



PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

for the project:

Blue Nature Alliance to Expand and Improve the Conservation of 1.25 Billion Hectares of Ocean Ecosystems

FY23

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Executing Partners



Project Information			
Project Title:	Blue Nature Alliance to Expand and Improve the Conservation of 1.25 Billion Hectares of Ocean Ecosystems		
Country(ies):	Global	GEF ID:	10375
GEF Agency(ies):	Conservation International	Duration In Months:	67
Executing Agency(ies):	Blue Nature Alliance	Actual Implementation Start Date:	October 5, 2021
GEF Focal Area(s):	International Waters (IW)	Expected Project Completion Date:	April 30, 2027
GEF Grant Amount:	\$22,635,780	Expected Financial Closure Date:	November 30, 2027
Expected Co-financing:	\$115,465,618	Date of Last Steering Committee Meeting:	January 2027
Co-financing Realized as of June 30, 2023:	\$12,496,022	Mid-Term Review-Planned Date:	March 2024
Date of First Disbursement:	July 31, 2023	Mid-Term Review-Actual Date:	TBD
Cumulative disbursement as of June 30, 2023:	\$2,471,083	Terminal Evaluation-Planned Date:	October 2026
PIR Prepared by:	Madeline Beattie	Terminal Evaluation-Actual Date:	TBD
CI-GEF Project Manager:	Free de Koning	CI-GEF Finance Lead:	Elizabeth Mast

Minor Amendment Categories	Minor Amendment Justification
	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%. Please select the box that is most applicable for FY22 and include an explanation for the minor amendment request.
Results framework <input type="checkbox"/>	
Components and cost <input type="checkbox"/>	
Institutional and implementation arrangements <input type="checkbox"/>	
Financial management <input type="checkbox"/>	
Implementation schedule <input type="checkbox"/>	
Executing Entity <input type="checkbox"/>	
Executing Entity Category <input type="checkbox"/>	
Minor project objective change <input type="checkbox"/>	
Safeguards <input type="checkbox"/>	
Risk analysis <input type="checkbox"/>	
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5% <input type="checkbox"/>	

Co-financing <input type="checkbox"/>	
Location of project activity <input type="checkbox"/>	
Other <input type="checkbox"/>	

MINOR AMENDMENT RESPONSE FROM CI-GEF

The CI-GEF Project Agency Project Implementation Report (PIR) is composed of six sections:

- Section I: Project Implementation Progress Status Summary:** provides a brief summary of the project as well as the implementation status and rating of the previous and current fiscal years;
- Section II: Project Results Implementation Progress Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards achieving the project objective and outcomes, the implementation rating of the project, as well as recommendations to improve the project performance, when needed;
- Section III: Project Risks Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards managing and mitigating project risks, the project risks mitigation rating reassessment as needed, as well as recommendations to improve the management of project risks;
- Section IV: Project Environmental and Social Safeguards Implementation Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards complying with the Environmental & Social Safeguards and the Plans prepared during the PPG phase, the safeguard plans implementation rating, as well as recommendations to improve the project safeguards;
- Section V: Project Implementation Experiences and Lessons Learned:** describes the experiences learned by the project managers and the lessons learned through the process of implementing the project; and
- Section VI: Project Geocoding:** documents the precise and specific geographic location(s) of activities supported by GEF investments based on information available in project documentation

SECTION I: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS SUMMARY

PROJECT SUMMARY

Conservation International (CI), the Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Minderoo Foundation, and the Rob & Melani Walton Foundation have joined together to form the Blue Nature Alliance (the Alliance) with the objective to catalyze the effective conservation of at least 1.25 billion hectares of ocean area in order to safeguard global ocean biodiversity, build resilience to climate change, promote human wellbeing, and enhance ecosystem connectivity and function.

The project will contribute to the GEF International Waters objectives of **Strengthening National Blue Economy Opportunities** and **Improving Management in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction** through the investing of resources to catalyze the establishment of at least 750 million hectares of new or expanded ocean conservation area, strengthen management of at least 500 million hectares of previously established ocean conservation areas, and support new science, tools, and capacity building related to the field of large-scale ocean conservation.

By directly supporting the conservation of at least 1.25 billion hectares of ocean ecosystems, this project will help deliver on commitments under the Aichi targets, SDG14, and Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

PRIOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

This section is not applicable as this is the first PIR submitted for the Blue Nature Alliance.

CURRENT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS (2023)

Recognizing the historic shifts that have taken place in the world's commitment to ocean conservation over the past year, with new international targets agreed upon under the Convention on Biological Diversity's Global Biodiversity Framework and the UNCLOS High Seas Treaty, the Blue Nature Alliance and partners organizations have continued to embrace a culture of innovation, seeking opportunities to move these agreements into action for the benefit of people, nature, and the climate. This focus on innovative and nimble strategies which can respond to the needs of the places and communities where the project engages, has allowed the project to make rapid progress with several significant conservation wins during the first full year of implementation.

In FY23, the GEF project 'Blue Nature Alliance to Expand and Improve the Conservation of 1.25 billion Hectares of Ocean Ecosystems' made steady progress towards its target of conserving 1.25 billion hectares of ocean conservation areas, with an active portfolio covering over 1.93 billion hectares of ocean area and targets reached in over 211 million hectares of ocean area - of which 135,504,100 hectares count towards the GEF project target of 1.25 billion hectares.

Notable project updates include:

- Under Component Two 'New Protections of Key Ocean Geographies', the Blue Nature Alliance is providing financial and/or technical investment in 888,305,200 hectares of proposed new or expanded ocean conservation area with targets reached in 66,862,200 hectares of ocean conservation area (135,551,300 hectares without Tristan da Cunha which is not counted toward the GEF project target as the engagement achieved target reached prior to the start of the GEF project).
- Under Component Three 'Improved Protection of Key Ocean Geographies', the Blue Nature Alliance is providing financial and/or technical investment in 1,038,072,000 hectares of upgraded or improved ocean conservation area with targets reached in a total of 68,742,100 hectares of ocean conservation area.
- In addition to the \$115,465,618 of co-financing secured prior to project start, an additional \$140.7 million in leverage funding has been secured across Alliance site engagements.
- Limited ESIA's, safeguards screenings, stakeholder engagement plans, and gender mainstreaming plans have been completed for each of the 31 site engagements in implementation, all of which having an active grievance redress mechanism in place and/or in development.

- To date, the project has recorded over 12,500 direct beneficiaries, with nearly 40% of which identifying as women. Beneficiaries include individuals involved in project implementation and participants in a range of learning and capacity development exchanges with regional and global reach. This record is considered to be conservative and is expected to significantly as the project continues to work with subgrantees to accurately account for beneficiaries in future progress reports.
- As COVID-19 risk has decreased and travel has been able to resume with less risk to staff and project partners, the Blue Nature Alliance has seen a drastic increase in the number of engagements with partner organizations as well as the speed and depth of site scoping.

SUMMARY: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS

PROJECT PART	PRIOR FY22 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	CURRENT FY23 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING ¹	RATING TREND ²
OBJECTIVE	N/A	S	Not applicable as this is the first PIR completed for the project.
COMPONENTS AND OUTCOMES	N/A	S	Not applicable as this is the first PIR completed for the project.
ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS	N/A	S	Not applicable as this is the first PIR completed for the project.

PROJECT RISK RATING³

RISKS	N/A	M	Not applicable as this is the first PIR completed for the project.
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¹ **Implementation Progress (IP) Rating:** Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Moderately Satisfactory (MS), Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). For more details about IP rating, please see the Appendix I of this report

² **Rating trend:** Improving, Unchanged, or Decreasing

³ **Risk Rating:** Low (L), Moderate (M), Substantial (S), High (H)

SECTION II: PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS AND RATING

This section describes the progress made since the start of the project towards achieving the project objective and outcomes, the implementation progress rating of the project, as well as recommendations to improve the project performance. This section is composed four parts:

- a. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective: this section measures the likelihood of achieving the objective of the project
- b. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Outcomes (by project component)
- c. Overall Project Results Progress Rating, and
- d. Recommendations for improvement

a. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective:

This section of the report assesses the progress in achieving the objective of the project.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:	To catalyze the conservation of 1.25 billion hectares of ocean ecosystems, to safeguard biodiversity, help build resilience to climate change, promote human well-being and enhance ecosystem connectivity and function.
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OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator a: Ocean conservation areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use. Target=1,250,000,000 hectares (1.25 billion).	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, the Alliance has achieved target reached for ocean conservation areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use in 135,504,100 hectares of ocean conservation area, not inclusive of engagements which achieved target reached prior to project start (Tristan da Cunha – 68,789,300 hectares).</p> <p>This includes targets reached in Canada’s Artic & Atlantic and Great Bear Sea, Colombia, Panama’s Banco Vulcan and Cordillera de Coiba, Southern Gulf of Guinea, Australian Sub Antarctic’s Macquarie Island, and NACES MPA.</p>	IS	<p>With challenges and slight delays in the early days of the project, in part due to the inability to conduct in-person scoping due to COVID-19, the project experienced slight delays in reaching initial targets than anticipated.</p> <p>However, with mitigation strategies and increased staff allowing implementation to accelerate in recent months and significant number of new engagements entering the implementation pipeline, the current pace of the project is on track and anticipated to meet this indicator by the conclusion of the project.</p>
Indicator b: Level of engagement in IW: Learn: Target=4. (# of experience notes, results notes, and presentations shared with IW:LEARN)	At the conclusion of FY23, four results notes and three experience notes have been developed per the guidelines of IW:LEARN. The project remains on track for level 4 engagement with IW:LEARN.	IS	There have been slight delays in the development of knowledge materials specifically produced for IW:LEARN due to uncertainty regarding IW:LEARN’s preferred process for collecting results and experience notes as we approach the next IW Conference.

⁴ **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
	<p>The project website is aligned with IW:LEARN guidance and project staff will attend IWC10 in FY24 Q2.</p> <p>In addition to materials produced specifically for IW:LEARN, knowledge materials and lessons learned are being captured for a range of other platforms including video case studies collected during an in-person Ocean Managers Xchange, content for Google Arts and Culture, and ongoing preparation for inputs to the Reef Resilience Network's knowledge management hub. To date, a total of 68 publications and related knowledge products, communication materials, and tools have been produced by the Alliance.</p> <p>See further details in Section V below.</p>		<p>The Learning & Capacity Development team has continued to collect lessons learned and knowledge materials with the intention to make these materials available – with adjustments into preferred format as necessary – once further guidance is provided by the IW:LEARN team. These knowledge materials, though not in the IW:LEARN format, represent significant capturing of lessons learned. The Alliance is looking forward to engaging with IW:LEARN and other GEF IW project partners at the Tenth Biennial GEF International Waters Conference.</p>
<p>Indicator c: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment. Target=2,467,000 (~ 50% women; ~ 50% men)</p>	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, the Alliance has recorded a total 12,689 direct beneficiaries (38.5% women, 60% men, and 1.5% unknown) inclusive of participants in capacity development and learning initiatives, individuals involved in project implementation and activities, and individuals directly benefiting from project activities.</p> <p>Based on country level capture fisheries data from FAO and assumptions on small scale vs. commercial fisheries and gender from the Hidden Harvest Report by FAO/WorldFish/Duke University, based on percentage of EEZ covered by Alliance site engagements, there are an estimated 1,450,000 small scale or artisanal fishers (35% women, 65% men) operating in proximity of Alliance engagement sites.</p> <p>Based on current and project ocean conservation area boundaries, the project further projects 136,902 indirect beneficiaries living within 1km of site engagement boundaries (50% male, 50% female). This number is smaller than anticipated due to the remote/offshore nature of a majority of Alliance engagements and the fact that Alliance engagements in implementation for new/expanded may not yet have defined ocean conservation area boundaries, excluding these areas</p>	<p>IS/D</p>	<p>The Alliance is on track to achieve project targets based on the number of direct and indirect beneficiaries estimated at the completion of this PIR.</p> <p>Over the next year of the project, the methodology for calculating beneficiaries will continue to be refined and revisited to ensure the project is capturing the most accurate count possible. Further, as the project receives additional progress reports and continues to provide support to subgrantees in understanding and accurately accounting for the direct beneficiaries under their scope of work, the number of direct beneficiaries is expected to increase significantly.</p> <p>To reach the project target of 2.467 M beneficiaries, this count includes indirect beneficiaries.</p> <p>The partial delay indicated in progress rating is meant to indicate the plans to revisit and improve project methodology.</p>

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
	from being counted in the total until boundaries are established. It is also likely that these indirect beneficiaries overlap with the indirect beneficiaries listed above.		

OBJECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION
S	The project has made considerable progress towards the 1.25 billion ha target for ocean conservation areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use. Some delays were experienced, among others due to Covid. The project is engaging in a significantly larger area than the overall target, so that even when some engagements do not achieve their objective, it is expected that the overall hectare target will be reached. The project has produced a large number of publications. It also contributed significantly to IW:LEARN with four results notes and three experience notes. The project website is aligned with IW:LEARN guidance. The project tracks both direct and indirect beneficiaries. The original objective indicator c) for beneficiaries mentions a target of 2,467,000 direct beneficiaries. While this target could potentially be reached for indirect beneficiaries, this may not be a realistic target for direct beneficiaries. Please monitor this issue over FY24 and amend the target if necessary.

b. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Outcomes (by project component).

This part of the report assesses the progress towards achieving the outcomes of the project.

COMPONENT 1	Site Scoping
Outcome 1:	Engagement frameworks (i.e. new or existing ocean conservation areas) that meet the Blue Nature Alliance criteria have been collaboratively developed and endorsed.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome Indicator 1.1.: Number of sites that meet Alliance criteria with development engagements frameworks.	20 engagement frameworks developed.	At the conclusion of FY23, a total of 34 engagement frameworks have been developed collaboratively with stakeholders, implementing partners, and/or technical partners (15 of which were completed prior to the start of the GEF project in	IS	<p>The Alliance is on track to exceed the targeted number of engagement frameworks to be developed over the course of the project, representative of a growing pipeline of engagement sites in implementation or preparing to begin implementation (number is already exceeded if inclusive of engagement frameworks developed prior to project start).</p> <p>It is anticipated that additional engagement frameworks over the target will be developed, in part, due to the average size of Alliance engagement sites. When the project was developed, the engagement sites were anticipated to be predominately large-scale ocean conservation areas. However, with</p>

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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
		Oct. 2021). As a result, 19 engagement frameworks count towards the GEF project, placing the project on track to exceed the project target of 20 engagement frameworks.		changes in political conditions and the feasibility of large-scale ocean conservation areas as a result of instability due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Alliance has taken a comprehensive approach to the ocean conservation areas considered for investment, including ocean conservation areas that are not considered large-scale. This has allowed the Alliance to invest in ocean conservation areas at a range of sizes, necessitating a higher number of engagements to meet project targets.

COMPONENT 1 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
HS	The project has been very successful in developing engagement frameworks and is on track to exceed the target for engagements. Developing engagement frameworks is a significant effort, that requires extensive scoping and collaborative work with stakeholders, implementing partners, and technical partners. Engagement frameworks need to be approved by the Steering Council before implementation can begin. The fact that the Alliance is also considering ocean conservation areas that are not large-scale could be an extra burden in terms level of effort needed to achieve the targets.	N/A

COMPONENT 2	New Protections of Key Ocean Geographies
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Outcome 1:	New or expanded ocean conservation areas legally recognized.
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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome Indicator 2.1.: Total area (hectares) of new designated ocean conservation area that received financial and/or technical investment from the Blue Nature Alliance.	750 million hectares of ocean conservation areas	66,862,200 hectares	IS	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, the Blue Nature Alliance is providing financial and/or technical investment in 888,305,200 hectares of new or expanded ocean conservation area. At the conclusion of FY23, new and expanded ocean conservation area target reached for the full Blue Nature Alliance was 135,551,300 hectares. As this is inclusive of Tristan da Cunha (68,789,300 hectares, achieved before project start), 66,862,200 hectares of this target reached will be counted towards the GEF project target.</p> <p>The Blue Nature Alliance has achieved full or partial target reached in new or expanded engagements including Panama's Banco Vulcan and Cordillera</p>

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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
				<p>de Coiba, Colombia, Tristan da Cunha, Southern Gulf of Guinea, Colombia, and Australian Sub Antarctic's Macquarie Island</p> <p>Additional target reached for new or expanded ocean conservation area is anticipated for Fiji's Lau Seascape in FY24 (33,500,000 hectares).</p> <p>To achieve target reached in anticipated 750 million hectares of new or expanded ocean conservation area, the project anticipates needing to initiate activities in over 750 million hectares, putting the approximately 888 million hectares, with several additional engagements advancing through the pipeline on track to achieve target reached by project end.</p>

COMPONENT 2 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	The project is engaging and investing in a significant area in order to achieve the target for legally recognized new or expanded ocean conservation areas. This has already resulted in over 66 million hectares during the implementation phase that contribute to the target. It demonstrates the capacity of the project to develop and implement engagement frameworks in a swift and effective way. Engagement frameworks need to be approved by the Steering Committee before the can be implemented.	N/A

COMPONENT 3	Improved Protection of Key Ocean Geographies
Outcome 1:	Previously established ocean conservation areas have upgraded protections and/or improved management as evidenced by the legal ratification for upgraded protection level, and/or for measurably improved management, as measured by the achievement of a site-specific target for improved management effectiveness.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁷	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome Indicator 3.1.: Total area of existing ocean conservation areas with legally upgraded levels of	500 million hectares of ocean conservation areas	68,742,100 hectares.	IS	At the conclusion of FY23, the Blue Nature Alliance is providing financial and/or technical investment in 1,038,072,000 hectares of upgraded or improved ocean conservation area with target reached in a total of 68,742,100 hectares. Upgraded and/or improved management is

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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁷	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
protection and/or with improved management effectiveness that received financial and/or technical investment for the Blue Nature Alliance.				<p>determined as measured by the achievement of a site-specific target for improved management effectiveness developed collaboratively with project partners and approved by the Blue Nature Alliance Steering Council as a 'measure of success' within the site engagement framework.</p> <p>The Blue Nature Alliance has achieved full or partial target reached in improved or upgraded engagements including Panama's Cordillera de Coiba and North Atlantic Current Evlonov Sea basin (NACES) MPA, which is on track with the anticipated length of engagement necessary prior to achieving target. It is anticipated that several engagements (Mexico's Revillagigedo, Chile's Offshore MPAs, etc.) will achieve target reached in FY24.</p> <p>As not all interventions will achieve their target, the project has interventions in a larger area (currently 1.038 billion hectares) than the 500 million hectares project target, in order to at least achieve that project target.</p>

COMPONENT 3 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	The project is engaging and investing in a significant area in order to achieve the target for upgraded protections and/or improved management of ocean conservation areas. This has already resulted in over 68 million hectares during the implementation phase that contribute to the target. To be considered upgraded and/or improved management, a site-specific target for improved management effectiveness need to be achieved. This target is included in the site engagement framework as a measure of success and needs to be approved by the Blue Nature Alliance Steering Council. The progress demonstrates the capacity of the project to develop and implement engagement frameworks in a swift and effective way.	N/A

COMPONENT 4	Global Enabling Conditions to Scale up Ocean Conservation
Outcome 1:	Collaborative scientific research that advances the field of large-scale and/or transboundary ocean conservation developed and implemented.
Outcome 2:	Knowledge management and learning for the fields of large-scale and transboundary ocean conservation has been strengthened and expanded.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁸	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome Indicator 4.1.: Number of peer-reviewed scientific publications and/or technical reports published on topics that advance the field of large-scale ocean conservation.	5 research projects and 10 publications	6 research projects 68 publications	IS	<p>At the end of FY23, the Alliance has engaged in six partnerships for research projects to advance the field of large-scale ocean conservation (Boston University, University of Victoria, University of California Santa Barbara Bren School, SEA Education Association, University of Western Australia, and C-BIOMIE Conservation of a Changing Ocean Project).</p> <p>Across Alliance engagements, including peer-reviewed publications in top-tier journals under global enabling conditions, the Alliance reached 68 total publications, inclusive of related knowledge products and communication tools.</p> <p>Notable publications by Alliance staff in FY23 include Willis et al., <i>The human cost of global fishing</i> and Kennedy & Rotjan, <i>The Impact of Geological Feature Shape on the Abundance and Diversity of Deep Sea Corals</i> as well as recently released TEDx Scaling Conservation: Can we protect our oceans in time?</p> <p>See further details in Section V below.</p> <p>In FY23, a new science lead was brought on to guide the project's science strategy and develop an updated set of priorities to guide the Alliance's research to best advance the field of large-scale ocean conservation (providing site-based support, filling knowledge gaps in global MPA science, and improving science communication through data transparency and accessibility) in accordance with the Blue Nature Alliance Science Framework. The Minderoo Foundation, a core partner of the Alliance, has also increased its engagement and science support for the project.</p> <p>This strengthening of the Alliance's dedicated science and knowledge team has increased the quality and quantity of science support available for Alliance site engagements as well</p>

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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁸	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
				as the reach of the science team to advance global research on the field of large-scale ocean conservation. The project is on track to exceed the end of project indicator targets and looks forward to sharing knowledge materials developed with IW:LEARN and other GEF learning networks.
Outcome Indicator 4.2.: Number of individuals with enhanced knowledge capacity, and tools to implement ocean conservation at scale and/or transboundary ocean governance.	1000 (at least 33% of whom are women)	13,567 (of those with gender known, 52.1% female and 47.9% male)	IS	<p>With a goal of building the global enabling conditions for durable and effective ocean conservation which will last long beyond the lifespan of the project, the Alliance's capacity development and learning team has focused on providing support to global and regional learning networks, with an emphasis on partners that advance ocean conservation at scale.</p> <p>In FY23, the Alliance advanced multiple learning and knowledge initiatives to increase capacity to implement ocean conservation at scale and/or transboundary ocean governance.</p> <p>Notable convenings in FY23 include the 2022 Ocean Managers XCHANGE which, in partnership with Big Ocean, brought together 36 managers and practitioners from 17 countries and a convening of 30+ capacity development organizations at IMPAC5 in Vancouver, CA.</p> <p>Regional partnerships included the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association which hosted multiple certifications events through WIO-COMPAS with the most recent being Apr. 12 (9 participants) and May 3 (15 participants) as well as an IUU surveillance/enforcement (15 participants). Through these certifications as well as other WIOMSA outreach events (ex. Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Symposium). The MPA Management School of the Southern Cone further developed and disseminated 3 pilot courses with over 30 participants. The progress of the MPA Management School was showcased at the 'Annual Workshop of the MPA Network Twinning Project' held in Malaysia in Oct. 2022 which a reach extending to a much larger audience of participants.</p>

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁸	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
				<p>In part due to these convenings and learning opportunities hosted by site engagement partners, 13,567 (of those with gender known, 52.1% female and 47.9% male) individuals have enhanced their capacity through participation in Alliance supported capacity development/learning initiatives, workshops, and presentations.</p> <p>The impact of longstanding partnerships, such as Big Ocean, continued to grow over FY23 and new partnerships (MPA Connect, Pacific Marine Protected Area Community, Reef Resilience Network, EU Ocean Governance Project, and Colorado State University’s Center for Protected Area Management (CSU-CPAM)) allow the Alliance to reach a growing number of individuals to enhance knowledge, capacity, and tools to implement ocean conservation at scale. This includes a large number of individuals (13,567) who have interacted with the Alliance at varying levels of intensity ranging from completion in training and certification programs (ex. WIO COMPAS) to attending presentations on Alliance lessons learned (ex. IMPAC5 events). The number of individuals receiving in-depth training from Alliance supported capacity development and learning initiatives is anticipated to well exceed 500 by project completion. Notably, the CSU-CPAM partnership is in the process of developing an online course to educate large-scale MPA practitioners on the importance of incorporating human rights/dimensions considerations into their work, with plans to launch the course in FY24.</p> <p>In FY23, two distinct tools were developed by the Alliance and partners. An MPA Capacity Assessment adapted from NOAA’s MPA Checklist and MPA Connect’s standard assessment and a Big Ocean Political Conditions Tool co-designed with MPA managers to strengthen the political resilience of MPAs.</p>

