



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2021 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021



1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	Latin America and the Caribbean
Country (ies):	Venezuela
Project Title:	Sustainable Forest Lands Management and Conservation under an Ecosocial Approach
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/VEN/011/GFF
GEF ID:	5410
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation, Sustainable Forest Management/REDD+
Project Executing Partners:	Ministry of People's Power for Ecosocialism (MINEC)
Project Duration:	5 years
Project coordinates: (Ctrl+Click here)	Imataca Forest Reserve, Bolivar State, Venezuela. N 7° 40' 22" W 61° 7' 19 (GeoNames)' 7.497526, -61.029774 (GoogleMaps) Uploaded 295 coordinate points to the online form, at the address https://unfao.sharepoint.com/:x:/s/GEF/EcKNcQ-UprZMpeYD-PVqL58BuXg6oDqBagBb-GQpmnDLlg?e=edLa4L

Milestone Dates:

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	July 14, 2015
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	October 31, 2016
Proposed Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	April 30, 2021
Revised project implementation end date (if applicable) ²	December 31, 2022
Actual Implementation End Date³:	N/A

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	8,249,316
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc⁴:	25,730,000

¹ As per FPMIS

² In case of a project extension.

³ Actual date at which project implementation ends - only for projects that have ended.

⁴ This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO document/Project Document.

Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2021 (USD m):	5,821,978
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2021⁵	18,201,348

Review and Evaluation

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee Meeting:	June 17, 2021
Expected Mid-term Review date⁶:	N/A
Actual Mid-term review date:	February 05, 2020 – April 30, 2020
Mid-term review or evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022)⁷:	No
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	June- July 2022
Terminal evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022):	Yes
Tracking tools/ Core indicators required⁸	Yes

Ratings

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

Status

Implementation Status (1st PIR, 2nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):	5 th PIR
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Project Contacts

⁵ Please see last section of this report where you are asked to provide updated co-financing estimates. Use the total from this Section and insert here.

⁶ The MTR should take place about halfpoint between EOD and NTE – this is the expected date

⁷ Please note that the FAO GEF Coordination Unit should be contacted six months prior to the expected MTR date

⁸ Please note that the Tracking Tools are required at mid-term and closure for all GEF-4 and GEF-5 projects. Tracking tools are not mandatory for Medium Sized projects = < 2M USD at mid-term, but only at project completion. The new GEF-7 results indicators (core and sub-indicators) will be applied to all projects and programs approved on or after July 1, 2018. Also projects and programs approved from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2018 (GEF-6) must apply core indicators and sub-indicators at mid-term and/or completion

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
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1. Progress Towards Achieving Project Objectives and Outcome (DO)

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

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of indicator(s)*	Baseline level	Mid-term target†	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2021	Progress rating ‡
Overall environmental objective: To mainstream biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, and climate change mitigation in the forestry sector to achieve Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) based on an eco-social approach Development objective: To support government institutions and community organizations in applying innovations in information management, incentive schemes, participative governance, empowerment of forest-dependent peoples, and multiple mechanisms for restoration of areas under degradation processes in key representative forest ecosystems in Venezuela.						
Component 1: National Integrated Forestry Information System (SINIIF)						
Outcome 1.1: Improved capacity for national forest monitoring and evaluation within the framework of the National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Indicator BD-2. II.1: Direct and Indirect Coverage Indicator SFM/REDD+ 2.1 Improved capacities for emissions reduction and increase in carbon stocks	Under the NFI, 1,748 temporary measurement plots (0.5 ha) have been defined at the design level at the national level, with progress in the field on 8% of plots. In the Imataca Forest Reserve (IFR) is estimated forest mass, biodiversity indices, species lists and aboveground biomass carbon for a sub-block of 10,000 ha."		4,465,909 ha of forest ecosystems monitored and assessed through protocols that facilitate the collection and analysis of high quality data, including the generation of thematic biodiversity maps, assessment of GHG fluxes and stocks, identification of critical carbon areas and development of national MRV standards.	Estimated progress is 75%, expressed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The line of work related to the conceptual development and design of the National Integrated Forest Information System (SINIIF) has been developed to 100%, based on the protocols, methodological compendiums and other technical documents that have been generated in the outputs that contribute to this and other outcomes. • Progress continues to be made in the materialization of SINIIF as a public access digital platform, through extension to the FAO-CENDITEL Letter of Agreement (LoA). • In accordance with the recommendation of the Mid Term Review (MTR), the development of the SINIIF was reoriented, moving from functional modules to the thematic modules originally defined, allowing the partial operation of the System with the modules already completed. In this first stage, information is generated for the project itself, as well as for partners such as MINEC and its affiliated entities, and other participating actors such as universities (ULA, UCV, UNEG, UBV) and research institutes, among other interested actors. 	MS

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

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

‡ Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory** (HS), **Satisfactory** (S), **Marginally Satisfactory** (MS), **Marginally Unsatisfactory** (MU), **Unsatisfactory** (U), and **Highly Unsatisfactory** (HU).

Outcome 1.2: Knowledge and valuation of forest related biodiversity and carbon hotspots integrated in an improved forest management at local forest management unit scale as a strategy to mainstream measures for forest biodiversity conservation in forest management plans	Number of hectares (area) under a sustainable management plan Indicator BD-2. <i>II.1: Direct and Indirect Cover</i> SFM/REDD+ 1.2 <i>Best management practices applied in existing forests</i> Indicator LD. <i>I.5.2: Protected habitat</i>	The Forest Management Plan (FMP) are elaborated and implemented without considering the ecological characteristics of the exploited forests. ENAFOR, in Unit-V, as of 2012, considers the principle of multiple use of the forest and forest management planning is carried out according to Blocks or Watersheds, Production Units or Sub-watersheds; and locally zoned according to the physiography through the slope component.		The Forest Management Plan (FMP) of Unit V of the IFR integrates data and information on coverage, changes in use of forest types, deforestation, degraded areas, carbon stocks and forest biodiversity conservation measures covering an area of 167,320 ha.	Estimated progress is 70%, based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategies and methodologies were defined for the evaluation of the conservation status of habitats, as well as a preliminary list of species of wild flora and fauna, discriminated by habitat type.• There is a preliminary proposal for a protocol containing guidelines for zoning management units according to the status and conservation needs of biodiversity and forest ecosystems, and its pilot application in the area assigned to Tukupu, as a basis for the design of the Forest Management Plan and the Operational Forestry Plans.• The final version of the conceptualization of the species attributes to be included in the first version of the SINIF is available through the following aspects: vernacular names, ethnobotany, bromatology, wood anatomy, physical-mechanical properties of the wood, dasometric aspects, species presence and phenology. Similarly, at the forest module level, there is a conceptualization of the attributes associated with the ecosystem services of the forest.• A consultancy is underway to study the fauna of Imataca Forest Reserve as a component of forest management, aimed at its conservation and sustainability.• The FMP of Unit V (ENAFOR) and Unit C-3 (Tukupu) have already been designed and the incorporation of data and information on coverage, changes in the use of forest types, deforestation, degraded areas, carbon stocks and forest biodiversity conservation measures has begun, which will cover a total area of 174,472 ha, corresponding to the sum of the areas assigned to ENAFOR and Tukupu.	MS
Component 2: Strengthening Capacities and Innovative Tools for Sustainable Forest Management						
Outcome 2.1 Community stakeholders, national and local governments involved in sustainable forest management through new participatory management tools, covering at least 167,320 ha of forest in the Imataca V Management Unit of the IFR.	1/SFM/REDD+: Area (number of hectares) under application of good management practices and sustainable forest co-management in forests of the IFR.*	The ENF prepared Operational Forest Plans for the harvesting of the Santa María I (2013-2014) and Santa María II (2014-2015) Units for a total of 6,486.61 ha, in which good forest management practices are applied; however, aspects related to forest co-management have not been addressed.		1) 167,320 ha in Unit V of the IFR, under sustainable forest management / co-management plans.*	Progress is estimated at 60%: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The 1st Operational Forestry Plan (OFP) was prepared in area assigned by MINEC to EPSDC Tukupu.• The Pilot Scheme for Sustainable Forest Management is in the second phase of implementation in the area of the Tukupu Indigenous Forestry Enterprise.• A consultancy is underway for the development of a Reduced Impact Logging Manual for SFM.• New participatory SFM tools are being implemented in 18,136.83 ha, distributed as follows: 10,984.19 ha correspond to the STMI, II and III-Z1 areas of Unit V assigned to ENAFOR, and 7,152.64 ha corresponding to Unit C-3 assigned to EPSDC-Tukupu, which adds to the total area of Unit V.	MS

* Indicators and targets adjusted based on the findings of the MTR and with the approval of the VII Project Steering Committee, held on August 18, 2021, in order to better respond to the measurement of progress in achieving the objectives of the Outcomes and their associated Outputs. See Section 7 for more details on the settings made.

	<p>2) SFM / REDD + 2.1: Enhanced capacities to reduce emissions and increase carbon stocks.</p> <p>Number of institutions, indigenous communities and people with strengthened technical capacities for the implementation of Sustainable Forest Co-management and other participatory forest governance tools. *</p>	<p>The DGB and the ENF have professional and technical staff trained in various topics related to the forestry sector (25 and 15, respectively); there is no information on other forestry-related institutions. The indigenous communities do not have technical capacities in forest management. Sustainable forest co-management has not been addressed at either the institutional or community level.</p>		<p>2) Five (5) institutions, ten (10) indigenous communities and at least five hundred (500) people, representatives of institutions and communities (at least 40% women) with developed and strengthened capacities for forest management and co-management of the IFR. *</p>	<p>A progress of over 100% is estimated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-four (24) institutions have benefited from training their human talent for the implementation of participatory forest governance tools for sustainable forest management and co-management. • Technical capacities have been developed and strengthened in ten (10) Kari'ña communities of the IFR, especially under the learning-by-doing method. The necessary approaches are being made within the framework of the Free, Prior and Informed Consent to incorporate at least two (2) new communities to the Technical-Legal Capacity Building Plan. • So far, 54 workshops / courses have been held in which 1,281 people (49% women) have participated, mostly officials from MINEC, its attached agencies and other institutions linked to environmental issues, as well as from the Kari'ña communities of the IFR. Even so, constant work is maintained in the processes of strengthening technical-legal capacities, since component 2, coordinates everything related to the subject of training that is carried out across the project. 	HS
<p>Outcome 2.2:</p> <p>Development and initial implementation of a National Program for the application of environmental and social sustainability standards for the production of wood and non-wood forest goods.</p>	<p>1) Demonstration area (number of hectares) of the IFR's Unit V, under application of a pilot scheme of national standards of environmental and social sustainability in balance with the provision of forest goods and services. *</p>	<p>There are no national standards for the production of timber and non-timber forest products in native forests. The Forestry Law contains provisions for the development of sustainability standards for certification by the competent body (Article 112); not yet developed. There are forest management instruments: Management Plan and Operational Forest Plan, but there are no mechanisms for participatory forest monitoring.</p>		<p>1) A demonstration area within the Unit V covering 15,000 ha, managed under environmental and social sustainability standards for the production of timber and non-timber forest products, applying participatory monitoring mechanisms. *</p>	<p>Advances of 60% are estimated, based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Workshop "Diagnosis and Evaluation of Forest Management in Venezuela, and formulation of criteria and indicators for SFM", where 6 criteria, 32 indicators and 24 verifiers for SFM were validated. • A consultancy is underway to design the Technical Standard on Criteria and Indicators for Environmental and Social Sustainability of the MFS. • The process of National Consultation (virtual) to experts for the definition of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management is currently being carried out. • Under the FAO- Tukupu LoA, three (3) community training workshops were held for the participatory monitoring of forests under the "learn by doing" method, in order to prepare the participants for the gathering of information in the field that allows the pilot application of the participatory monitoring mechanism in the first 1,000 ha. lifted from the area assigned to Tukupu. 	MS

* Indicators and targets adjusted based on the findings of the MTR and with the approval of the VII Project Steering Committee, held on August 18, 2021, in order to better respond to the measurement of progress in achieving the objectives of the Outcomes and their associated Outputs. See Section 7 for more details on the settings made.

