\$ 0	\$ 56,755.07
Rio Negro		OPNac	\$ 25,588.00	\$ 116,919.08	\$ 0	\$ 116,919.08
Tierra del Fuego		OPNac	\$ 2,182,409.00	\$ 1,164,252.00	\$ 308,670	\$ 1,164,252.00
FAO		OInt.	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 125,000	\$ 250,000.00
TOTAL			\$ 18,247,901	\$ 10,504,886.65	\$ 1,725,170	\$ 10,504,886.65

²⁶ Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Other.

²⁷According to MAYDS Note NO-23022-74764457-APN-SPARN#MAD dated 20/07/2022.

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

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

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

Risk rating. It should assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale:	
High Risk (H)	There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
Substantial Risk (S)	There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face substantial risks
Moderate Risk (M)	There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only moderate risk.
Low Risk (L)	There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only low risks.