COMPONENT 4 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
HS	The project has already exceeded its targets for research projects, publications, and number of people (with approximately an equal number of women and men) with enhanced knowledge capacity, and tools to implement ocean conservation at scale. The project also contributed significantly to IW:LEARN with four results notes and three experience notes.	N/A

COMPONENT 5	Monitoring and Evaluation
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Outcome 1:	Monitoring and evaluation framework for the Blue Nature Alliance in place and used.
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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome Indicator 5.1.: Percent of required reports and evaluations completed.	100 percent	100 percent of what was required for FY23	IS	<p>At the end of FY23, a monitoring and evaluation framework had been developed for the Blue Nature Alliance with clear indicators and a designated timeline for reporting.</p> <p>The Alliance is on track with completion of required reports and evaluations.</p> <p>Over the course of the Alliance project, the team has continued to refine the monitoring and evaluation process with a focus on streamlining for implementing partners and subgrantees while capturing all necessary information adequately report progress to the GEF and other core partners.</p> <p>This process is ongoing and has allowed the Alliance to adopt an adaptive monitoring and evaluation approach which continues to strengthen the project, seeking a balance between understanding/capturing the impact of each unique engagement while also measuring core indicators across the portfolio. As additional engagements advance into target reached, efforts are beginning to refine the calculating of beneficiaries across all Alliance engagements to ensure an accurate and representative count of individuals benefiting for the project activities is given. Further, the team is revisiting and learning from experiences with the current data collection system.</p>

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COMPONENT 5 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	The project has developed a monitoring and evaluation framework and closely monitors – and reports on – progress.	N/A

c. Overall Project Results Rating

OVERALL PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION RATING

OVERALL RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND ¹⁰
S	The project has been very successful in developing engagement frameworks. The project is engaging and investing in significant areas in order to achieve the targets for legally recognized new or expanded ocean conservation areas, as well as for upgraded protections and/or improved management of ocean conservation areas. This has already resulted in important progress towards the hectare targets. It demonstrates the capacity of the project to develop and implement engagement frameworks in a swift and effective way. The project has already exceeded its targets for research projects, publications, and number of people with enhanced knowledge capacity, and tools to implement ocean conservation at scale. The project also contributed significantly to IW:LEARN with four results notes and three experience notes. The project has developed a monitoring and evaluation framework and closely monitors progress. Reporting is timely and efficient.	N/A

d. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Over FY24, closely track direct beneficiaries and consider adjusting the project target if unrealistic.	Alliance	June 2024

¹⁰ **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

SECTION III: PROJECT RISKS STATUS AND RATING

a. Progress towards Implementing the Project Risk Mitigation Plan

This section describes the activities implemented to manage and reduce high, substantial, modest, and low risks of the project. This section has three parts:

- a. Ratings for the progress towards implementing measures to mitigate project risks and a project risks annual reassessment
- b. Recommendations for improving project risks management

Progress towards Implementing the Project Risk Mitigation and Plan Project Risks Annual Reassessment

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹¹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹²
Risk 1: Ongoing challenges associated with COVID-19 result in delays in implementation and challenging conditions in which to advance objectives	<p>In 2020, the Alliance transitioned to fully remote operations by conducting remote meetings and workshops, remote site scoping, and closely collaborating with in-region implementing partners to advance Alliance objectives and targets.</p> <p>Through the development of engagement frameworks, the Alliance will identify and resource any implementation activities that may require modifications to comply with COVID-19 protocols.</p> <p>The Alliance will continue to develop its remote operating capabilities, with development of tools and protocols for online trainings, workshops, learning</p>	<p>All gatherings of Blue Nature Alliance staff and partners follow the COVID-19 guidance of CI and Pew.</p> <p>When applicable COVID-19 protocols are followed through activities such as daily testing at gatherings, mask wearing while in person, and providing appropriate time off when COVID cases arise.</p> <p>The need to implement these protocols has begun to decrease with high vaccination rates and lower rates of COVID spread at in-person gatherings. The Blue Nature Alliance team remains aware of COVID risk, however, and continues to pursue strategies as needed to minimize risk of transmission.</p>	IS	<p>As COVID-19 cases have decreased and vaccination rates have risen, the need for mitigation measures pertaining to this risk have decreased, though all members of the team remain cautious and dedicated to best practices.</p> <p>In the first year of project implementation, efforts took place to increase remote operating capabilities with definite improvements made with better strategies for virtual communication. The inability to meet in person or engage in travel in the early days of the project led to some delays in initial implementation.</p> <p>Travel and in-person convenings were able to increase in FY23 which</p>	Moderate	Low Risk	Decrease

¹¹ **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

¹² **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹¹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹²
	<p>initiatives and provision of technical assistance.</p> <p>COVID-19 has increased awareness of the intrinsic link between the environment and human health and prosperity. The Alliance has and will continue to reframe the way it discusses ocean conservation with stakeholders, focusing on the importance of healthy oceans for healthy communities and economic recovery and resilience.</p> <p>The Alliance team, at all times, will follow the science-based guidance of national health authorities, and CI's Health and Safety Officer in terms of health precautions and travel restrictions.</p>			<p>allowed scoping to accelerate at potential engagements and an opportunity for staff to meet with partners to troubleshoot challenges at on-going engagements. The benefit of this face-to-face time can be seen in the growth and acceleration of the Alliance portfolio of engagements in recent months.</p>			
<p>Risk 2: Government changes may lead to a reprioritizing and redirection of funding away from ocean conservation.</p>	<p>Per its selection criteria, the Alliance selects sites with existing political will and requires a stated interest – ideally a written commitment – by the decision-making authority.</p> <p>The Alliance will seek commitments from Governments (or groups with jurisdictional authority), including financial co-investment whenever</p>	<p>To mitigate this risk, all Alliance engagement sites include efforts to seek commitments from government (or groups with jurisdictional authority), including co-investment where possible and deploy resources to buffer uncertainties that political changes may bring to specific sites, including campaign strategies to</p>	IS	<p>Political will remains a criteria for the selection of site-based engagements and, whenever possible, government is engaged and encouraged to serve both as a co-implementer and co-financer of the activities being completed. The Alliance has further pursued an ongoing partnership with Parliamentarians for Global Action to address this risk as well as the recent hiring of a</p>	Moderate	Moderate	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹¹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹²
	<p>possible, for each proposed engagement site.</p> <p>The Alliance may deploy resources to buffer the uncertainties that political changes may bring to specific sites, depending ongoing re-assessments of project viability. This includes a specific focus on campaign strategies which increase political will and aid in increasing government interest in ocean conservation areas as well as allocations of funding.</p> <p>The Alliance Management and Delivery Team will assess the political landscape and power dynamics of site-based investments in each engagement framework and closely follow potential changes in governments to readily design and implement risk management strategies, as needed.</p>	increase political will and government interest.		<p>political strategist to begin in FY24 and provide technical support to Alliance engagements.</p> <p>In communication with implementing partners, the Alliance monitors and assesses changes in the political landscape at site-based investments and addresses challenges as needed. For example, adjustments were made to engagement strategies in Palau, Fiji, and Antarctica's Southern Ocean.</p> <p>To address this risk broadly across the field of ocean conservation at scale, the Alliance pursued a partnership with Global Island Partnership, focused on advancing learning pertaining to weathering political change in the establishment and management of ocean conservation areas. Initial results of this partnership were featured at events at UNOC and IMPAC5.</p>			
Risk 3: A lack of alignment with local policy frameworks or support may	The Alliance seeks local champions at each site-based investment to ensure there is local support as well as an advocate for the engagement	To mitigate this risk, all Alliance site-based engagements include efforts to identify and engage local champions to ensure that	IS	Local champions remain a criteria for the selection of site-based engagements and engagements strive to cultivate the relationship	Moderate	Moderate	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹¹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹²
hinder the success of long-term sustainable MPA investment	<p>at local, regional, and national levels of government.</p> <p>The Alliance also recognizes that its site-based investments will impact local livelihoods and economic opportunity. The robust Code of Conduct guides interventions which benefit those who live in proximity with the MPA, increasing the likelihood of support as the needs of these stakeholders are considered at all stages of the engagement process.</p> <p>The Alliance may deploy resources to support campaign strategies which build public support for the MPA and help to establish the necessary local policy frameworks and government structures to support the designation, implementation, and running costs of the MPA.</p>	<p>there is local support. Further, in line with the Alliance Code of Conduct, interventions are designed with an emphasis on providing benefits to those living in proximity with and interacting with the MPA where applicable.</p> <p>Where additional community support is required, Alliance engagements dedicate resources and technical support to the development of campaign strategies which build local support for the ocean conservation area and help to establish the necessary local policy frameworks.</p>		<p>with local champions through implementing partners throughout all phases from scoping to implementation.</p> <p>The Code of Conduct continues to serve as a guiding document for all Alliance engagements with periodic reviews to re-orientate all Alliance staff to its principles. The completions of the safeguards packet further provides an opportunity to consider risks and design interventions which provide benefits to those living in proximity to the MPA.</p> <p>As needed, activities at site-based engagements are designed to include resources in support of campaign strategies and public outreach. The extent and format of these interventions depends on the needs of each engagement and the Alliance's capability to support this area of work is anticipated to grow with the recent hiring of a political strategist.</p>			
Risk 4: Global economic and financial	The Alliance has included conservative leverage targets that should continue to be	To mitigate this risk, the Alliance has sought opportunities to build	IS	Despite initial concerns of a financial downturn in the wake of COVID-19, the	Moderate	Low Risk	Decrease

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹¹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹²
challenges may lead to reduced funding from international donors, causing leverage targets not to be achieved.	<p>achievable even in the current economic downturn.</p> <p>The Alliance will develop a 5-year plan for reaching effective management and long-term financing for most sites and will support business planning and other long-term financing initiatives that will enable sites to achieve financial sustainability and that will account for different global and regional economic conditions.</p>	<p>relationships with other international donors in the large-scale ocean conservation sphere to ensure necessary leverage funding can be secured for Alliance engagements. Notably, the Alliance has convened the Large Scale MPA Funders Roundtable bringing together 11 funders to secure sufficient funding for priority regions, ensuring that funding is complementary rather than competing.</p> <p>At site-based engagements, the Alliance provides support for business planning and other long-term financing initiatives to support sites in achieving financial sustainability.</p>		<p>funding available for the support of ocean conservation areas appears to be growing with new funders joining the community, increase interest in investment by the private sector, and a growing trend for large debt for nature swaps.</p> <p>The Alliance continues to play an important role in building this funding base through the convening of the Large-Scale MPA Funders Roundtable which has led to significant leverage funding for engagements including Seychelles, the Eastern Tropical Pacific, and the high seas.</p> <p>Further, in partnership with McKinsey & Company, the Alliance is providing support across its site-based engagements to develop sustainable financing strategies. This includes a number of innovative solutions including potential for the launching of biodiversity credits. In collaboration with partners including the Nature Conservancy's NatureVest team, the Alliance has provided support to advance</p>			