	2)SFM/REDD+: Direct and indirect avoided emissions. Indicator CCM-5. LULUCF	Estimated loss of 453,135.81 tCO ₂ eq/year due to the use of conventional forest practices over an area of 5,000 ha under forest use.		2) Direct avoided emissions: 2.a)1,136,759.35tC O ₂ eq for the 5 years of the project on 25,000 ha (227,351.87 tCO ₂ eq for 5,000 ha/year). 2.b) Indirect avoided emissions: 18,188,149.06 tCO ₂ eq for the 5 years of the project (3,637,629.92 CO ₂ eq per year on 80,000 ha).	The following advances are noted: • A study was conducted that quantified 1,123,395.09 tons of direct avoided emissions Carbon Equivalent SFM/REDD+ (99% of target b), and 21,992,929 tons of indirect avoided emissions Carbon Equivalent SFM/RED+, (121% of target b) for 2018. • A consultancy is underway called "Estimation of direct indirect avoided carbon emissions IFR", which aims to determine carbon values in its different pools (live biomass, dead biomass and soil organic carbon), as well as in the different types of forest, based on information from remote sensing and plot survey data executed in the IFR.	HS
Outcome 2.3: Intersectoral dialogue on SFM strengthened.	Number of actors (national and local government institutions, indigenous communities, community-based organizations, companies, NGOs, etc.) with strengthened capacities and participating in a platform for dialogue and intersectoral coordination for the forest governance in Venezuela. * *	There are numerous actors in the forestry sector, without a defined plan to strengthen technical capacities. The country has a legal basis (Decree No. 2083 of November 02, 2002) that regulates institutional coordination, but there are no formal coordination mechanisms in the forestry sector.		At least fifteen (15) actors with strengthened technical capacities and actively participating in a platform for dialogue and intersectoral coordination for forest governance. *	Cumulative progress is estimated at 75%, based on: • Currently, there are ten (10) actors committed to the intersectoral dialogue for forest governance, based on the 6 Agreements already signed, and alliances with implementing partners of the project, generating the bases for the formalization of an intersectoral coordination and consultation platform that would incorporate new actors. • 13 community courses/workshops have been held with the participation of 238 people (39% women). • Materials were designed for use in the field (brochures/booklets), some in Kari'ña/Spanish. • A consultancy is underway for the development of a gender attention program in bilingual indigenous communities (Kari'ña/Spanish). • The Strategic Alliance for the "Implementation and execution of the Forest Management Plan in forest areas" was signed between ENAFOR and the EPSDC Tukupu, with the purpose of implementing a sustainable forest co-management scheme with the Kari'ña communities.	MS
Component 3: Restoration, Conservation and SFM/SLM of Forests in Areas Affected by Degradation Processes						
Outcome 3.1 Technical and institutional capacities for forest and forest land restoration through SFM/SLM practices strengthened.	1) SFM / REDD + 1.2: Good management practices applied in existing forests. Number of institutions, indigenous communities and people representing government institutions, NGOs, community-based organizations,	The Forestry Law establishes the legal basis for a strategy for the restoration and recovery of forest cover with an eco-social approach; however, there is no training program in SFM/SLM. The ENF involved and trained some members of three (3) indigenous communities present in the Unit V of the IFR.		1) Five (5) national institutions, ten (10) indigenous communities of the IFR and at least two hundred (200) people (at least 40% women) with installed and strengthened technical capacities on SFM/SLM topics. *	Progress of 80% is estimated: • Four (4) national institutions (MINEC, CONARE, Misión Árbol and ENAFOR) have strengthened their technical capacities for restoration thanks to the training efforts promoted by the project and the institutional strengthening derived from the signed CdAs. • Another ten (10) institutions have benefited from technical training for the restoration of forests and forest lands within the framework of the strategy designed by the project.	S

* Indicators and targets adjusted based on the findings of the MTR and with the approval of the VII Project Steering Committee, held on August 18, 2021, in order to better respond to the measurement of progress in achieving the objectives of the Outcomes and their associated Outputs. See Section 7 for more details on the settings made.

	Indigenous and local communities with installed and strengthened technical capacities on SFM/SLM topics. *				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 653 people (38% women) have been trained in aspects related to the restoration of forests and forest lands through SFM / SLM practices, which represents more than three times the target. • Eight (8) criteria and twenty-nine (29) indicators were agreed upon to determine the priority areas for restoration in the IFR intervened by forestry and agricultural activities (conucos). • The objectives and themes of the next Virtual Workshop on Criteria and Indicators for Prioritizing Areas for Forest Restoration were established. • Guides and booklets on good practices, seed certification and forest species have been prepared and disseminated through eighteen (18) training workshops and two (2) experience exchange tours. • The communities were integrated into the local component of the National Network through the FAO-Tukupu LoA, forming several groups of organized Kari'ña women trained through the "learning-by-doing" method to collect seeds of forest and fruit species that have been planted in community and family nurseries in two communities of the IFR (Botanamo and La Esperanza), which have an estimated production of 20,000 plants. 	
Outcome 3.2: Restoration and regeneration of 1,440 ha of forests through SFM/SWM strategies within the framework of an ecosystem approach and prioritizing the	1) BD-2. III.4: Management practices that integrate biodiversity.	An estimated loss of 453,135.81 ton/year CO ₂ eq from the use of conventional forestry techniques for an area of forest harvesting of 5,000 ha per year.		1) Sequestration of 512,985.68 tCO ₂ eq in 1,440 ha: - Reforestation (748 ha): 262,348.88 Tons/haCO ₂ eq - Analog Forestry (342 ha): 122,976 Tons/haCO ₂ eq - Agroforestry (350 ha): 127,660.08 Tons /haCO ₂ eq	Cumulative progress is estimated at 50%, based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A consultancy is underway for the "Estimation of direct and indirect avoided carbon emissions IFR", which aims to determine carbon values in its different pools (live biomass, dead biomass and soil organic carbon), as well as in the different forest types, based on remote sensing information and data from plot surveys executed in IFR. • As part of the field actions recently initiated under the FAO-Tukupu LoA and within the framework of the Great Line of Synergy and Transversality, progress is being made in the establishment of 12 new plots for monitoring carbon sequestration in areas restored through agroforestry and reforestation, as well as the remediation of the 24 plots that have already been established. 	MS

multi-functionality of forests.	2) Area (number of hectares) of restored and regenerated forest and forest land. * *	For 2000-2013, a forest loss of 827 ha is reported for FMU V, with an average annual deforestation rate of 0.018%, mainly due to mining activity and the opening of roads. The area restored by the ENF until 2015 covered 20 ha of reforestation in the Unit V of the IFR.		2) 1,440 ha of restored and regenerated forest and forest land. *	Progress is estimated at 40%, since: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 103 ha of reforestation and 169 ha of agroforestry have been established for the restoration/regeneration of forested areas, through SFM/SWM strategies within the framework of an ecosystem approach and prioritizing forest multifunctionality. • Under the LoAs signed by FAO with: CONARE, Misión Árbol and ENAFOR, 1,200,000 forest and fruit plants were produced in 33 nurseries located in 19 states of the country, of which 660,000 are suitable for planting in 760 ha during the rainy season of 2021 and 2022. • It also has the first 20,000 forest and fruit plants produced in community and family nurseries located in the IFR that will be used in plantations for the restoration of degraded areas in that area. In addition, the installation of new nurseries in another eight (8) communities continues to allow the production of forest plants and fruit trees for the restoration of another 400 ha through agroforestry, analog forestry and reforestation techniques. 	MU
Component 4: Project M&E and Information Dissemination.						
Outcome 4.1 Project implemented based on "Results Based Management" and facilitating the application of lessons learned and good practices in future actions.	Project results achieved and demonstrating sustainability			80% progress in the achievement of results	The implementation of the project presents an accumulated progress of 75%. It explains:	S

* Indicators and targets adjusted based on the findings of the MTR and with the approval of the VII Project Steering Committee, held on August 18, 2021, in order to better respond to the measurement of progress in achieving the objectives of the Outcomes and their associated Outputs. See Section 7 for more details on the settings made.

					<p>In the M&E line of work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The M&E System remains permanently operational and generating the necessary alerts for the good management of the project. • Based on the recommendations of the MTR and considering the delays suffered due to the pandemic and other external factors, a new request is being submitted to extend the project completion date, without additional costs, to December 2022, which was approved by the 6th Steering Committee of the Project, held in June 17, 2021. • The semi-annual and annual progress reporting goals have been met (10 PPRs and 5 PIRs). In addition, 5 POA/Ps and 6 Steering Committee Meetings have been held. • The Mid-Term Review (MTR) and Management Response (MR) were completed. • Technical support and M&E of the LoAs signed with implementing partners, as well as the co-financing reported by them, has been maintained. <p>In Communication and Dissemination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The website "Bosques de Venezuela" is designed, operational and updated, hosted on servers under the domain of MINEC: https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/ • The first Informative Bulletin was published containing progress, good practices and results in forest conservation in the IFR, interviews with consultants, as well as life stories of indigenous leaders. • 11 dissemination materials on the project and its achievements (publications and interviews) have been published with wide national and international dissemination. As well as more than 100 publications for social networks, especially in the Twitter account of the FAO Venezuela Representation: @FAO_Venezuela and the Tukupu's Twitter and Instagram accounts: @tukupu_ve.. • Eleven publications have been entered into the PWS system, while another seven content proposals were selected for publication on the web page. In addition, the design and layout of 5 brochures from outputs executed under Component 2 of the project has been completed. • Dozens of technical reports, protocols and other documents generated by the project containing systematized experiences and lessons learned that are considered highly valuable for publication are being reviewed. • Technical support is being provided to EPSDC-Tukupu with the production of the bilingual radio program "The Kariña Voice", as well as the generation of informative material about the company, the design and induction for the operation of a website and institutional accounts of the indigenous company on social networks such as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc. 	
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Action plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Outcome 1.1	Output 1.1.1. To continue working with CENDITEL for the completion of the remaining modules of the SINIIF and its implementation as a public access web platform.	CENDITEL, TPC, TA-C1, Consultants in geographic data systems and infrastructure, cartography, geomatics and web mapping.	2nd semester of 2021
	Outputs 1.1.2 and 1.1.3. Collect and process missing field information within the framework of the Great Line of Synergy and Transversality (GLST), which allows incorporating multi-task teams to generate information for different outputs.	TPC, TA-C1, Consultants already contracted in geographic data systems and infrastructure, cartography, geomatics and web mapping, and for the development of the gender attention program in bilingual indigenous communities (Kari'ña-Spanish).	2nd semester of 2021
	Outputs 1.1.4 and 1.1.6. Conduct field activities within the framework of the GLST that include training under the "learning-by-doing" method, survey and design of multipurpose sampling units (plots).	TPC, TPC, TA-C1, EPSDC Tukupu, Consultants already hired for carbon-emissions estimation and reduced impact, Extensionists and support staff hired locally in the action area.	2nd semester of 2021 1st semester of 2022
	Output. 1.1.5. Subscription of the 3rd LoA with IFLA that would include a specific output to complete the pending thematic maps.	TPC, TA-C1, IFLA, Consultants in geographic data systems and infrastructures, cartography, geomatics and web mapping.	2nd semester of 2021
Outcome 1.2	Outputs 1.2.1, 1.2.2 and 1.2.3. Collect and process data, samples and specimens needed, within the framework of the GLST and with the support of the consultancies already contracted for estimation and monitoring of carbon emissions, reduced impact and study of fauna as a component of SFM in the IFR.	TPC, TA-C1, EPSDC Tukupu, Consultants already contracted for carbon-emissions estimation, reduced impact and wildlife study as a component of forest management in the IFR.	2nd semester of 2021

Outcome 2.1	Indicator 1 (Outputs 2.1.2 and 2.1.3). Use technical and technological tools to expand the area under Sustainable Forest Management and / or Co-management Plans in the IFR. Continue the validation in the field of both the designed methodologies (multipurpose plots), as well as the proposed forest management and the consequent data collection of the forest census / inventory for its implementation, within the framework of the GLST and the FAO-Tukupu LoA.	TPC, TA-C2 , EPSDC Tukupu, ENAFOR, Consultant already hired for the preparation of a reduced impact manual, extension workers and support staff hired locally in the area of action.	2nd semester of 2021 1st semester of 2022
Outcome 2.2	Indicator 1 (Outputs 2.2.1 and 2.2.2.). Continue the development of the proposed Technical Standard that will be presented to the Venezuelan environmental authority for its consideration and eventual incorporation into the regulatory body of the country that regulates the SFM. In addition, within the framework of the GLST, the pilot implementation of the criteria and indicators included in the technical standard proposal will be carried out, as well as the holding of different community training workshops under the “learn-by-doing” method, in order to prepare participants to collect information in the field for the design and implementation of the participatory forest monitoring mechanism, both in the area assigned to EPSDC-Tukupu and in Unit V.	TPC, TA-C2 , EPSDC Tukupu, Consultant already contracted for the design of the Technical Standard on Criteria and Indicators for Environmental and Social Sustainability of SFM.	2nd semester of 2021 1st semester of 2022

Outcome 2.3	Output 2.3.1. Conduct workshops within the framework of the GLST, aimed at leaders and members of the IFR's communities and oriented towards strengthening forest co-management.	TPC, TA-C2, EPSDC Tukupu, Consultant for the development of the gender attention program in bilingual indigenous communities (Kari'ña - Spanish).	2nd semester of 2021 1st semester of 2022
	Output 2.3.2. Continue to promote alliances with public and private actors involved in forest management in the IFR.	FAOVE's FAOR and AFAOR- Programmes, TPC, TA-C2, EPSDC- Tukupu.	2nd semester of 2021 1st semester of 2022
Outcome 3.2	Indicator 1. The determination of emissions and carbon sequestration will continue within the framework of the contracted consultancy, as well as the establishment of 12 new plots for the monitoring of carbon sequestration and remediation of the 24 plots already established, under the approach of the GLST.	TPC, TA-C3, National Consultant for estimation of carbon-emissions, EPSDC Tukupu and support staff hired locally in the area of action.	2nd semester of 2021 1st semester of 2022
	Indicator 2 (Output 3.2.1). New Letters of Agreement will be signed with EPSDC-Tukupu, INPARQUES and CONARE to strengthen the implementation of reforestation, agroforestry and analog forestry actions both in the IFR (400 ha), as well as in other intervened / degraded areas of the country (760 ha). A National Consultant will be incorporated to carry out technical support and monitoring of the establishment of nurseries and plantations.	TPC, TA-C3, EPSDC- Tukupu, INPARQUES, CONARE, Consultant to carry out the technical accompaniment and follow-up of the establishment of nurseries and plantations.	2nd semester of 2021 1st semester of 2022
	Outputs 3.2.2, 3.2.3 and 3.2.5. The 3rd LoA will be signed with IFLA, which will contemplate the pending activities to achieve the expected targets of these outputs.	IFLA, TPC, TA-C3	2nd semester of 2021 1st semester of 2022
	Output 3.2.4. Four (4) local extensionists will be hired to assist in the implementation of the community plans for NTFP (meliponiculture, andiroba, copaiba and onoto oils) and TFP (artisanal carpentry and wood energy), which will be strengthened within the framework of the GLST and with the support of the EPSDC-Tukupu.	TPC, TA-C3, EPSDC-Tukupu.	2nd semester of 2021 1st semester of 2022

3. Progress in Generating Project Outputs (Implementation Progress, IP)

(Please indicate progress achieved during this FY as planned in the Annual Work Plan)

Outputs*	Expected completion date †	Achievements at each PIR‡					Implement. status (cumulative)	Comments Describe any variance⁵ or any challenge in delivering outputs
		1 st PIR	2 nd PIR	3 rd PIR	4 th PIR	5 th PIR		
Component 1: National Integrated Forestry Information System (SINIIF)								
Outcome 1.1: Improved national forest assessment and monitoring capacity within the framework of the National Forest Inventory (NFI).								
Output 1.1.1: Information system that integrates data on carbon stocks and flows, biodiversity, physical-natural, sociocultural and economic environment, and status and characterization of forest ecosystems, providing high quality information for decision making.	Q4 Y5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Two reports have been generated on: a) compilation of methodologies and studies related to forest management and b) implementation strategies, which integrate data in the structuring of the National Forest Information System (SINIIF).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The design of 2 protocols was 100% completed and significant progress was made in the development of another 6 protocols.Progress was made in the first design and development phase of the SINIIF web/mobile system, which includes the data integration model and the spatial model "Web Mapping.Twelve 0.1 ha plots were created for the study and characterization of forests through their structure, phytosociology and floristic composition.Nine field missions were carried out to collect ethnobotanical information, samples and plant specimens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The standardization and data management protocols were designed in parallel to the collection, collection and analysis of documentary and field data.The conceptualization of the following aspects continued: bromatology and toxicology; resins, latex and essential oils; environmental economic valuation and inventory of water resources; and the data structure, processing and output formats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">At the conceptual level, there are 17 protocols and methodologies designed and validated for the collection, analysis and presentation of data and results of the wide range of aspects of the information. Progress continues to be made on another 2 methodological documents.A CoA was signed with the National Center for Development and Research in Free Technologies (CENDITEL), for the implementation of the first version of SINIIF through the implementation of the Web application (Responsive Web Design), defining a systemic approach according to the tasks to be performed, where five major modules are considered: user management, data loading, queries (including processing and reports), thematic maps (as a particular type of report) and monitoring and evaluation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The design of 20 protocols and other methodological documents that support the conceptual bases of the SINIIF has been completed, i.e., more than double the target.Work is being done on modular development according to the thematic aspects defined for the SINIIF, which would then be assembled and interconnected..The SPECIES module has been fully completed and the MAPS module (web mapping) is also providing cross-cutting information on other modules.The loading of data from the TREE module and its related modules (other biotypes, surveys and plots) has been completed and data continues to be loaded into the BIBLIOGRAPHY module.The conceptual and requirements details of the SCEE and FOREST modules are being fine-tuned.The servers for hosting the system were installed at MINEC's headquarters.	80%	

Output 1.1.2: Protocols for updating and processing geospatial information for sustainable forest management (planning, monitoring, control and research) and multi-temporal analysis of forest cover at the national level.	Q4 Y5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two reports were generated showing the benefits and limitations of different remote sensors and interpretation software, as well as their image management, including recommendations for the acquisition of the first high resolution SPOT 6/7 satellite image of 1,672 Km2. ToRs were generated for hiring two (02) specialists in the areas of Cartography, Geomatics and Remote Sensing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress was made in the compilation and analysis of information from remote sensors, software and systems for image management and interpretation. Two expert workshops were held to review the SPOT-7 image and define strategies. The interpretation of the SPOT-7 image made it possible to develop cartography of: land cover and current land use; intervened and non-intervened forests; and forest stratification. Other images (LANDSAT 4, 5, 7, 8) and SENTINEL have been used to update certain intervened areas after the date of acquisition of the SPOT-7 image. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% design of protocols for updating and processing geospatial information for sustainable forest management and multi-temporal analysis of forest cover at the national level. Development of a forest cover monitoring national system (SNMCF) to be implemented by MINEC's Forest Heritage Directorate. The interpretation of SPOT 7, Landsat and Sentinel images continued, for the cartographic reconstruction of historical interventions at the Unit-V of the IFR, as part of the strategies for detecting forest degradation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The application of the protocol for multitemporal analysis of forest condition, beyond simple coverage, continues. In the processing of geospatial information for the SFM, other work fronts have been opened towards the northern part of the IFR. Support is provided to the objectives of sustainable management (P2.1.3), management and delimitation of operational units (P1.2.2, P2.1.2) and participatory monitoring (P1.1.6, P2.2.2) in the EPSDC Tukupu area. Progress is being made on the training plan to reinforce the above aspects, in conjunction with ABAAE. In the work on the IFR's Water Resources Inventory, the cartographic delimitation of the basins and sub-basins that cover the reserve and thematic maps of the political-administrative division, hydrography, geology, geomorphology, soils and vegetation for each hydrological unit were completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The application and evaluation of protocols for the generation of cartographic material, based on the interpretation of remote sensing images and multi-temporal monitoring through the comparison of changes over a given period of time, continues: estimates of carbon stocks and direct/indirect avoided carbon-emissions, carbon sequestration in its different deposits in various forest types and identification of critical carbon areas; planning and design of the inventory and participatory monitoring network; evaluation of habitats linked to the IFR fauna; interpretation and mapping of the various socio-environmental parameters included in the guidelines for the delimitation of units for forest management, applied in the OFPs and the FMP for the EPSDC Tukupu area. 	85%	
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* Outputs as described in the project logframe or in any updated project revision. In case of project revision resulted from a mid-term review please modify the output accordingly or leave the cells in blank and add the new outputs in the table explaining the variance in the comments section.