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹¹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹²
				debt for nature swaps and PFP deals at several engagements.			
Risk 5: Weak management capacities for planning, management, and governance reduce the effectiveness of site-based engagements.	<p>This risk will be reduced by Alliance support for capacity building, planning, and other activities to improve or appropriately design management and governance throughout its engagement with sites. Support will be provided at both institutional (e.g., National PA agency) and local levels (MPA managers).</p> <p>The Engagement Framework will include a robust assessment of the capacity gaps and needs for each site, and Alliance support will be directed toward addressing those needs as part of a holistic approach to improved ocean conservation outcomes.</p> <p>In addition, the Alliance will dedicate resources toward research and knowledge, and strengthening communities of practice and learning which will help support research, analysis, and technological innovation as well as networking, exchanges, capacity building, and</p>	<p>To mitigate this risk, as activities are developed at site-based engagements, capacity needs assessments are conducted for applicable sites to guide activities aimed at addressing capacity gaps. As needed, activities at site-based investments are designed to provide support for capacity building, planning, and other areas through technical support, financial resources, and coalition/partnership building.</p> <p>Under the Alliance's broader 'global enabling conditions' scope of work, resources are being directed towards activities which support knowledge sharing, scientific research, and strengthening communities of practice. Resources are dedicated to both global (Big Ocean) and regional communities of practice (Western Indian Ocean, Caribbean, etc.)</p>		<p>The Alliance is advancing a robust scope of work dedicated towards building capacity for the effective and durable implementation of ocean conservation areas across both site-based engagements and efforts to build the global enabling conditions for ocean conservation area management.</p> <p>While these efforts are advancing well at Alliance site-based engagements and regional partnership, the project also recognizes that achieving 30x30 will require an immense scaling up of MPA practitioners and experts. In the coming years of the project, the focus will expand to include efforts to begin to address this challenge.</p>	Moderate	Moderate	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹¹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹²
	development and sharing of best-practices to support improved capacity both in the sites targeted by the Alliance and in the ocean conservation community, generally.						
Risk 6: Stakeholder involvement, including IPLCs, is not sufficient to ensure support for conservation activities.	<p>The Alliance will implement a robust system to ensure appropriate stakeholder involvement, including the use of gender and Indigenous peoples' safeguards, a grievance mechanism, a code of conduct, and other tools to ensure that engagements are properly assessed for risks they could pose to community members and that appropriate safeguard instruments or risk management controls are incorporated into project design.</p> <p>Special measures will be taken during the COVID-19 global pandemic (see above) to ensure remote stakeholder consultations are as robust as possible of and to provide necessary resources for any modifications necessary to comply with COVID-19 protocols.</p>	<p>To mitigate this risk, the Alliance continues to implement and refine its systems to ensure sufficient stakeholder involvement. This has included a continued commitment to the Alliance Code of Conduct, the utilization of a safeguards packet/limited ESIA (inclusive of a safeguards screening, stakeholder engagement plan, gender mainstreaming plan, and grievance mechanism) at all site-based engagements.</p> <p>Through the completion of the safeguards packet, the need for safeguard instruments or risk management controls are identified and incorporated into project design as needed.</p>	IS	<p>The safeguards processes/requirements implemented by the project follow the best practices outlined by the GEF and as approved in the Project Document.</p> <p>In addition to the processes followed at all site-based engagements, the Alliance also seeks opportunities to strengthen stakeholder involvement and consultation, including IPLCs, through project activities wherever possible. This can be seen demonstrated in engagement activities including, but not limited to, those under way in New Caledonia, Canada's Great Bear Sea, and Chile's Offshore MPAs.</p>	Moderate	Moderate	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹¹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹²
<p>Risk 7: Global climate change negatively impacts MPAs.</p>	<p>Climate risks for each site will be assessed by the Blue Nature Alliance Site Engagement Team that scopes each potential site engagement and included in the risks section of the site engagement framework narrative.</p> <p>For all high-risk sites, and for other sites whenever feasible, the Alliance will advise on Ocean Conservation Areas boundaries, zoning, management and monitoring in order to address climate change impacts.</p> <p>The site engagement team will work with relevant experts to ensure climate considerations are factored in at the outset of Alliance engagement in each site and continued throughout Alliance assessment and investment.</p> <p>The Alliance's partnerships with ocean conservation areas, regional institutions, and local organizations will encourage sharing of experiences related to climate change adaptation programs, and the Alliance will dedicate resources</p>	<p>Climate considerations are considered for each site-based engagement as part of the engagement framework and safeguards screening form. Where feasible, the Alliance works with implementing partners to assess climate risk for each site and, where needed, works with relevant experts to ensure climate considerations are factored in at the outset of each site engagement.</p> <p>As part of the developing scope of work under 'global enabling conditions' the Alliance is dedicating resource to better understanding the implications of climate change for ocean conservation areas (including climate smart and resilient MPAs) with the intention to provide better support to partners as the project advances.</p>	D	<p>Work is underway to address this risk, but a full understanding of the implications of climate change on large-scale MPAs remains an unknown. The Alliance's work under 'global enabling conditions' serves to address this unknown and includes support for groundbreaking and field advancing research in partnership with Conservation International and the C-BIOME Conservation of a Changing Ocean Project.</p> <p>However, it is not yet possible to say with confidence that this risk is fully mitigated at Alliance site-based engagements as the project is still working to fully understand the potential negative impacts of climate change for MPAs and other ocean conservation areas.</p>	Moderate	Moderate/Substantial Risk	Consistent with potential for an increase in risk rating as the project advances.

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ¹¹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY23 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹²
	toward research and knowledge and towards communities of practice and learning, which could result in improved understanding of, and tools to address, climate change impacts. An increasing number of studies are highlighting the importance of the role of MPAs in climate change adaptation and mitigation, meaning that Alliance efforts will be directly supporting climate change adaptation and mitigation through new and improved oceans conservation areas.						
Risk 8: Threat to marine ecosystems grow and thus demand higher investments.	The Alliance will support the development of robust monitoring and evaluation systems for sites in which it engages, while also monitoring performance of sites at the portfolio level. The Alliance will maintain regular communications with implementing partners to ensure that they are monitoring and taking necessary steps to address threats to marine ecosystems.	While changes in threats to marine ecosystems to not coincide with a specific indicator being tracked, regular reporting by implementing partners provides an opportunity to identify, monitor, and address any necessary alterations to site-based activities based on changes in threats to the marine ecosystems. In the case that changes in threats are identified, it will then be possible to track these threats at a portfolio level to identify whether there are consistent trends.	IS	To date, this risk has not materialized across the Alliance portfolio. The Alliance continues to closely track the potential for this risk to impact probability of success at Alliance engagements, recognizing that this risk has the potential to interact closely with other risks listed above (climate change, changes in political will, changes in fishing effort in response to economic changes, etc.).	Moderate	Moderate	Unchanged

OVERALL RATING OF PROJECT RISKS	JUSTIFICATION	RISK RATING TREND ¹³
M	The implementation of risk mitigation measures is appropriate and the overall risk level remains moderate.	N/A

Recommendations

MITIGATION AND CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
N/A	N/A	N/A

¹³ **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

SECTION IV: PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS AND RATING

This section of the PIR describes the progress made towards complying with the approved ESMF plans, as well as recommendations to improve the implementation of the ESMF plans, when needed. This section is divided into six parts:

- a. Progress towards complying with the CI-GEF Project Agency's ESMF
- b. Information on Progress, challenges and outcomes on stakeholder engagement
- c. Information on the progress towards achieving gender sensitive measures/targets
- d. Lessons learned and Knowledge Management products developed and disseminated
- e. Overall Project ESMF Implementation Rating
- f. Recommendations

a. Progress towards complying with the CI-GEF Project Agency's ESMF

MINIMUM ESMF INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR STATUS	CUMULATIVE STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
ACCOUNTABILITY AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism 2. Percentage of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism that have been resolved. 	<p>All grievance submissions processed by the Alliance AGM must be entered into the NAVEX Ethics Platform which will also allow for tracking and documenting of all steps taken in the AGM process.</p> <p>All conflict and complaint cases – not excluded from accountability, problem solving, and compliance review functions - reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism have been resolved.</p>	1	1	IS	<p>To date, one submission to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism has been received.</p> <p>The grievance received pertained to the business practices of a donor to the Blue Nature Alliance which falls outside of the purview of the project. As it did not meet the criteria to be considered an eligible grievance requiring redress, it was not shared with the CI-GEF Project Agency.</p> <p>The Alliance requires all sub-grantees to establish and disclose a grievance redress mechanism. To date, no sub-grantees have</p>

¹⁴ O= Overdue; D= Delayed; NS= Not started on schedule; IS= Under implementation on schedule; and CA= Completed/Achieved

					reported receiving a conflict and complaint case through their Accountability and Grievance Mechanism.
GENDER MAINSTREAMING <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of men and women that participated in project activities (e.g. meetings, workshops, consultations) 2. Number of men and women that received benefits (e.g. employment, income generating activities, training, access to natural resources, land tenure or resource rights, equipment, leadership roles) from the project 3. Number of strategies, plans (e.g. management plans and land use plans) and policies derived from the project that include gender considerations (this indicator applies to relevant projects) 	<p>The project sets a target for at least 33% of project participants to be women.</p> <p>The project sets a target for at least 50% of project beneficiaries to be women.</p> <p>The project sets a target for all applicable strategies, plans, and policies from the project to include gender considerations.</p>	<p>1. 6,528 individuals have participated in project activities (2,967 women, 3561 men)</p> <p>2. The project counts 12,689 individuals as direct beneficiaries of the project (38.5% women, 60% men, and 1.5% gender unknown) and an additional 2.3 million individuals as indirect beneficiaries based on small scale/artisanal fisheries estimates and proximity to project locations.</p> <p>3. A total of 31 sets of project plans (which include engagement frameworks,</p>	<p>1. 6,528 individuals have participated in project activities (2,967 women, 3561 men)</p> <p>2. The project counts 12,689 individuals as direct beneficiaries of the project (38.5% women, 60% men, and 1.5% gender unknown) and an additional 2.3 million individuals as indirect beneficiaries based on small scale/artisanal fisheries estimates and proximity to project locations.</p> <p>3. A total of 31 sets of project</p>	IS	<p>To date, 45.5% of reported participants have been women, exceeding the goal set in the project target. As additional reports from subgrantees come in over the coming months, this number will be tracked accordingly.</p> <p>At the moment, it is estimated that the percentage of project beneficiaries that are women falls below 50%, the project continues to look for opportunities to incorporate gender considerations into activities which impact direct beneficiaries. This estimate is based on the number of direct beneficiaries (disaggregated by gender) reported by project partners as well as assumptions made in calculating the number of indirect beneficiaries based on the best available information for the gender composition of works in small scale and artisanal fisheries.</p> <p>Prior to receiving funding from the project, all subgrantees are required to complete a Gender Mainstreaming Plan to ensure that</p>

		stakeholder engagement plans, and gender mainstreaming plans) have been completed.	plans (which include engagement frameworks, stakeholder engagement plans, and gender mainstreaming plans) have been completed.		all project activities set targets, strategies, and plans which include applicable gender considerations. The Alliance's Code of Conduct further institutes gender sensitive policies that are applied across the project. Further, all subgrantees include gender focused indicators in their reporting as well as gender disaggregated information on project participants and beneficiaries.
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, indigenous peoples and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in the project implementation phase on an annual basis. 2. Number persons (sex disaggregated) that have been involved in project implementation phase (on an annual basis) 3. Number of engagement (e.g. meeting, workshops, consultations) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase (on an annual basis) 	<p>The targets for these indicators are determined by the Stakeholder Engagement Plans developed by project grantees and are based on the stakeholder engagement required for successful and inclusive conservation in each location.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 652 government agencies, CSOs, stakeholder groups, etc. have been involved in project implementation. 2. 6,688 people have been involved in project implementation (2,917 women, 3,496 men, 275 gender unknown) 3. 1,200 stakeholder 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 652 government agencies, CSOs, stakeholder groups, etc. have been involved in project implementation. 2. 6,688 people have been involved in project implementation (2,917 women, 3,496 men, 275 gender unknown) 	IS/D	<p>Current project accounting counts 652 government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, Indigenous peoples, and other stakeholder groups to be involved in project implementation.</p> <p>To date, project accounting counts 6,688 people as involved in the project implementation phase.</p> <p>This is spread across 1,200 unique engagements during stakeholder reported by project partners.</p> <p>While these numbers are on track, this indicator is marked as partially delayed due to the identified need</p>

		engagement activities (consultations, workshops, meetings, etc.) have been recorded by project partners.	3. 1,200 stakeholder engagement activities (consultations, workshops, meetings, etc.) have been recorded by project partners.		<p>to revisit project accounting methodology to ensure all stakeholder engagement is being appropriately accounted for, with the ability to disaggregate stakeholder engagements by year.</p> <p>In the coming year, methodology for tracking both stakeholder engagement and project beneficiaries (disaggregated by gender) will be revisited to ensure the best possible accounting is taking place to track project impact. The numbers listed above are believed to be conservative, not capturing all true stakeholder interactions across the project.</p>
ESS 1: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (delete if not applicable) – (limited) completed for every site.	As the project, proposed to create or expand 750 million hectares of ocean conservation areas and improve the management of 500 million hectares, to keep with the CI-GEF ESMF Policy, the project will prepare ESIA's for each area.	34 limited ESIA's have been completed.	34 limited ESIA's have been completed.	IS	<p>A limited ESIA, included as part of the engagement framework developed for review by the Blue Nature Alliance Steering Council, is completed for each engagement prior to the start of implementation. The limited ESIA's addresses all safeguards questions and provide information for selection of sites and interventions.</p> <p>A more in-depth safeguards packet including a safeguards screening form, stakeholder engagement plan, gender mainstreaming plan, and grievance mechanism requirement is provided to all implementing partners with a requirement that the packet be completed prior to the first disbursement of grant funding. To date, 31 safeguards packets have been completed (one for each engagement in implementation) and an additional 20+ safeguards</p>

					screening forms have been completed by non-site-based partners under 'Global Enabling Conditions'. No further safeguards plans have been deemed necessary following the initial screening form completed by project partners.
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b. Information on Progress, challenges, and outcomes on stakeholder engagement.