† As per latest work plan (latest project revision); for example: Quarter 1, Year 3 (Q1 y3)

‡ Please use the same unity of measures of the project indicators, as much as possible. Please be extremely synthetic (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

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

Output 1.1.3: Protocols for the gathering of socio-cultural-economic information of communities and indigenous peoples associated and / or dependent on forests.	Q4 Y5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The preliminary proposal for the content and structure of the database of socio-economic, ethnic-cultural aspects was prepared, and the preliminary proposal for the content and structure of basic information on populated centers and communities, including the cartography of the project area and its area of influence. ToRs were generated for the eventual hiring of two specialists in the sociocultural, ethnological and economic areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The design of the protocol and the instrument that will guide the information gathering process in the field was completed, including strategies for approaching the communities, for taking samples. This instrument allowed the conceptualization of the social aspects to be included in the SINIIF by means of the design of the data structures and the definition of the processes and outputs to be generated by the system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data structures, processing and reports were generated to the SINIIF. Community characterization instrument oriented social aspects included at the ethnobotanical prospecting level. With the incorporation of the line of research on botany, herbalism and ethnobotany for the bioprospecting, it seeks to reinforce the cultural knowledge of the communities regarding plant species and their ancestral uses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress was made in the design of the protocol for the approach, organization, training and incorporation of communities to participatory monitoring (P1.1.6 and P2.2.2), the ethnobotanical information collection instrument and field missions (P1.2.3) and the guidelines to be considered in the new paradigms of management and delimitation of operational units (P1.2.2, P2.1.2). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The multidisciplinary training program was started under the "learning-by-doing" method for EPSDC-Tukupu personnel who will be in charge and responsible for carrying out the various surveys in the field, within the framework of the execution of the forest inventory / census, the participatory monitoring with various purposes (state of the forest, carbon and sustainability of management, fundamentally) and the characterization of the communities, through the different aspects included in the instrument / protocol designed. The collection and systematization of information in the area of cultural heritage is being advanced, with the support of the consultant for the development of the gender care program in bilingual indigenous communities (kari'ña - Spanish). 	65%	.
Output 1.1.4: Study of greenhouse gas (GHG) flows and stocks in 3 types of forest, identification of critical carbon areas and national MRV standards established for the GHG reduction benefits of deforestation and forest degradation (REDD +).	Q3 Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress was made in defining the methodology / protocol for the establishment of the carbon monitoring plots; and the revision of the methodology carried out in the area for the implementation of the forest stratification, used by ENAFOR in Unit V of the IFR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategies, methodologies, and areas and types of forest to be included in the studies under the RAINFOR methodology for the evaluation of aerial biomass were defined. Progress was made in the classification and stratification of the area's forests through the use of remote sensors. One of the two 1.0 ha parcels established by ENAFOR in the IFR in 2014 was re-measured under the RAINFOR methodology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protocol for plots installation, measurement / re-measurement and calculation of aerial biomass was completed, based on the modification and adaptation of RAINFOR. Defined the aspects to the stratification of forest types. Two workshops aimed at technical personnel from MINEC, ENAFOR and members of the communities (33% women). Two 1.0 ha plots were installed, measured and marked. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four plots were established through training workshops aimed at professional staff and community members according to the "learn by doing" method and the new multipurpose plot design. ToRs were prepared for hiring an expert to consolidate the monitoring and evaluation of carbon stocks at the IFR level, through the use of remote sensors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the Great Line of Synergy and Transversality and the LoA FAO-Tukupu, the establishment of the first 30 (of a total of 60) sample units (multipurpose plots of 1 ha with the training method "learn-by-doing" to do the data collection regarding aerial biomass and carbon in its different compartments (dead wood, litter and soil). A National Consultancy was hired to estimate carbon (direct and indirect emissions avoided) in the IFR, and sequestration of carbon in its different deposits (living biomass, dead biomass, organic carbon in the soil) in different types of forest, and identification of areas carbon reviews, to be carried out for the entire IFR area and at different times (time series), specifically for the years 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015 and 2020. 	55%	

Output 1.1.5: Thematic maps of biodiversity that include information on the distribution of flora species, their abundance, frequency, dominance and phyto-geographical relationships.	Q4 Y5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress was made in the review and compilation of existing information from studies carried out in the past for different purposes, as well as the protocols for calculating biodiversity and dasometric indices and others to guide the systematization strategies required for the adoption of a phytogeographic classification at the national level. The ToRs of a specialist in Geomatics / Geographic Information System were elaborated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A document was presented containing the compilation of methodologies and indices for calculating diversities, species distribution, predictive models of their distribution and the generation of cartographic products. Two basic documents are available to guide the workshop of experts that will generate the proposal for phytogeographic classification to be adopted for the country, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An expert workshop was held to establish the methodology and final formats to be used in the generation of the maps, as well as the proposal for the phytogeographic classification of the country. Training workshops were planned for the professional and technical personnel of MINEC, its affiliated agencies and other actors, in relation to the methodologies of diversity mapping, phytosociology, species distribution, as well as the formulation of guidelines and preliminary strategies for the approach of this thematic mapping, at a scale of 1:250,000 covering the entire country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodological guidelines were developed for the phytogeographic classification and mapping of the distribution of flora species and plant diversity for Venezuela. The proposal, at the provincial level, considers 6 units (Caribbean, Andean, Llanera, Guiana, Amazonian and Deltaic); as well as for the spatial analysis and cartographic representation of the distribution of flora species and floristic diversity, where the fundamental stages for the creation of the database of flora species (BDEF) of Venezuela and other aspects to be incorporated in the SINIIF are broken down. The first 25 charts were prepared, with their respective Descriptive Memories.. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work has continued on the study and evaluation of the first 25 1:250,000 scale charts on "diversity of vascular plant species by ecosystem". The database on the presence of flora species (BDPEF) of Venezuela was generated and included in the SPECIES module of SINIIF, in the context of the attributes. A training workshop was held on the methodologies used for the elaboration of these maps. The workshop lasted 20 hours and 21 people registered (13 women) from the following entities: Capital District, Miranda and Merida. 	60%	
Output 1.1.6: Participatory mechanism for monitoring forest coverage and status and GHG fluxes in deforested and degraded forests	Q3 Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnostic reports were prepared that allow the detection of training needs of technical and support personnel in the forestry companies and indigenous communities present in the IFR, strengthening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A favorable framework was identified for approaching forest-dependent communities and their eventual participation in participatory monitoring, based on the permanent relationship that ENAFOR maintains with them, with respect to the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A workshop of experts was designed to develop a protocol that guides the methodologies, strategies and necessary actions for the approach, recruitment and organization of the communities and indigenous peoples of the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expert workshop was held with the participation of professionals from the social sciences, community organizations, rural development, forestry and experts in carbon and climate change assessment, from which the framework document with the strategies to consider for the implementation of participatory forest monitoring (TFP) was developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a framework document with the strategies to be considered for the implementation of participatory forest monitoring (TFP). The SINIIF's TREE module has been developing everything related to the management, processing and deployment of information from the multipurpose plots survey. A methodological proposal was developed for the delimitation of management units and its pilot application in this same area of the EPSDC-Tukupu. 	65%	

		<p>their commitment to SFM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A system for identifying community stakeholders for participatory monitoring was developed.• The training process was initiated as part of the training plan, through the implementation of an instruction workshop on the RAINFOR methodology, referring to the protocols for collecting information on greenhouse gas (GHG) flows and stocks, in order to ensure the quality of the data to be collected..	<p>support it provides in terms of health, education, transportation, incorporation of workers and local baquianos in management activities and the company's staff training and improvement plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Also noteworthy is the progress made in the design of the protocol for community recruitment, organization and participation, at the P 2.2.2 level, given its synergy with this output.	<p>project area, with a view to promoting different participatory tasks that promote the empowerment and guide the way towards Co-management of existing forest resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The planning and detailed design of the contents to be included in the training and execution of shared tasks, according to gender and age group, including support material, was advanced, in close synergy with outputs 2.2.2, 2.2.1, 2.1.3, 1.2.2, and 2.1.2.• The second version of the "Monitoring Protocol" is available, a document that provides guidance on the tasks to be implemented within the framework of the Pilot Plan for Sustainable Forest Co-Management (P2.1.2).• In P1.2.2, the bases for the management of the MINEC - EPSDC Tukupu Alliance area have been advanced; where field activities are planned for reconnaissance, supervision and checking of the area, in relation to the general situation of the area, checking the interpretation of remote sensors and thematic cartography, supervision of activities carried out by EPSDC-Tukupu, selection of survey sites, installation of plots, induction and extension activities, among others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A methodological proposal was developed for the delimitation of management units and its pilot application in this same area of the EPSDC-Tukupu.• Thirteen content and orientation guides were prepared for those responsible for training using the "learning-by-doing" methodology, containing a series of didactic aspects and resources, developed within the framework of the participatory monitoring training plan.• In conjunction with output 2.2.2 and other GLST outputs, progress was made in carrying out the forest inventory census, involving training activities under the "learning-by-doing" method, which allows for the simultaneous strengthening of theoretical and practical skills.• Also noteworthy is the contracting of 9 consultancies whose results contribute directly or indirectly to the great line of synergy and transversality.			
Outcome 1.2: Improved state of knowledge and valuation of biodiversity associated with forests and critical carbon areas, as a strategy to be integrated into improved forest management at the IRF management unit level									
Output 1.2.1: Lists of forest species, flora and fauna (endemism, threatened, exotic) of the IFR and critical carbon areas in Unit V.	Q4 Y5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A preliminary protocol proposal was developed for assessing of the risk status of the species, considering the IUCN Red List index, in order to work on the definition and standardization of the same for the country.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The review and consultation of methodological alternatives continued for the evaluation of the conservation status of species, which led to the consensus of the convenience of using the IUCN protocol in the design of the protocol for the country.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The IUCN protocol was adopted for the evaluation of the species risk status (red lists).• Progress has been made in the compilation and collection of information with the support of other project outputs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A group of experts was formed in the areas of fauna, botany, ecology and habitats, modeling of species distribution and geomatics, which advance the application of the protocol....• The GIS was established and organized by defining the working scale (1:250,000 for the entire IFR) and windows of greater detail in sites of interest, review of the IFR's	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progress was made in establishing strategies and methodologies for assessing the conservation status of habitats.• New plant species (especially non-tree species) were added to the existing list, which, due to their endemism or other characteristics, are considered a priority for evaluation.• A GIS was designed and implemented for the management and evaluation of the conservation status of the current vegetation cover of the IFR, which allows	70%	.	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The TORs of two specialists in the areas of Forestry Resource Assessment and Fauna Resource Assessment were generated. 	<p>evaluation of species risk, due to its wide use and the experiences of application in the country, both for fauna and for vegetation and ecosystems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two (2) field campaigns were carried out to collect and gather information: a) to establish a first approximation of the list of wildlife species harvested by the indigenous communities (hunting and fishing), and b) to visit the areas of current and recent forest harvesting, as well as to gather information on the volumes harvested according to species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several new species for the country has been reported; four plant species (3 lianas and 1 arboreal), although it is estimated that they could reach fifteen (15) in total; six (6) of them are especially rare and have not been identified yet because they have only sterile material, approaching through the study of their wood. Likewise, two important groups have been detected due to the phytochemical principles contained in them: the Malpighiaceae at the level of lianas and the Apocynaceae at the level of trees. 	<p>cartographic data on physical-natural and biological variables, global climatological and topographic data, and global georeferenced data on flora and fauna species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a preliminary list of 51 animal species with priority for evaluation, discriminated by habitat, 33 of which are hunted by the Kari'ña, 5 are endemic and 13 are considered in danger of extinction. An initial list of 68 plant species was established, including trees traditionally harvested selectively in forestry activities in the past. Work began on the interpretation of SENTINEL- II images to update the coverage and define the degree of intervention of the vegetation formations. With the results obtained, it is also expected to conclude the definition of data structures, processing and output formats for the incorporation of the species conservation status aspect into the SINIIF taxonomy module. 	<p>indirectly estimating the quality of the habitats, in addition to the management and estimation of certain parameters, through updated technologies and the use of global data sources for physical-natural variables and species presence. Regarding the presentation of results, formats were designed for their deployment, in accordance with the species risk assessment protocol and its methodological improvements and extensions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A consultancy was contracted for the study of Fauna as a Component of Forest Management in the IFR, to continue gathering relevant information for the preparation of the updated list of existing forest species for the IFR area, compiled from the different museum collections and other sources, for a total of one thousand sixty-seven species (1,067) and more than four thousand reports of presence (4,317) distributed in: fish 261 species and 1,213 reports, amphibians 61 species and 229 reports, reptiles 90 species and 228 reports, birds 500 species and 1,962 reports and mammals 155 species and 685 reports. 		
Output 1.2.2: Guidelines for the study and definition of the zoning of management units, in accordance with the status and conservation needs of biodiversity and forest ecosystems, using the information generated by SINIIF.	Q4 Y5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MINEA carried out an exhaustive review of the Venezuelan forestry policy, the theoretical bases and successful experiences of SFM in the world, where it was considered in detail how the policy is reflected in the guidelines for the study and definition of the zoning of management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The progress achieved in P1.1.1 with reference to the classification and stratification of the forests through the use of remote sensors and the results obtained in P1.1.2, related to the interpretation of the SPOT-7 image, set important precedents for this output. In addition, under Component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A workshop of experts was developed in the areas of geography, cartography and geomatics, land use planning, forest management and planning, sustainable forest management, and resource management and valuation, to generate a methodological document, considering the policies, goals and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A document was prepared with the guidelines for the zoning of management units, in accordance with the state and conservation needs of the biodiversity and forest ecosystems in general, and specifically as a basis for the design of the EPSDC-Tukupu's FMP and OFPs. Progress has been made in two aspects: i) the political-legal framework for forest management, SFM and co-management, as well as the compilation of regional experiences; and ii) the social, forest and environmental aspects to be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to meet the objectives established in the protocol, a base cartography of the area was carried out in partnership with EPSC Tukupu, at a scale of 1:10,000, including: contour lines, road network, and a network of drainage, highways and roads, population centers, toponymy of the area and the boundaries and vertices of the unit. Subsequently, the thematic mapping was carried out at the same scale, covering the following aspects: climate, geology, geomorphology, soils, hydrology and watersheds, vegetation formations, and land cover and current land use. 	75%	

		<p>units and how work has been done to establish mechanisms to incorporate the conservation needs of biodiversity, forest ecosystems, NTFPs and other benefits/services of the forest, as well as the participation of communities and indigenous peoples in monitoring and in the SFM itself.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An analysis was made of the methodology used by ENAFOR, at the FMP level, for the definition of management units in the Operational Forest Plans. 	<p>2, a documentary compilation is being carried out on forest exploitation, harvesting and management in Venezuela, as a basis for the analysis of policies, goals and objectives for SFM, which also contributes to the objectives of this output.</p>	<p>objectives of SFM, incorporating NTFPs and other benefits and services of species and the forest as an ecosystem, and the active participation of indigenous communities and peoples in forest management tasks (Co management).</p>	<p>considered for the definition and delimitation of the units.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is being done on the base and thematic mapping of the area assigned to Tukupu, located in the vicinity of the Quebrada La Lagunita, in the context of the Botanamo River basin, with radar, multispectral and DTM images, to generate maps of contour lines, hydrography and watershed delimitation, physiographic landscape, land cover and land use, ecosystems, forest types (altitude), forest potential and management units (preliminary). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on this cartography, the area of the MINEC-EPSCD Tukupu alliance has a real surface of 7,152.6 ha, and not 6,487.12 ha, which gives a difference of 665.48 ha, with respect to what was indicated in the partnership MINEC-Tukupu's document signed. To implement the protocol, there is a preliminary proposal for zoning and establishing production units within the framework of the development and management plan for the MINEC-EPSCD Tukupu alliance area, which should be completed after completing the following activities: i) field verification of the interpretations of the environmental variables included in the thematic mapping, and ii) the inventory data that will complement and corroborate the real forestry potential of the area's forest masses. Once the protocol has been tested, a proposal will be submitted for MINEC's consideration for it to become part of the body of national forestry regulation instruments. 		
<p>Output 1.2.3: Database of goods and services of biodiversity and forest ecosystems, considering timber and non-timber products and their multiple use by local communities.</p>	Q3 Y5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report on implementation strategies of the SPECIES module was prepared. The compilation report was elaborated with the evaluation of the different classifications of products, goods and services. TORs were generated for two specialists in the areas of Timber Technology, and Wildlife Management and Animal Taxonomy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams of specialists in the areas of ethnobotany and the physical, mechanical and technological properties of wood and NTFPs were formed, which initiated the collection of information, samples and specimens in two joint field missions. A first approximation of the aspects of information to be included in the SINIIF databases is available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Conceptualization of the database was advanced. Topics on: bromatology and toxicology, at the species level, and the environmental economic valuation of the IFR and the water inventory of the IFR, at the ecosystem services level, as well as information from the component 3 consultancy on "management and use of resins, latex and essential oils as NTFPs in the IFR" are added. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant progress was made in the collection of information, samples and specimens in the field in the areas of botany and herborization, ethnobotany and bromatology, as well as in the study on latex, resins and essential oils. In the economic valuation, important ecosystem services (provision, regulation and cultural) were identified. Through the IFR's Water Resource Inventory, an environmental diagnosis of the hydrographic basins that compose it and which drain according to two large systems to then generate precipitation and evaporation maps to feed the runoff estimation model, was made. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Database covers both NTFPs and NTFPs and the progress achieved is derived from consultancies that have covered various aspects of "species attributes" and which form part of the SINIIF's SPECIES module, on which they depend through the taxonomic aspect that identifies them. In relation to ecosystem services, especially those of a forestry nature, work is being done in the context of the FOREST module and its requirements, on the structures necessary to house the data referring to the economic valuation of a series of services analyzed at the level of the IFR. Information from other products, related to carbon and wildlife estimation, is incorporated in this database to reinforce all that has to do with species lists (taxonomy) and zoological species (taxonomy). 	85%	

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A team is working on the collection, systematization, analysis, transcription and validation of information in the areas of anatomy and physical-mechanical properties of timber, NTFPs, ethnobotany and uses of species, taxonomy, presence and botanical collections, in order to speed up the filling of the databases related to SINIIF. 			
Component 2: Strengthening Capacities and Innovative Tools for Sustainable Forest Management								
Outcome 2.1: Community stakeholders, national and local governments involved in sustainable forest management through new participatory management tools, covering at least 167,320 ha of forest in the Imataca V Management Unit of the IFR.								
Output 2.1.1: HR technical-legal strengthening program implemented to promote and sustain innovations in SFM using information generated by SINIIF.	Q4 Y3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential trainers were identified, as well as the actors who will participate in the courses. • Definition of the contents of two courses (forest measurement and instrument management). • 19 people were trained and certified in forestry measurement and instrument management in operational areas in the field. • ToRs were generated for professional in Legal and Environmental Sciences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A technical and legal HR strengthening program was developed, structured in four (4) major modules including mechanisms and didactic means to be used for strengthening the institutional training of management and technical personnel of the MINEA and its affiliated agencies, related to the SFM model in the IFR. • ToRs were prepared for the first stage training of more than 50 officials of MINEA and its attached entities, with a female participation of at least 40%. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress was made in the development of a proposal for seven (7) diploma courses prepared jointly with the Center for Forestry and Environmental Postgraduate Studies (CEFAP) of the Universidad de los Andes (ULA). • Two (2) courses were held. • Eighty-three (83) officials from different units of MINEC (General Directorate of Forest Patrimony, Directorate of Biological Diversity, Directorate of Hydrographic Basins) and its affiliated entities: CONARE and Misión Árbol, both in the capital region and others 12 states with a 46% participation of women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execution of 21 courses spread throughout the national territory, covering 13 topics of SFM and covering a target population of 475 people, officials of MINEC, its affiliated entities, and the incorporation of participants from universities and public agencies in the country, related to environmental issues, thus contributing to individual and collective strengthening for SFM. • In the preliminary report of the MTR, it was considered that some courses have the potential for replicability and scalability, especially at the government level, which would increase the number of people who have access to the knowledge delivered under the project; it also highlighted as a good practice, within the framework of the technical implementation of the letters of agreement, the inclusion of the obligation to democratize the knowledge generated through the delivery of workshops or courses on the topics covered in the signed agreements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The targets for this output have already been met and even surpassed, with 54 workshops/ courses to date, in which 1,281 people (49% women) have participated, mostly officials from MINEC and other actors linked to SFM. This output coordinates everything related to training, transversally in the project. • The strategy of incorporating training activities in the various Agreements signed, is maintained. During this period, 5 virtual courses were held under the FAO-IFLA LoA, in which a total of 58 participants were trained (47% women). other 22 courses/workshops were held under the FAO- CONARE LoA, in which 555 people participated; 1 course was held within the framework of the FAO- ABAE LoA, in which 10 people participated (50% women). In April 2021, field training activities began under the "learning-by-doing" method, within the framework of the major line of synergy and transversality and the FAO- Tukupu LoA. -A Training Plan that takes advantage of the capacities of the 9 consultancies initiated in 2021 was designed: Starting with a virtual course generated through the consultancy on Technical Standards design, in which 81 professionals (49% women) participated. 	+100%	