Per the stakeholder engagement requirements detailed in the Blue Nature Alliance's Project Document, the Alliance is required to 'develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan for each project geography' and 'monitor and report on the minimum stakeholder engagement indicators'. To date, all Alliance site engagements in implementation have completed a Stakeholder Engagement Plan and report regularly on their progress towards meeting the minimum indicators. As a result, this area of the Alliance's stakeholder engagement commitment is on track and meeting requirements under the GEF.

As site engagements advance in their implementation, it is expected that a deeper understanding of stakeholder engagement across all Alliance investments will develop over the coming year, as more partners report at least a full year of implementation and the Alliance will continue to carefully monitor this reporting, either through written reports on the Stakeholder Engagement Plans or through verbal reporting to the Alliance's Safeguards Manager to provide an opportunity for project partners to ask questions, seek additional clarity, and discuss their project progress. In the case verbal reporting takes places, the Safeguards Manager keeps a written record on the conversation and project progress.

Challenges with stakeholder engagement include (1) ensuring that Stakeholder Engagement Plans are a meaningful exercise for site engagement partners, rather than viewed as a checked box to be completed and (2) ensuring that reporting on the minimum indicators for stakeholder engagement is accurate and that all site engagement partners have a uniform understanding of how the indicators should be calculated and reported.

The first challenge will be addressed by continuing to provide support to site engagement partners as they complete their Stakeholder Engagement Plans, ensuring that they have the resources needed to understand the content being requested and to think critically about their stakeholder engagement strategies and areas for improvement as they complete the plan. The second challenge will be to revisit the Alliance methodology for calculating beneficiaries of project activities to ensure that the updated definitions/methodologies are clearly conveyed to partners. When reviewing reporting, the Safeguards Manager will check to make sure the numbers reported are backed with additional information on the activities/specific interventions conducted to advance the stakeholder engagement targets.

c. Information on the progress towards achieving gender sensitive measures/targets.

Per the gender mainstreaming requirements detailed in the Blue Nature Alliance's Project Document, the Alliance is required to 'prepare a Gender Mainstreaming Plan for each project geography' and 'monitor and report on the minimum gender indicators'. To date, all Alliance site engagements have completed a Gender Mainstreaming Plan including all minimum indicators and optional additional indicators where relevant. Once site engagements are in implementation, partners report regularly on their progress through written reports or verbal reporting to the Safeguards Manager to provide an opportunity for project partners to ask questions, seek additional clarity, and discuss their project progress. In the case verbal reporting takes places, the Safeguards Manager keeps a written record on the conversation and project progress. As a result, this area of the Alliance's gender mainstreaming commitment is on track and meeting requirements under the GEF.

Similar to stakeholder engagement, the gender sensitive measures/targets include the challenges of (1) ensuring that Gender Mainstreaming Plans are a meaningful exercise for site engagement partners, rather than viewed as a checked box to be completed and (2) ensuring that reporting on the minimum indicators for gender are accurate and that all site engagement partners have a uniform understanding of how the indicators should be calculated and reported.

These challenges will be addressed by continuing to provide support to site engagement partners as they complete their Gender Mainstreaming Plans, ensuring that they have the resources needed to understand the content being requested and to think critically about their gender mainstreaming strategies and areas for improvement as they complete the plan – also recognizing that not all project activities have a logical and/or necessary gender component. The Alliance will also continue to refine methodology for calculating beneficiaries of the project which will feed into better monitoring and reporting of gender mainstreaming targets. . When reviewing reporting, the Safeguards Manager will check to make sure the numbers reported are backed with additional information on the activities/specific interventions conducted to advance the gender mainstreaming targets.

d. Information on the implementation of the accountability and grievance mechanism

The project has developed an AGM and has made the AGM available on the project website - <https://www.bluenaturealliance.org/grievance-mechanism>. Further, resources are available on the project website for the [Blue Nature Alliance Code of Conduct](#), [Blue Nature Alliance Grievance Mechanism Manual](#), [CI-GEF Agency Environment and Social Management Framework](#), and [CI Guidelines for Recognizing & Responding to Gender-Based Violence](#). These materials are shared with all project partners through a meeting with the Safeguards Manager prior to the issuing of any subgrants. To date, the project has received one grievance through its AGM which was deemed to not necessitate redress as it pertained to the business practices of a donor to the Blue Nature Alliance which falls outside of the purview of the project.

All project partners, as part of the requirements under subgrantee grant agreements, are required to develop an AGM that follows the guidelines for acceptable AGMs outlined in the Project Document and is suited to the context of their individual project. As part of this process, a plan is developed outline best strategies for disseminating information on the AGM to project stakeholders and beneficiaries. To ensure that the AGMs developed are effective and meet all requirements, the Safeguards Manager works closely and provides support to the project partners as they develop their AGMs. In the case the project partner has an already active AGM that meets requirements, they are welcome to use their existing AGM. In the case a grievance is received through a project partner AGM, they are requested to share information on this grievance with the Safeguards Managers.

Challenges thus far have included conveying the importance of/necessity for an active AGM to reluctant project partners and the Safeguards Manager has overcome this challenge by working to educate project partners on the benefits of an AGM as part of a broader safeguard strategy.

e. Lessons learned and Knowledge Management products¹⁵ developed and disseminated.

The Blue Nature Alliance has developed a [Code of Conduct](#) which guides project targets/activities and is available as a resource to all project partners. Further, the Alliance has made available the [CI-GEF Project Agency's Environmental and Social Management Framework](#) through its website as a resource for all project partners as well as an externally facing [grievance mechanism](#).

¹⁵ Knowledge Products are those that are both intended to transmit knowledge but at the same time enable action by their audiences. For example, a lessons learned report, compilation of good practices and recommendations, etc.

All site engagement partners are required to have a grievance mechanism in place, either by creating a mechanism which meets their projects needs or sharing access to their parent organizations' or the Alliance's grievance mechanism.

To date, an IW:LEARN Results Note has been developed detailing the Alliance's process and experience incorporating human dimensions into project activities through the Code of Conduct and additional lessons are intended to be captured as the project advances.

f. Overall Project ESMF Implementation Rating

SUMMARY: PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING BY TYPE OF PLAN

ESMF PLAN REQUIRED BY THE PROJECT (delete those not applicable)	CURRENT F23 IMPLEMENTATION RATING	RATING TREND
Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	S	Not applicable as this is the first PIR completed for the project.
Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP)	S	Not applicable as this is the first PIR completed for the project.
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	S	Not applicable as this is the first PIR completed for the project.
ESS 1: Full/limited ESIA and Environmental & Social Management Plan (ESMP)	S	Not applicable as this is the first PIR completed for the project.

OVERALL PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING

RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	The project has an AGM in place and has shared it with all its partners through meetings with the Safeguards Manager. The project is also supporting sub-grantees to develop their own AGMs as part of compliance with requirements established in their grant agreements. This FY the project received a grievance which was classified as ineligible, falling outside of the project's scope but points to stakeholders' awareness and functioning of the AGM. On the GMP, the project surpassed its target on the indicator of women's participation, but falling short on the percentage of women beneficiaries, when compared to the target. The number of beneficiaries is currently an estimate, and the project is working on improving their reporting on this indicator. The project has supported the development of 31 gender mainstreaming plans, by its subgrantees, which demonstrates it is currently on track to achieve the target for the third indicator of its GMP (although the target is currently open to all strategies/plans that apply). On the SEP, the project has engaged a large number of stakeholders, through several engagements, which is adequate for a large-scale initiative as this one. The project is pending to set SEP targets, as these will be determined by the subgrantees' SEPs. Finally, on ESS1 the project has completed 34 limited ESIAs, which are a requirement before starting implementation. The project has also requested safeguards packages to 31 subgrantees (including safeguards screening forms and plans) and has also requested screening forms to non-site-based partners under the "Global Enabling Conditions" component.	Not applicable as this is the first PIR completed for the project.

g. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Establish the missing ESMF targets for the SEP, now that sub-grantees have completed their SEPs.	PMU	December 2023
Now that the project has received safeguards screenings from sub-grantees and from other relevant partners, the Safeguards Manager needs to identify the ESS risks of the portfolio and communicate those to the Agency, and prioritize topics, geographies, or sub-grantees to provide support and supervision, accordingly.	Safeguards Manager	June 2024

SECTION V: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCES, KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT, AND LESSONS LEARNED

Required topics

Knowledge activities/products (when applicable), as outlined in the knowledge management plan approved at CEO endorsement/approval.

- Results and Experience Notes produced thus far for the project touch upon the following topics:
 - Partnership & Capacity Building with Big Ocean Managers (Experience Note)
 - Execution and Next Steps of the Oct. 2022 MPA Managers Xchange (Experience Note)
 - Incorporating Human Dimensions Through a Code of Conduct (Results Note)
 - Trends and Emerging Instruments in Ocean Conservation Funding (Results Note)
 - Blue Nature Alliance FY22 Impact Report (Results Note)
 - Blue Nature Alliance FY23 Impact Report (Results Note)

All Results and Experience Notes produced can be found as attachments to this report. Further knowledge management materials produced by the project/project partners include the [Blue Nature Alliance Code of Conduct](#), [Speak Up for Blue 1207: Regional Approaches to Ocean Conservation](#), [Bennett et al., 2021 Advancing Social Equity in and Through Marine Conservation](#), [Perceptions of IUU Fishing in the Small Scale Fisheries of the Western Indian Ocean](#), [CBD COP Session – Making it Meaningful: Advancing Ocean Conservation through Sustainable Financing](#), [GLISPA Webinar – Weathering Political Uncertainty of Large Scale Conservation Projects](#), [Our Big Ocean Managers Xchange video](#), and numerous [blogs](#) by Blue Nature Alliance staff.

Additional topics:

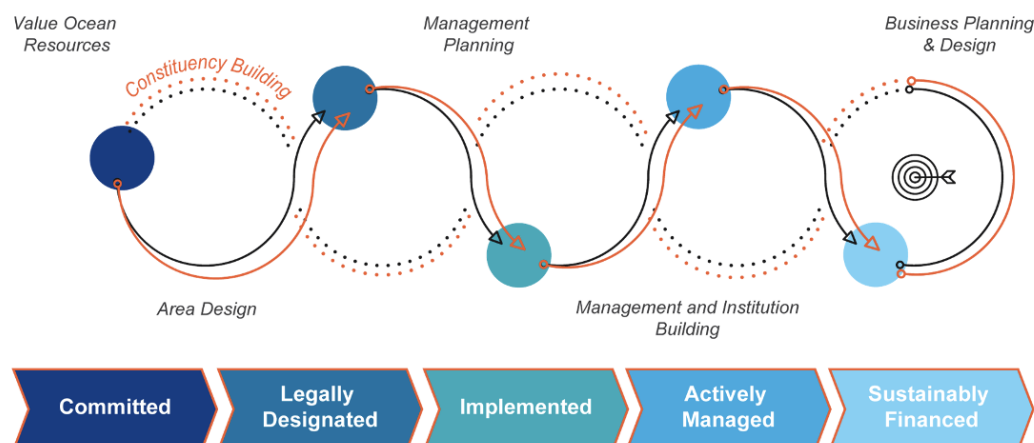
1. Financial management, co-financing, and leverage funding.

FY23 was a significant year for conservation. With the adoption of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Global Biodiversity Framework calling for 30x30, and the landmark decision in June 2023 to create a new high seas treaty at the United Nations for the protection of biodiversity beyond national

jurisdiction, it's clear that momentum for ocean conservation is growing. And, along with it, the need for resources to stand up institutions securing new protections and improving management of existing areas.

The global target for 30x30 is generating additional interest from funders who are increasingly entering the ocean space, opening new opportunities to explore leverage partnerships to achieve more durable conservation outcomes. The Alliance is playing an important role in thoughtfully stewarding relationships across the funder community to increase collaboration and impact of the dollars dedicated to ocean conservation at scale. The growing funder landscape has also required the Alliance to be sharper in its focus and clearer in the distinct niche that the project fills. Thus far, the Alliance's strength has lied in its ability to serve as a catalyst partner that can work flexibly with government and local partners across all phases of a site's conservation journey, from initial commitment to durability.

THE CONSERVATION JOURNEY



Due to the project structure, which allows the Alliance to scope and respond more quickly than a standard GEF funded project to emerging needs and opportunities, through approvals by the project Steering Council, the Alliance is able to address site engagement needs, offering a unique blend of financial resources and deep technical support from experts across Alliance partners. This structure has allowed the Alliance to bring opportunities forward through the LSMPA Funders Roundtable and partner with other funders (ex. Oceans 5, Enduring Earth, Blue Action Fund) to fill funding gaps in a range of locations including, but not limited to, Seychelles, the European Union, and Colombia, providing the necessary financial resources to assist these ocean conservation areas in successfully achieving their goals.

To date, the Alliance has secured \$140.7 M in leverage funding, in compliment to the \$40.7 committed across all Alliance site engagements and growing the field investments, representing a ratio of 2.32:1 leveraged to committed funds. This number is additional to the \$115.5 M in co-financing secured at project start. As the project advances, the Alliance will continue to seek opportunities to collaborate with other ocean conservation areas funders, including philanthropic organizations, governments, and the private sector, to secure the funding necessary to achieve success in Alliance site engagements as well as advance and build the broader funder landscape.

2. Capacity building.

Across all investments, the Alliance is committed to ensuring ocean conservation areas – inclusive of MPAs and other OECMs – are well designed, effectively managed, and equitable. The Alliance’s capacity development & learning workstream supports the advancement of ocean conservation area management effectiveness by partnering with regional and global capacity delivery providers to support site engagements and build the global enabling conditions for ocean conservation area capacity development and delivery. This includes designing and delivering capacity assessments and action plans, capturing and sharing lessons learned, and building communities of practice to equip MPA capacity networks and MPA managers with the tools, expertise, and resources necessary to catalyze durable management effectiveness.

In FY23, the Alliance welcomed a new Capacity Development & Learning Manager to advance this scope of work and, as a result, the project has refined its capacity building strategy. The strategy identifies three persistent challenges in the delivery of capacity development for ocean conservation at scale:

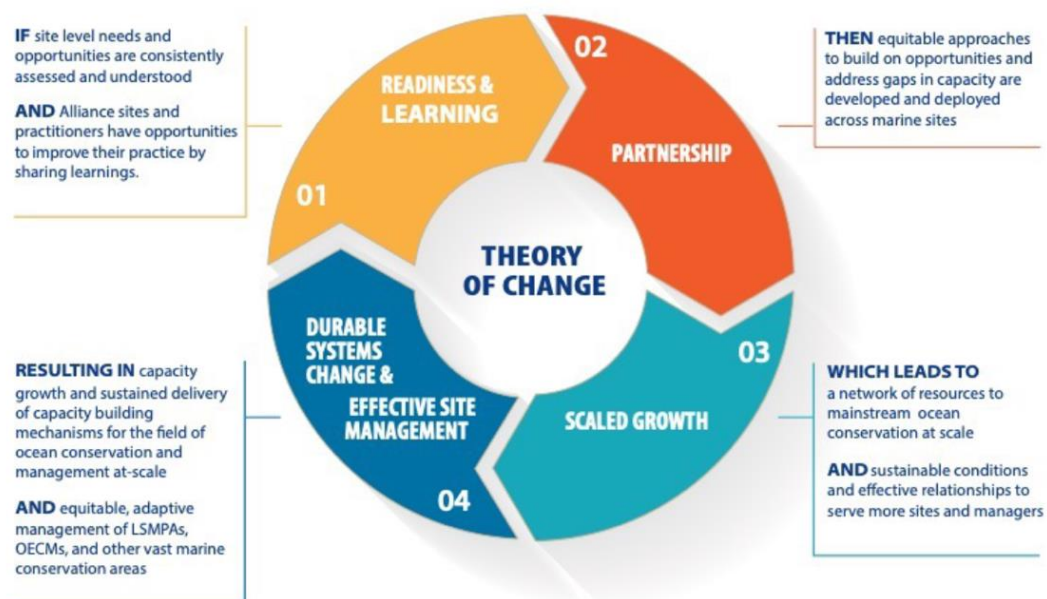
1. The field of ocean conservation at scale is relatively new and, as a result, available tools and approaches are limited.
2. Capacity building is rarely sustained beyond the initial intervention and is often not well coordinated, interventions are frequently project based and time limited leading to a disruption in effective implementation.
3. As we work to increase the number and scale of MPAs in response to 30x30, it will be a challenge to keep pace in terms of the number of MPA staff/practitioners available, leading to a decline in capacity per site. A recent study demonstrated that, for terrestrial protected areas, 6-10 times the current number of managers will be needed to effectively meet needs under 30x30. The exact figure for MPAs is unknown but is likely equivalent or higher.

To address these challenges, the Alliance is implementing an approach which strives to understand and address the needs of site engagements, enhance learning and collaboration, and cultivate knowledge sharing materials. This includes a significant emphasis on not only building capacity, but also sustaining the delivery of capacity building approaches with all grants including efforts to build the durability of our delivery partners (ex. Big Ocean, Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association, MPA Connect) and secure long-term financing.

With these challenges and goals in mind, the following theory of change has been developed to guide all Alliance capacity building work:

As the project advances, this theory of change will continue to be applied across Alliance site engagements and efforts to advancing global enabling conditions, with a commitment to share lessons learned and knowledge materials with the broader GEF International Waters community.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT & LEARNING FOR MANAGING OCEANS-AT SCALE



SECTION VI: PROJECT GEOCODING

This section of the PIR documents the precise and specific geographic location(s) of activities supported by GEF investments based on information provided in the Project Document. The following information should be contained in this section:

- Geo Location Information of Project Location(s) for the current fiscal year
- Project Map and Coordinates from Project Document

Geo Location Information of Project Location(s) for the current fiscal year (add additional columns as needed)

Geo Location Information					
ALLIANCE ENGAGEMENT NAME <i>Name of engagement in Blue Nature Alliance internal systems.</i>	CLASSIFICATION <i>Indicate whether the site is new or already existing in the previous PIR or indicate whether the site is included at CEO Endorsement/ Approval or not. Please add more columns for projects with more than 3 locations.</i> <i>Note: Provide justification if the location is a new site in this line</i>	GEO NAME ID <i>Provide the location's Geo Name ID in a numerical format. IDs are available in the GeoNames' geographical database covering all countries and containing millions of placenames with free access at: http://www.geonames.org</i>	LOCATION NAME <i>Name of the geographic locations in which the activity is taking place. In instance when a GeoNames ID is provided above, the name of the said ID should be reflected. Otherwise, the location name provided will be considered as an exact location.</i>	LATITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	LONGITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>
Antarctica's Southern Ocean	Existing	4036624	Weddell Sea	-73.0000	-45.0000
Australian Sub Antarctic Islands	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	12097293	Macquarie Island Marine Park	-55.8824	161.3308
Benguela Current	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	3351663	Benguela	-12.5763	13.4055
Canada's Arctic & Atlantic	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	5978134	Hudson Bay	60.0004	-85.9998
Caribbean	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	7729891	Caribbean	20.3858	-72.3340
Chile Portfolio of MPAs	Existing	3886788	Archipiélago Juan Fernández	-33.6706	-78.8770
Cocos Island, Costa Rica	Existing	3624182	Isla del Coco	5.5280	-87.0628
Colombia	New, approved by Steering Council for	3675570	Isla Malpelo	4.0033	-81.6072

	implementation following project start.				
Cordillera de Coiba, Panama	Existing	3712093	Isla de Coiba	7.4661	-81.7884
European Union	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	6255148	Europe	48.6910	9.1406
Great Bear Sea, Canada	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	6115071	Queen Charlotte Sound	51.4996	-128.5033
Gulf of Guinea	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	2363255	Gulf of Guinea	2.0000	2.5000
Indonesia	New, approved for Steering Council for implementation following project start.	1643084	Republic of Indonesia	-5.0000	120.0000
Ireland	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	2963597	Ireland	53.0000	-8.0000
Islas Diego Ramirez, Chile	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	3892449	Islas Diego Ramirez	-56.4830	-68.7226
Lau Seascape, Fiji	Existing	4036132	Lau Province	-18.2049	-178.7925
Natural Park of the Coral Sea, New Caledonia	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	2139685	New Caledonia	-21.5000	165.6000
Niue	Existing	4036232	Niue	-19.0333	-169.8667
North Atlantic Current & Evlanov Seabasin (NACES MPA)	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	3411923	North Atlantic Ocean	40.0000	-40.0000

Palau National Marine Sanctuary	Existing	1559582	Republic of Palau	7.5030	134.6210
Panama's Caribbean	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	3715208	Volcan Bank	9.5667	-80.3833
Revillagigedo, Mexico	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	3988751	Revillagigedo Islands	18.5784	-112.5075
Ross Sea, Antarctica	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	4036625	Ross Sea	-75.0000	-175.0000
Seychelles	Existing	241170	Republic of Seychelles	-4.5833	55.6667
South Georgia & Sandwich Islands	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	3474415	South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands	-56.0000	-33.0000
Tristan da Cunha	Existing	3370684	Tristan da Cunha	-37.1128	-12.2834
Two Seas, Mexico	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	4016118	Gulf of California	26.7750	-110.5664
Uruguay	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	3439705	Oriental Republic of Uruguay	-33.0000	-56.0000
Pacific Remote Islands National Marine Sanctuary	New, approved by Steering Council for implementation following project start.	7576242	Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument	16.7200	-169.5030
Western Indian Ocean	Existing	8426502	Mozambique Channel	-19.0000	41.0000