Output 2.1.2: Operational forest plans based on information generated by SINIIF for livelihoods-based forest planning and management developed with local governments and community organizations.	Q2 Y6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review and compilation of information on the operational forest plans that have been implemented in Unit V of the IFR, in the STMI, STMII and STMIII-1 production units was carried out. • ToRs were prepared for the formulation of the operational plan, involving approaches to livelihoods and participation of indigenous and non-indigenous communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporation of a line of research for the integrated management of TFP in the IFR, which consists of the use of branches from harvestable trees to cover the demand for small-sized wood from local carpenters, and consequently decrease the rate of deforestation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development and implementation of the OFP in the Tukupu's area was guided by the participation of the indigenous communities in its planning and implementation to ensure its sustainability. • Compilation of information provided by the SINIIF on the status of biodiversity, vegetation cover, critical carbon areas, species risk status, water inventory, economic and environmental valuation, among other inputs necessary for the preparation of the OFP. • Contributions from the consultancy related to Management of TFP were incorporated to OFP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the second quarter of 2021, the preparation of the first OFP for the area assigned to the EPSDC Tukupu was completed, due to the possibility of access to field data collection. Aspects related to reduced impact logging techniques were included, as well as proposals to improve the quality of life of indigenous families, aimed at the establishment of agroforestry systems and the harvesting of non-timber forest products. • The preparation of a manual for the exploitation applying techniques of reduced impact began, for which a specialized consultancy was hired in January 2021. 	55%	
Output 2.1.3: Pilot scheme for forest co-management with communes or other types of social organizations.	Q4 Y6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The design of the pilot scheme for Comanagement in the IFR was initiated, taking into account the work being carried out by ENAFOR, as well as information gathered by P 3.2.4 on community plans for TFP and NTFP. • TORs were developed for the design of the pilot scheme for Sustainable Forest Co-management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first socially-owned indigenous forestry company was created, aimed at co-managing the production, processing and marketing of forest goods in a Production Unit. • The free, prior and informed consent protocol was applied to discuss issues related to the EPSDC Tukupu. • A panel of experts was formed, also incorporating representatives of the indigenous communities for the design of the protocol for the pilot co-management scheme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The design of the pilot scheme was completed and validated by the indigenous communities, laying the groundwork for the first experience of this innovative co-governance approach in the IFR. • Technical-legal support continued for the creation and registration of Tukupu, which received a concession from the Venezuelan government in an area of 6,487.12 ha (Unit C-3) for forest co-management. • Priority was given to developing the pilot scheme in the Tukupu area to stimulate co-management and community involvement in decision-making regarding natural resource management. • Progress is being made in the programmatic design to strengthen the communities' capacities in all matters related to Co-management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the second quarter of 2021, field activities were resumed for the implementation of the pilot Forest Management scheme designed under strict biosecurity measures, including training for technical personnel from MINEC, ENAFOR, Tukupu and members of the communities • The Internal Regulations for the Functioning of the Planning and Accountability Council, made up of representatives of MINEC-ENAFOR, the EPSDC Tukupu and the communities, were approved and signed. According to the pilot scheme, this is the maximum expression of the co-managers for decision making in the management and direction of the Sustainable Forest Co-management Scheme, which is the first experience of its kind between the State and an indigenous organization, both in the Imataca Forest Reserve and in the country in general. 	70%	

Outcome 2.2: Development and initial implementation of a National Program for the application of environmental and social sustainability standards for the production of timber and non-timber forest products.							
Output 2.2.1: Criteria and indicators for environmental and social sustainability of SFM defined based on information generated by the SINIF.	Q2 Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An analysis was carried out to identify preliminary objectives, thematic areas, participating institutions and speakers for the Workshop on Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for Sustainable Forest Management in Venezuela. TORs of three specialists in Legal Sciences, Forestry and Methodology were prepared. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal for the workshop "Diagnosis and Evaluation of Forest Management in Venezuela and formulation of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management" was planned and coordinated with the aim of strengthening the human capital of public and private institutions. A consultation instrument was prepared to be applied to forestry stakeholders in order to gather relevant information for the definition of C&I for social and environmental sustainability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The workshop previously planned was held, with the participation of 94 professionals from different Venezuelan institutions and 3 international experts. Within this framework, 6 Criteria, 32 Indicators and 24 verifiers were validated, which constitute the information base for the design of the technical standard for MFS in Venezuela. ToRs were prepared for a specialist to support the development of the preliminary proposal for the technical standard. 	<p>Progress in this period is aimed at updating the terms of reference, which will allow the technical standard to be prepared by the third quarter of 2020; and its pilot application and follow-up during 2021. The aspects included are related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design the technical standard proposal containing the criteria and indicators of environmental and social sustainability defined for SFM of forests in Venezuela, with the programs used and the databases built being expected to become part of the SINIF for forest management monitoring. Conduct training and exchange workshops with different stakeholders involved in sustainable forest management (MINEC and affiliated entities, universities, communities) and validate the Technical Standard proposal obtained before MINEC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In January 2021, the consultancy for the design of the Technical Standard on Criteria and Indicators for Environmental and Social Sustainability of MFS began. The list of professionals and experts in the environmental/social area (+350) proposed to participate in the first National Consultation for the Formulation of Criteria & Indicators for Environmental and Social Sustainability of SFM in Venezuela was reviewed and validated, together with a focus group of key stakeholders. Review of the questionnaire referred to the process of selection, proposal and validation of criteria and sub-criteria for SFM. Review of the consolidated matrices of the global model and the model at forest management unit level of criteria and indicators for SFM, materials and opening of the virtual classroom to start the training foreseen in the consultancy. Review of the Community Validation Proposal for Criteria and Indicators for SFM applied by the field team in IFR communities during the second quarter of 2021. 	70%
Output 2.2.2: Mechanism for participatory monitoring of forests managed under environmental and social standards for multiple use, in balance with the provision of forest ecosystem goods and services.	Q3 Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical care, food and crop transport days were carried out, with co-financing from ENAFOR. Assemblies were held with the Kari'ñas indigenous communities and the Imataca III camp of the IFR to discuss topics of interest. ToRs of 3 specialists in the areas of Social Sciences and Forestry were constructed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A participatory forest monitoring mechanism was designed, promoting a preponderant role of indigenous communities in decision making, integrating their cosmovision, livelihoods in a vision of a SFM system. ToRs were developed for the design of the protocol for community recruitment, organization and participation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A panel of experts was formed to guide the methodologies, strategies and actions for approaching, attracting and organizing the communities, as a key point for the training process and execution of tasks shared in participatory forest monitoring. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The design of a protocol with methodological guidelines, strategies and actions for approaching, recruiting and organizing the communities was completed, as well as the strategies for the training process and execution of shared tasks in the participatory monitoring that will be applied in the 6,487.12 hectares of forest assigned to the TUKUPU EPSDC for Forest Co-management. Three workshops were designed with the purpose of preparing the participants for the field data collection, under the methodology of "learning by doing". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of three community training workshops for participatory forest monitoring under the "learning-by-doing" methodology, in order to prepare participants for the field data collection that will allow the pilot application of the participatory monitoring mechanism in the first 1,000 ha. surveyed in the Tukupu area. 	60%

Outcome 2.3: Strengthened intersectoral dialogue in SFM								
Output 2.3.1: Human talent training program and dialogues for the exchange of local knowledge related to the use of information generated by SINIIF for better forest planning and management, and SFM practices implemented.	Q3 Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A meeting was held with indigenous communities and their captains (tribal chiefs) on free, prior and informed consent, explaining the project to them. They expressed their support and interest in being an integral part of the project.• Work was done on participatory diagnoses in the communities• NTFP knowledge exchange workshop was held.• ToRs for the consultancy on Community Management were elaborated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A training program was designed for human talents and dialogues for the exchange of local knowledge, including workshops for the communities and their leaders, with the participation of 30% of women.• The Kari'ña indigenous communities were approached to learn about their way of life and identify socio-productive and environmental training needs.• A workshop was held with the attendance of 46 participants (47.8% women).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The training program was strengthened with the incorporation of a line on Intercultural Bilingual Pedagogy that allows for the design of instruments and tools in order to guarantee the sustainability of the Kari'ña language and communication on issues related to SFM, in compliance with the provisions of the manual on free, prior and informed consultation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The programmatic content of the courses to be taught was designed.• The consultancy on intercultural bilingual pedagogy provided relevant information on the gender perspective, empowerment of Kari'ña women and aspects of interculturality present in the area and addressed in the implementation of the project, as cross-cutting dimensions, which result in strengthening the exchange of knowledge.• Four proposals for informative material in Kari'ña/Spanish were generated: 1) role of the Kari'ña woman in the IFR. 2) meliponaries established in the Kari'ña Communities. 3) Forest nursery manual and 4) Kariña glossary for timber and non-timber forest species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progress was made in training community members using the "learning-by-doing" method, especially in sustainable forest comanagement. Eight workshops were held with the participation of 143 people (39% women).• A consultancy was contracted for the "Development of a gender attention program in bilingual indigenous communities (Kari'ña/Spanish)", as part of the activities to strengthen the exchange of knowledge.• An instrument was designed, validated and applied to collect information on the roles of women in IFR communities..	65%	
Output 2.3.2: Inter-institutional agreements for the inter-institutional coordination of forest management governance in Venezuela and the adaptation of the SINIIF to respond to the information needs of forest different sectors stakeholders established.	Q2 Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The first cooperation agreement on education and training was signed with the Universidad Experimental de Guayana (UNEG) and ENAFOR to meet the training and capacity building requirements identified.• A first report with the identification of potential institutions for the formalization of inter-institutional agreements is available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ENAFOR signed 2 inter-institutional agreements with IFLA and INDEFOR, which contribute to research, technical assistance, training and exchange of information and documentation related to SFM and the network of forest seeds.• ToRs were prepared for six (6) agreements for the inter-institutional coordination of SFM governance and the SINIIF.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Four (4) inter-institutional agreements have been signed: Universidad Experimental de Guayana (UNEG), Instituto de Investigaciones para el Desarrollo Forestal de la Universidad de Los Andes (INDEFOR), Latin American Forestry Institute (IFLA), and the Mayor's Office of the Municipality of Piar, Bolivar State.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Six (6) inter-institutional agreements have been signed. In addition to those reported above, there is the agreement between 19 public and private institutions in the country on the establishment of the National Network of Forest Seed Suppliers (P.3.1.3), and the Strategic Alliance between ENAFOR and EPSDC Tukupu, oriented to Forest Co-management.• Six (6) inter-institutional agreements and the corresponding operational plan are being prepared to establish the necessary coordination/articulation between the different institutions to strengthen SFM.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work is underway to prepare four proposals for inter-institutional agreements with stakeholders involved in forest management in the Imataca Forest Reserve and the design of an action plan for institutional strengthening to achieve sustainable forest governance in this territory.	60%	