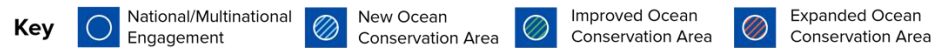
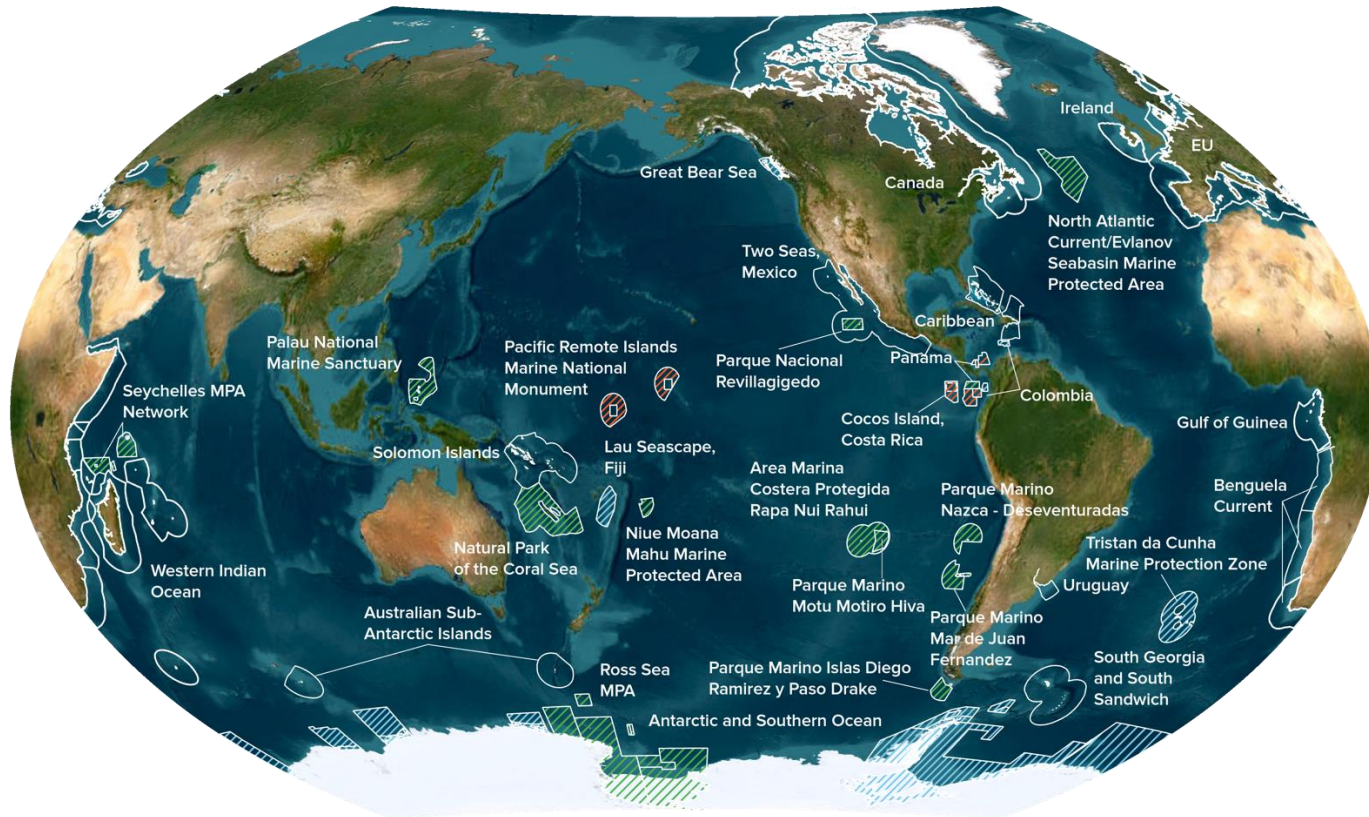
Please provide a justification regarding changes in location during implementation. Justifications should also be provided in the event the geographic location of key project activities cannot be provided at CEO Endorsement/Approval stage.

The project has a global geographic scope, with a portfolio of engagements scoped and approved on a rolling-basis during the PPG and implementation phases of the project. As this report represents the first PIR for the project, all engagements added during the implementation phase of the project are marked as new and engagements in implementation prior to project start are marked as existing. The site scoping processes used to identify these new engagement areas can be found detailed in the project document and was approved with CEO Endorsement/Approval. Prior to being added as an implementation location, all prospective engagements are required to complete a full engagement framework (Blue Nature Alliance Project Document Appendix VI-a Engagement Framework Template) which is reviewed and approved by the project Steering Council, of which the GEF Manager of Programs is a member.

Additional engagement locations are expected to be added over the next years of implementation, to be reflected in new locations added in later Project Implementation Reports.

Project Map and Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and image map where the project interventions took place. If available, please provide attachments as appropriate such as in the case of locations presented along geometric shapes in popular formats like shapefiles, KML and GeoJSON



APPENDIX I: PROJECT ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING

Rating		Overdue (O)	Delayed (D)	Not started on schedule (NS)	Under implementation on schedule (IS)	Completed/Achieved (CA)
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	HS	0%		100%		
Satisfactory (S)	S	20%		80%		
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	MS	40%		60%		
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	MU	60%		40%		
Unsatisfactory (U)	U	80%		20%		
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	HU	100%		0%		

- **Highly Satisfactory:** 100% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project. The project can be presented as an example of “good practice” project,
- **Satisfactory:** 80% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; except for only 20% that are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Moderately Satisfactory:** 60% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 40% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Moderately Unsatisfactory:** 40% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 60% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Unsatisfactory:** only 20% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 80% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action, and
- **Highly Unsatisfactory:** 100% of the indicators: a) are overdue, and/or b) delayed in their implementation, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project.

APPENDIX II: RISK RATINGS

Rating	
Low (L)	L
Moderate (M)	M
Substantial (S)	S
High (H)	H

- **Low Risk (L):** There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
- **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 modest risks.
- **Substantial Risk (S):** There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
- **High Risk:** There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.

APPENDIX III: PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING PROJECT EXPECTED OUTPUTS

INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Insert output indicators as they appear in the ProDoc	Insert output indicator targets as they appear in the ProDoc, if available	Describe the change in the output indicator over the last year	Progress towards achieving the output	Provide a justification for the status of the indicator as needed
Outcome 1.1: Engagement frameworks (i.e., new or existing conservation areas) that met the Blue Nature Alliance criteria have been collaboratively developed and endorsed.				
Output Indicator 1.1.1: Number of sites where the Blue Nature Alliance completes desktop assessments.	30 desktop assessments.	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, there were 65 engagements in various stages of the Alliance's active scoping pipeline from desktop assessment through implementation and target reached, including several sites for which desktop assessments have been conducted but which have been put on hold (Russia, Wallis et Futuna, Peru, etc.).</p> <p>Not inclusive of desktop assessments completed prior to project start, 38 desktop assessments have been completed.</p>	IS	<p>The project has exceeded the project target for number of desktop assessments completed.</p> <p>This total is inclusive of desktop assessments completed prior to the GEF project start and the higher number is representative of a need to increase the number of anticipated site-based engagements to meet project targets, fewer LSMPA engagements and a wider array of ocean conservation area types ranging from LMMAs to transboundary MPAs.</p>
Output Indicator 1.1.2: Number of sites where the Blue Nature Alliance completes advanced scoping.	25 sites.	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, advanced scoping to identify critical activities has been completed in a total of 37 sites, including four on hold, with advanced scoping for 6 of these sites being completed in FY23.</p> <p>Not inclusive of advanced scoping completed prior to project start, advanced scoping has been completed in 22 sites.</p>	IS	<p>The project on track to exceed the project target for number of sites with advanced scoping completed.</p> <p>The increased number inclusive of advanced scoping completed prior to project start, represents the range of ocean conservation area size, with engagements not limited to LSMPAs.</p> <p>In FY24, efforts are anticipated to continue to shift from the completion of new scoping to the implementation of active engagements and advancing of previously scoped prospective sites.</p>

¹⁶ **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieve

Output Indicator 1.1.3: Number of site-based engagement frameworks developed.	20 engagement frameworks.	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, the Alliance has secured invitation to begin the development of engagement frameworks in 10 additional sites, bringing the total to 34 sites, three of which being on hold until conditions/political will change in favor of moving forward with further engagement framework development.</p> <p>Not inclusive of the 15 engagement frameworks completed prior to project start, 19 engagement frameworks have been completed which are counted towards the GEF project target.</p>	IS	<p>The project is anticipated to exceed the target for number of engagement frameworks developed, the target has already been exceeded inclusive of engagement frameworks competed prior to project start.</p> <p>10 engagement frameworks (Australian Sub Antartics, Benguela Current, Antarctica's Ross Sea, Caribbean Region, Solomon Islands, South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands, Mexico's Two Seas, Uruguay, Indonesia, and Philippine Rise) were developed in FY23.</p> <p>3 additional engagement frameworks are in development but were not yet complete at the conclusion of FY23 (Samoa, Dutch Caribbean, and Azores).</p>
Output Indicator 1.1.4: Number of engagement sites endorsed for investment.	20 engagement sites.	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, endorsement by the Blue Nature Alliance Steering Council had been secured for a total of 31 engagement sites.</p> <p>Not inclusive of the 12 engagement sites endorsed for investment prior to project start, 19 engagement sites have been endorsed for investment which are counted towards the GEF project target.</p>	IS	<p>The project is on track to exceed the target for number of engagement frameworks endorsed for investment, the target has already been exceeded inclusive of engagement frameworks endorsed prior to project start.</p> <p>In FY23, endorsement was secured for 9 new engagement frameworks (Australian Sub Antarctic Islands, Panama's Banco Vulcan, Benguela Current, Ross Sea, Solomon Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, Mexico's Two Seas, Uruguay, and Indonesia) as well as increased support through a phase two in four existing engagements (Antarctica's Southern Ocean, Costa Rica, Niue, and Palau).</p>
Outcome 2.1: New or expanded ocean conservation areas legally recognized.				

<p>Output Indicator 2.1.1a: Number of engagement sites that receive Blue Nature Alliance investment in order to achieve legal recognition of a new or expanded ocean conservation area.</p>	<p>10 engagement sites (although less is acceptable if the spatial target 2.1 is on track).</p>	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, the Blue Nature Alliance has invested in 17 engagement sites in order achieve legal recognition of a new or expanded ocean conservation area (16 w/o Tristan da Cunha counted) These investments have led to full or partial targets reached for the legal recognition of a new or expanded ocean conservation area in seven site engagements (Canada's Great Bear Sea, Canada's Artic & Atlantic, Southern Gulf of Guinea, Australian Sub Antartics, Colombia, Panama's Banco Vulcan, and Panama's Cordillera de Coiba) totaling 66,862,200 hectares. This total is not inclusive of Tristan da Cunha which achieved target reached prior to the start of the project.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The project is on track to achieve end of project targets and the rate of achieving target reached at new expanded engagement sites is anticipated to accelerate in FY24 and following years.</p> <p>As of now, full target reached has only been achieved in three engagements (Colombia, Panama's Banco Vulcan, and Panama's Cordillera de Coiba + Tristan da Cunha which is not counted as target was reached prior to project start). The four partial target reached engagements are anticipated to achieve targets in additional ocean conservation areas in FY24 and additional site engagements are anticipated to achieve full or partial target reached.</p>
<p>Output Indicator 2.1.1b: Percentage of engagement sites that achieve legal recognition of a new or expanded ocean conservation area.</p>	<p>75% of engagement sites.</p>	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, 11.8% or 2 out of 15 engagement sites (not inclusive of Tristan da Cunha) have achieved full target reached for legal recognition of new or expanded ocean conservation area.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The project is on track to achieve its end of project target. Due to the average timeframe planned for an engagement prior to achieving target reached, it is anticipated that the percentage of site engagements that achieve legal recognition of new or expanded ocean conservation area will experience significant increases in FY24 and FY25.</p>

Output Indicator 2.1.2: Percentage of the engagement sites that achieve legal recognition that document a management effectiveness baseline.	100% of engagement sites that achieve legal recognition document their management effectiveness baseline.	At the conclusion of FY23, 100% of engagement sites that active legal recognition documented a management effectiveness baseline. A full management effectiveness score is incomplete/in progress for some engagement sites that lack a management plan or other supporting documentation.	IS	The Alliance works in partnership with the Marine Conservation Institute to conduct management effectiveness assessments to determine a management effectiveness baseline and level of protection for all Alliance site engagements.
Output Indicator 2.1.3: For a subset of the engagement sites that achieve legal recognition, additional financial and/or technical support is provided to implementing partners in order to develop long-term sustainable financing plans.	50% of engagement sites that achieve legal recognition also have a plan for reaching long-term sustainable financing.	At the conclusion of FY23, 100% of Alliance engagements that have achieved legal recognition have developed or area pursuing interventions with consideration to develop a plan for reaching long-term sustainable financing.	IS	All site engagements which have achieved full or partial target reached pertaining to legal recognition continue to have ongoing activities pertaining to the durable management of the ocean conservation area, including activities pursuing sustainable financing strategies. Support for this work is provided by Alliance staff focused on conservation finance and a partnership with McKinsey & Company's Nature Analytics team.
Outcome 3.1: Previously established ocean conservation areas have upgraded protections and/or improved management, as evidenced by the legal ratification for upgraded protection level, and/or for measurably improved management, as measured by the achievement of a site-specific target for improved management effectiveness.				
Output Indicator 3.1.1: Number of engagement sites that receive Blue Nature Alliance investment with the aim of upgrading protections or improving management.	10 engagement sites (although less is acceptable if the spatial targets 2.1 and 3.1 are on track).	At the conclusion of FY23, the Blue Nature Alliance has invested in 14 engagement sites with the aim of upgrading protection or improving management. These investments have led to full or partial targets reached three site engagements (Panama's Cordillera de Coiba, NACES MPA, and Australian Sub Antarctic's Macquarie Island) totaling 68,742,100 hectares.	IS	The project has exceeded project targets for number of engagement frameworks developed and is on track to achieve end of project targets and the rate of achieving target reached is anticipated to accelerate in FY24 and following years.

Output Indicator 3.1.2a: Percentage engagement sites that conduct an assessments of management effectiveness before and after Blue Nature Alliance engagement.	100% of engagement sites.	At the conclusion of FY23, 100% of engagement sites that receiving support with the aim of upgrading protections or improving management documented a management effectiveness baseline. A full management effectiveness score is incomplete/in progress for some engagement sites that lack a management plan or other supporting documentation.		<p>The Alliance works in partnership with the Marine Conservation Institute to conduct management effectiveness assessments to determine a management effectiveness baseline and level of protection for all Alliance site engagements.</p> <p>In FY24, a second assessment will be conducted for those engagements which have achieved target reached to represent a baseline after Alliance investment.</p>
Output Indicator 3.1.2b: Percentage of engagement sites that achieve their target for management effectiveness improvement and/or proposed status upgrade.	75% of engagement sites.	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, 6.7% (2 out of 14) of engagement sites receiving support for management effectiveness improvement and/or proposed status upgrade have achieved their target.</p> <p>Macquarie Island represents a part of a larger Australian Sub Antarctica Engagement that is still underway and Panama's Cordillera de Coiba, while having an improved management component, also focused on the expansion of the MPA.</p>	IS	The project is on track to achieve its end of project target. Due to the average timeframe planned for an engagement prior to achieving target reached, it is anticipated that the percentage of site engagements that achieve management effectiveness improvement and/or proposed status upgrade will experience significant increases in FY24 and FY25.

Output Indicator 3.1.3: Percentage of engagement sites with a plan for reaching long-term sustainable financing.	75% of engagement sites.	At the conclusion of FY23, 0% of Alliance engagements that have achieved management effectiveness improvement and/or proposed status upgrade have developed or are pursuing interventions with consideration to develop a plan for reaching long-term sustainable financing.	NS	<p>With NACES MPA and Panama's Cordillera de Coiba being the first Alliance engagements to achieve full target reached under this outcome, it places this indicator at 0% as the engagement does not have interventions focused on reaching long-term sustainable financing at this time.</p> <p>However, as the engagement prepares to transition into a second phase, financing will be taken into account and all/most engagement sites currently being implemented in this component include considerations for reaching long-term sustainable financing. As a result, it is anticipated that the project is still on track to reach this target by project end.</p>
Outcome 4.1: Collaborative scientific research that advances the field of large-scale and/or transboundary ocean conservation developed and implemented.				
Output Indicator 4.1.1: Number of research projects that advance the field of large-scale ocean conservation.	5 research projects.	At the conclusion of FY23, the Alliance has engaged in six partnerships for research projects (Boston University, University of Victoria, University of California Santa Barbara's Bren School, SEA Education Association, University of Western Australia, and C-BIOME Conservation of a Changing Ocean Project). Additionally, engagement by the Minderoo Foundation, a core partner of the Alliance, has deepened to include collaboration with the foundation's science team.	IS	<p>A new science lead joined the Alliance in FY23 to guide the project's science strategy and a new set of priorities (providing site-based support, filling knowledge gaps in global MPA science, and improving science communication through data transparency and accessibility) has been developed to ensure partnerships contribute directly to the science needs outlined in the Blue Nature Alliance Science Framework.</p> <p>As a result, the project is on track to exceed project targets for research projects that advance the field of large-scale ocean conservation through the partnerships listed and likely new partnerships to be added in FY24.</p>

<p>Output Indicator 4.1.2: Number of peer-reviewed publications that advance the field of large-scale ocean conservation.</p>	<p>10 peer-reviewed publications.</p>	<p>In FY23, the work of the Alliance science team was featured in the following publications Willis et al., <i>The human cost of global fishing</i> and Kennedy & Rotjan, <i>The Impact of Geological Feature Shape on the Abundance and Diversity of Deep Sea Corals</i> as well as recently released TEDx Scaling Conservation: Can we protect our oceans in time?</p> <p>Total publications/knowledge materials tracked, including those in top-tier peer-reviewed journals, reached 68 in FY23.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>Focused solely on work completed by the Alliance Science and Knowledge team under Outcome 4.1 the Alliance is on track to exceed the project target of 10 peer-reviewed publications.</p> <p>When peer-reviewed publications produced by Alliance engagement site implementing partners are also accounted for in this total, the project has already and will continue to far exceed this project target.</p>
<p>Outcome 4.2: Knowledge management and learning for the fields of large-scale and transboundary ocean conservation has been strengthened and expanded.</p>				

<p>Output Indicator 4.2.1: Number of participants disaggregated by sex in learning initiatives supported by the Blue Nature Alliance.</p>	<p>500, of whom at least 33% are women.</p>	<p>Across Alliance investments, 191 women (47.9%) and 208 men (52.1%) have participated in learning initiatives (trainings and certifications) supported by the Alliance.</p> <p>When taking into account all individuals that have attended Alliance presentations, capacity development exercise, and workshops, this number increases to 968 women (6.7%), 973 men (6.7%), and 12,539 gender unknown (86.6%).</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The project is on track to exceed this target by project completion.</p> <p>Notable participation in learning initiatives supported by the Alliance include the following events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2022 Ocean Managers XCHANGE which brought together 36 managers and practitioners from 17 countries and a convening of 30+ capacity development organizations at IMPAC5 in Vancouver, CA. • The Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association has hosted multiple certifications events through WIO-COMPAS with the most recent being Apr. 12 (9 participants) and May 3 (15 participants) as well as an IUU surveillance/enforcement (15 participants). • The MPA Management School of the Southern Cone developed/disseminated 3 pilot courses with over 40 participants. Progress was showcased at the 'Annual Workshop of the MPA Network Twinning Project' (Oct. 22) which extended to an estimated 400 participants). <p>The Colorado State University Center for Protected Area Management (CSU-CPAM) Human Dimensions course is anticipated to be made available in FY24 which will contribute to an increase in participants in learning initiatives supported by the Alliance.</p>
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Output Indicator 4.2.2: Number of new tools, trainings, and innovations developed and disseminated.	5 tools, trainings, or innovations.	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, the Alliance has developed two tools including an MPA Capacity Assessment adapted from NOAA's MPA Checklist and MPA Connect's standard assessment and a Big Ocean Political Conditions Tool co-designed with MPA managers to strengthen the political resilience of MPAs.</p> <p>Piloting of these tools has begun with early stages of dissemination underway.</p>	IS	With several other tools and trainings in development, most notably the CSU-CPAM partnership is in the process of developing an online course to educate large-scale MPA managers on the importance of incorporating human rights/dimensions considerations into their work, the project is on track to exceed this target by project completion.
Output Indicator 4.2.3: Number of organizations and agencies participating in partner convenings and meetings hosted by the Blue Nature Alliance.	At least 20 organizations/agencies.	<p>In total, 221 organizations and agencies have participated in convenings and meetings hosted by the Blue Nature Alliance.</p> <p>Notably, the LSMPA Funders Roundtable met multiple times in FY23 with a focus on geographic regions including but not limited to Pacific Remote Islands, the High Seas, tech platforms for reaching 30x30, and the opportunities to formalize/staff the group which consists of 11 large-scale ocean funders.</p>	IS	The Blue Nature Alliance remains dedicated to convening organizations and agencies working in the field of ocean conversation at scale to ensure impact is maximized through collaboration and the sharing of knowledge and experiences.
Output Indicator 4.2.4a: Number of presentations given by Blue Nature Alliance partners on results and lessons learned.	At least 100 presentations.	At the conclusion of FY23, the Alliance has shared a total of 83 presentations by Blue Nature Alliance staff and partners on results and lessons learned over the course of project implementation. An estimated 14,352 individuals attended these presentations.	IS	<p>The project is on track to exceed this target by project completion.</p> <p>Additional presentations on Blue Nature Alliance results and lessons learned in FY24 include the LME22 Meeting, GEF Assembly, and IW Conference.</p>

Output Indicator 4.2.4b: Number of experience notes produced by the Alliance and shared with IW:LEARN.	At least 10 Experience Notes.	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, two experience notes have been produced by the Alliance and shared with staff of IW:LEARN.</p> <p>The experience notes can be found as an attachment to this report.</p>	IS/D	<p>There have been slight delays in the production of these notes due to (1) interest in allowing more of the project to progress so the notes can capture notable experiences and (2) uncertainty regarding IW:LEARN's preferred process for collecting results and experiences as we approach the next IW conference.</p> <p>Lessons learned are being produced and disseminated through additional channels including video case studies captured during the Ocean Managers XCHANGE, Google Arts and Culture, and Reef Resilience Network's knowledge management hub. These lessons learned will be made available to the IW community and, once further guidance is given on the direction of experience notes, can be transferred into IW:LEARN's preferred format.</p>
Output Indicator 4.2.4c: Number of Results Notes produced by the Alliance and shared with IW:LEARN.	At least 10 Results Notes.	<p>At the conclusion of FY23, four results notes have been produced by the Alliance and shared with staff of IW:LEARN.</p> <p>The results notes can be found as an attachment to this report.</p>	IS/D	<p>There have been slight delays in the production of these notes due to (1) interest in allowing more of the project to progress so the notes can capture notable experiences and (2) uncertainty regarding IW:LEARN's preferred process for collecting results and experiences as we approach the next IW conference.</p> <p>Lessons learned are being produced and disseminated through additional channels including video case studies captured during the Ocean Managers XCHANGE, Google Arts and Culture, and Reef Resilience Network's knowledge management hub. These lessons learned will be made available to the IW community and, once further guidance is given on the direction of results notes, can be transferred into IW:LEARN's preferred format.</p>
Outcome 5.1: Monitoring and evaluation framework for the Blue Nature Alliance in place and used.				

Output Indicator 5.1.1: Alliance monitoring and evaluation plan at both the portfolio and site level implemented.	Alliance-wide monitoring and evaluation plan is implemented.	A monitoring & evaluation framework has been developed for the Blue Nature Alliance with clear indicators and a designated timeline for reporting (quarterly + semi-annually depending on information being monitored) to track progress towards Blue Nature Alliance targets.	IS	<p>The project monitoring & evaluation framework is being implemented across the full project.</p> <p>The reporting associated with this PIR will be utilized as an opportunity to test the methodology in the framework and the monitoring & evaluation plan will be iteratively improved based on lessons learned.</p>
Output Indicator 5.1.2: Percentage of Alliance progress reports that include information from implementation of monitoring and evaluation plan.	100% of progress reports include information from implementation of monitoring and evaluation plan.	To date, 100% of progress reports from Alliance partners and subgrantees include information from the implementation of the monitoring & evaluation plan.	IS/D	<p>The project is on track and meeting requirements under this indicator. However, the partial delay is meant to indicate that, based on lessons learned from the reporting associated with this PIR and the first year of implementation of the project, there will be work taking place during FY24 to revisit the monitoring and evaluation plan, incorporating lessons learned and ensuring that the project Alliance is utilizing the best possible practices to track impact as the portfolio of engagements and partnerships grows.</p>