Component 3: Restoration, Conservation and SFM/SLM of Forests in Areas Affected by Degradation Processes								
Outcome 3.1: Technical and institutional capacities for forest and forestland restoration through SFM / SLM practices strengthened								
Output 3.1.1: General standards and indicators to prioritize areas for forest restoration based on information generated by SINIIF.	Q4 Y5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literature was compiled to support the identification C&I for prioritization of restoration areas. A document was prepared on policies, laws and actions applied in the country in terms of SFM and biodiversity conservation. A report was prepared on the estimation of deforestation in Bolívar state. ToRs for three specialists in: Ecology, Forest Ecology and Geomatics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentary and cartographic information was compiled on environmental and socio-cultural conditions of both natural and intervened forest ecosystems in IFR. Information was systematized for the 23 management units in the IFR, including the 12 concessions (1983-2010). Mapping of land cover and current land use of undisturbed and logged forest was generated in Unit V of the IFR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and validation of 8 standards (criteria) and 29 indicators for selecting priority areas for restoration in IFR - Unit V was carried out. A proposal for training workshops was developed using geomatics techniques. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria and indicators were applied for the selection of areas to be restored in the IFR and adjacent areas, selecting 650 ha in Unit V and its surroundings. A training workshop was held on criteria and indicators for the selection of areas to be restored using geomatics techniques, with the participation of 17 professionals from CONARE, Misión Árbol, Instituto Geográfico de Venezuela Simón Bolívar, Universidad Central de Venezuela and Universidad Marítima del Caribe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 600 ha intervened in the forest co-management area granted to EPSDC TUKUPU were selected by applying the criteria and indicators designed and validated in 2018, which are appropriate for implementing restoration actions. In the context of the FAO-CONARE LoA, 41 priority areas for restoration were located, covering 1,454 ha distributed in 12 states of the country. Three (3) workshops for technical staff and six (6) community workshops were planned for the selection of areas where plantations and agroforestry systems will be established in the IFR. 	90%	
Output 3.1.2: Strategy for the restoration, rehabilitation and recovery of forest cover in the IFR with an ecosocial approach designed and implemented	Q4 Y5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A preliminary document was prepared on the conceptualization and principles that will guide the restoration strategies to be applied in the project. The document establishing the different relationships between physiography and the development of forest species (soil-vegetation relationship) at the level of species of interest in the area and everything concerning their impact on Unit V 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review and analysis of background information and experiences related to the restoration of disturbed ecosystems and the recovery of mining areas was conducted. Monitoring of successional dynamics was initiated through the vegetation surveys and collection of soil samples in plots established in different forests and areas recovered by rehabilitation or natural succession processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategies were designed and validated for the restoration and recovery of forest cover in intervened ecosystems of the IFR. The evaluation of gold mining areas in the northern sector of the IFR continued. Progress was made in the design and establishment of demonstration trials of measures and practices for restoration in mining areas, through the incorporation of a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New specific strategies for restoration, rehabilitation and recovery of forest cover in the IFR were designed, including the evaluation of successional dynamics, microbiota functionality and soil quality. The species and plant production techniques to be used were selected in Ten Kariña communities of the IFR. A manual was designed for the restoration of the xerophytic forest that integrates different topics, including the following: conceptual bases for restoration, distribution and conservation status of the xerophytic forest, which, among other aspects, includes alternatives for sustainable use and application of restoration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategies designed have generated knowledge and methodologies to address the processes of restoration of degraded forests and recovery of areas affected by gold mining in the IFR; among these strategies are the evaluation of successional dynamics, the functionality of microbiota and mycotrophy (colonization by arbuscular mycorrhizae) in the soil, the determination of physicochemical and biological indicators of soil quality, phytoremediation and ecotoxicity analysis. In order to strengthen restoration actions, two consultancies were initiated to develop manuals for the restoration of humid forests and mangrove forests. These manuals will apply ecological restoration concepts, establish restoration actions and strategies, and propose a training program for community and institutional stakeholders. These consultants have made 	100%	

		of the IFR was prepared. • ToRs of three specialists were generated: Restoration, Soil science and Bioengineering.	• Field surveys and checks were conducted in 4 gold mines to the north of the IFR.	national consultant.	models in pilot areas with the participation of the communities.	progress in the diagnosis of the current situation, in the characterization of the edaphoclimatic and biological conditions, as well as in the determination of the causes and processes that affect the degradation of these ecosystems.		
Output 3.1.3: National network of forest seed suppliers established.	Q3 Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report was prepared on the techniques for the identification, selection and location of seed trees in Unit V of the IFR. • A report was generated on the distribution and productive capacity of MINEA's institutional nurseries in the country. • A report was produced on ENAFOR's Regional Seed Center (Regional Seed Laboratory in Upata, Bolívar), reflecting the activities and treatments provided. • A report was prepared on the collection of selected forest seeds in the IFR and adjacent areas. • ToRs of two specialists in: Forest Genetics and Plant Propagation were prepared. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report was prepared on regional experiences in the creation and operation of seed networks in LatAm countries. • A proposal was prepared for the Network design. • 2 agreements were signed by ENAFOR with INDEFOR and IFLA to strengthen relations in the areas of research, technical assistance, training and exchange of information and documentation to promote cooperation for SFM and strengthen the Network. • The Regional Forest Seed Center of Guayana, was consolidated. • The community component of the Network began to be articulated with the participation of members of the Kariña Botanamo and La Esperanza communities in Unit V-IFR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Regional Centers have been integrated into the Network: the Guayana Regional Center (Bolívar) attached to ENAFOR and Los Andes Regional Center, formed by the Genetics Laboratory and the Forest Seeds of INDEFOR- ULA (Mérida). • 14 organized women joined the seed collection network in three communities (Botanamo, Km 45 and Río Negro). • The National Workshop on "Tree Selection and Forest Seed Manipulation" was held with the participation of 50 people (32% women) from 6 states • A National Seed Collection Day was held, with the participation of CONARE, Misión Árbol and ENAFOR, where 422 kg of seeds of 47 forest species and 13 fruit species were collected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Network of Forest Seed Suppliers was created with the participation of 19 institutions (11 public, 3 academic, 3 private and 2 NGOs), which signed an agreement to exchange knowledge and services and strengthen the Regional Centers. • A guide to good community practices was designed for the selection of seed trees and the handling of forest seeds. • Technical booklets were prepared for 30 forest species detailing their distribution in the country, botanical characteristics, phenology, uses, fruit harvesting and seed processing, nursery plant production and established plantations. A technical guide was designed for forest seed certification. • Six booklets were prepared on the certification of forest species seeds. • Six training workshops and two experience-sharing tours were held in the western part of the country to evaluate seed certification analysis techniques, mass seed production, stands and seed orchards, and large-scale commercial planting strategies. A total of 187 people (37% women) participated in these activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eighteen training workshops and two experience-sharing tours were held to disseminate the guides and booklets on good practices for seed certification and forest species. • In conjunction with CONARE, 9 training workshops were held in five states with the participation of 137 technicians and members of the communities adjacent to the institutional nurseries (45% women). • Three virtual workshops were held on the physical certification of forest seedlings in forest plantations and natural forests. • The local component of the Network was strengthened in the IFR, through the FAO-Tukupu CoA, with the incorporation of groups of organized women leaders in three Kariña communities (La Fortaleza, El Cafetal and Pozo Oscuro), for seed collection and plant production in community and family nurseries. In these communities, "learning-by-doing" workshops have been initiated on seed and seedling collection practices, and nursery establishment and management. 	85%	.

Outcome 3.2: Restoration and regeneration of 1,440 ha of forests through SFM/SLM strategies within the framework of an ecosystem approach and prioritizing the multi-functionality of forests.							
Output 3.2.1: Model for Forest Restoration through SFM/SLM field-tested with the participation of local governments and communities.	Q3 Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A document was produced on the forest species established through plantations in the IFR. A proposal for a restoration plan (agroforestry systems) was prepared. An analysis report was generated on pilot tests of agroforestry systems in Unit V-IFR. A report was prepared on nurseries in Upata (Centro Regional Semillas), Imataca III-IFR Camp. A report was prepared on the National Reforestation Plan and priority basins. The selection, design and establishment of 0.1 ha plots located in Unit V for carbon sequestration measurements was advanced. ToRs were prepared for four specialists in: Reforestation, Plant Ecology, Agroforestry, and In Vitro Crops. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A proposal was prepared for the restoration of Unit V - IFR through agroforestry, analog forestry and reforestation, including a review of experiences, community selection and sites, and species selection. Four Kariña communities were selected in Unit V-IFR to participate in the restoration plan. The sites in Unit V-IFR where the agroforestry systems and reforestation will be implemented were determined. Production of plants in community and ENAFOR nurseries was initiated, as well as the establishment of agroforestry trials. Eighteen 0.1 ha plots were established to monitor carbon sequestration in logged-over forests and in areas to be restored. Plots with tree components greater than 5 cm DAP were evaluated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The production of 15,000 plants in institutional and community nurseries and the establishment of 40ha through reforestation (25ha) and agroforestry systems (15ha). At the request of the country's highest environmental authority, MINEC's National Reforestation Plan will be strengthened with the production of 2,200,000 plants of forest and fruit species in nurseries located in 12 of the country's states, through the Letters of Agreement signed between FAO/CONARE (1,500,000 plants), FAO/Misión Árbol (400,000 plants) and FAO/ENAFOR (300,000 plants). A specialist in the formulation of proposals for the production of forest and fruit plants was incorporated to strengthen the technical assistance provided by the project in this area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 90,000 plants (59% forest and 41% fruit) suitable for reforestation and agroforestry plantations in the country. Community nurseries were established in the Kariña communities of Botanamo and La Esperanza for the production of 17,000 forest and fruit plants. 249 technicians from 15 institutions and community members (38% women) were trained through 10 workshops on nursery establishment and management. A practical guide for nursery establishment and management was developed in the Kariña language. Implementation of SMF practices in 2 demonstration sites affected by mining activities. Training on strategies for the restoration of areas affected by mining was provided to 27 professors and students of the Universidad Nacional Experimental de Guayana, El Palmar, Bolívar State. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the context of FAO-CONARE, FAO-Misión Arbol and FAO-ENAFOR LoAs, progress was made with the production of 1,200,000 forest and fruit plants in 33 nurseries located in 19 states of the country, of which 660,000 plants are ready for planting. These nurseries contain a great biodiversity of species, represented by 77 forest species and 44 fruit species. Progress is being made in the establishment of plantations in 11 states, covering 232 ha (154 ha with agroforestry and 78 ha reforested), especially in the states of Anzoátegui, Barinas, Portuguesa, Trujillo and Zulia. The IFR has more than 20,000 forest and fruit plants produced in the community and family nurseries of two Kariña communities; 40 ha are being restored with these plants as part of the FAO-EPSCD Tukupu LoA and within the framework of the Great Line of Synergy and Transversality. In the restored areas, 12 new plots will be established for carbon sequestration monitoring, and the 24 plots established in 2018 will be remediated. With Tukupu, 4 community nurseries have been established out of the 10 planned to restore degraded areas in the IFR. A consultant was hired who is evaluating the ecological potential of soil microorganisms as a key component in the management plans of intervened ecosystems. It will also establish strategies for the production and use of microbial inoculums as a tool for the successful recovery of degraded areas. Training workshops were initiated for the production of mycorrhizal bioinputs and nitrogen-fixing bacteria in community nurseries. A specialist in the area of plant production and plantation establishment was hired. 	60%

Output 3.2.2: Systematized experiences and lessons learned in marketing timber and non-timber products	Q4 Y5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A proposal was developed to systematize the experiences in production and commercialization of NTFPs in four regions of the country: Guayana, Andean, Central and Llanera. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress has been made in formulating the methodology and instruments for collecting information and preparing the work plan for systematizing production and marketing of TFP y NTFP experiences in Guayana region, including a list of artisans and communities, identification of forest species and their sections or parts used, processing and use of TFP and NTFP, their commercialization and the impact on the environmental and socio-cultural conditions of the communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A work team was formed to collect information for the elaboration of a document on the experiences of Kari'ña artisans in the production and commercialization of TFP s and NTFP, in the framework of the second FAO/IFLA LoA. The information gathering areas and work routes were identified, with the mapping of the key points for data collection in the Anzoátegui and Bolívar states, especially in the settlement areas of the Kari'ña communities with a preliminary list of artisans to contact. Design of instruments to collect and process the information, with their respective field instructions, in such a way that three semi-structured surveys were elaborated to be applied in the field work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the framework of the second LoA signed with IFLA, the methodology and strategy for data collection was designed, including the identification of data collection areas, preparation of instruments to collect and process the information and generation of a preliminary list of artisans to be contacted. A proposal was prepared to continue the activities of this product through a new LoA with IFLA, in order to complete the work already started by that institution. 	50%	
Output 3.2.3: Market and value chains analysis of the main forest products demanded and that affect the forest, and recommendations for market adjustments and the design of strategies to reduce pressures on forests	Q4 Y5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports on forestry statistics 2014-2016 were prepared. An updated report on timber production, sales and distribution of the Unit V- IFR was prepared. The report on sawmills located in Bolívar State was updated and verified. ToRs were generated for a specialist in: Economic Evaluation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified the IFR species that provide the main TFP and NTFP. The characterization of the country's forest products market was prepared, with emphasis on timber production, where forestry statistics from 2006 to 2016 were reviewed and the production of roundwood and sawnwood at the national level was analyzed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first phase of this output has been completed with the preparation of two documents: "Characterization of the country's forest products market" and "Value chain of forest products in the Imataca Forest Reserve". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A proposal was prepared for an agreement to be signed between the Mayor's Office of the Municipality of Sifontes, ENAFOR and the EPSDC Tukupu to develop an indigenous market in the town of Tumeremo, where the Kari'ña communities can offer products from their crops, harvested from the forest and processed as handicrafts. A report was prepared on potential agricultural and handicraft products to be offered in the indigenous market by the Kari'ñas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A proposal was prepared for an agreement to be signed between the Mayor's Office of the Municipality of Sifontes, ENAFOR and Tukupu to develop an indigenous market in Tumeremo town, where the Kari'ña communities can offer products from their crops, harvested from the forest and processed as handicrafts. A report was prepared on potential agricultural and handicraft products to be offered in the indigenous market by the Kari'ñas 	75%	

Output 3.2.4: Community marketing plans for timber and non-timber products implemented according to the multiple use principle.	Q3 Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report on NTFP inventory in Unit V- Imataca Forest Reserve was produced. • The report on the identification and characterization of NTFP in Unit V- IFR was produced. • ToRs was generated for specialist in: Community Forestry Development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most representative forest species present in the IFR were identified, and whose TFP and NTFP could be marketed by communities. • 10 TFP and 10 NTFP were selected, under environmental, socioeconomic and technological criteria; according to their potential to be developed and commercialized by IFR communities. • Three Kariña communities of the IFR (Botanamo, Río Negro and La Esperanza) were selected to develop community plans. • Specific strategies for the development of the plans were determined. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The document "Timber and non-timber forest products with potential to be marketed by the local communities of the IFR" was prepared. • Progress was made in the characterization of melipona bee species and the use of their honey at the national and regional levels, and work began on the preparation of rational boxes to conduct training workshops and establish meliponariums in the Kariña communities of Unit V-IFR. • Progress was made in the review and evaluation of experiences in the use of resins, latex and essential oils. The tree species that produce these exudates in Unit V-IFR were identified and characterized. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management and use of meliponiculture continued to be promoted through the evaluation of stingless bees in areas of the IFR, identifying 12 species with feasibility for breeding and commercial exploitation. • Through the "learning-by-doing" methodology and the dialogue of knowledge, 36 members of the Kariña communities of El Cafetal and Pozo Oscuro were trained, with which three pilot meliponariums were established with 18 rational hives of 6 species of meliponae, for which informative material on meliponariums in the Kariña language was developed in P. 2.3.1. • Fifty tree and liana species were identified that present resins, latex and oils in the IFR, of which 25 species were selected and samples were collected and analyzed to determine the chemical compounds that will allow defining strategies for the use and exploitation of these exudates. • Among the NTFP with the greatest potential were identified: copaiba oil (<i>Copaifera officinalis</i>), purguo latex (<i>Manilkara bidentata</i>) and andiroba oil (<i>Carapa guianensis</i>). Descriptive sheets were prepared highlighting botanical characteristics, harvesting techniques and forms of use. General aspects of NTFP marketing and value chains are also analyzed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community plans were established for the management and harvesting of the following non-timber forest products (NTFP): honey from melipona bees, onoto (<i>Bixa orellana</i>), copaiba oil (<i>Copaifera officinalis</i>) and andiroba oil (<i>Carapa guianensis</i>). These plans include product characteristics, harvesting and processing techniques, aspects on marketing, and strategies for training through the "learning-by-doing" methodology. • With regard to plans for the use of timber forest products (TFP), there is a manual for the establishment and equipping of a carpentry workshop, where members of the Kariña communities will be trained in TFP processing and marketing techniques, mainly using branches as raw material. • Regarding the implementation of these plans, actions continued to be carried out for the production of honey from melipona bees, and information on the other products has been socialized in meetings with the communities. • A national consultant was hired to evaluate the fauna resource as a component of forest management, determining the patterns of its use by the communities and establishing proposals for its sustainable use in the IFR. 	60%	
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Output 3.2.5: Financing schemes for SFM, SLM and NTFP commercialization support and implementation of the national SFM standards program established under outcome 2.2.	Q3 Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report was generated on the review of legal aspects established in the Forestry Law and institutional financial forecasts for the forestry sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A preliminary proposal was prepared to develop the financing fund, taking into account the review and analysis of international experiences in the operation of funds for the development of the fund to the promotion of forestry activities, as well as an international workshop to review the state of the art in the creation and operation of financing funds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work continued on improving the preliminary proposal for developing the financing fund. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the framework of the FAO-ENAFOR LoA, a team of specialists was formed to develop proposals and actions for the implementation of the financing fund through the EPSDC Tukupu. A report was prepared on experiences in Latin America in the organization and operation of funds aimed at promoting forestry activities and the recovery of degraded areas, describing 12 successful experiences in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala and Mexico. The financing of community enterprises in Guatemala, Colombia and Mexico was analyzed in detail, and finally, the factors that facilitate and hinder access to sources of financing in the country were considered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the support of MINEC, the coordination between the EPSDC Tukupu and the new private forestry companies established in the IFR has been promoted. A fund will be created to raise funds to support the socio-productive projects promoted by the EPSDC Tukupu and the SFM actions to be developed in the area assigned in the IFR to this indigenous company for Forest Co-management. A proposal was developed to incorporate this product in the new LoA that is being prepared to be signed with IFLA, which will continue and deepen the work done so far in this regard. 	50%	
Component 4: Project M&E and Information Dissemination.								
Outcome 4.1. Project implementation based on results-based management and facilitating the application of lessons learned and good practices in future operations.								
Output 4.1.1: Project M&E system operational, providing constant information on project progress in achieving outcomes and outputs	Q4 Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project Inception Workshop was held. Project M&E Plan prepared and approved. 3 Technical Reports submitted: 1 PIR and 2 PPRs. 1 AOP/B submitted. 1 Steering Committee Meeting held. 1 action strategy planning, review and adjustment meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Technical Reports Submitted: 2 PIRs and 4 PPRs. 2 AOP/B presented. 2 Steering Committee meetings held. 4 meetings were held to plan, review and adjust action strategies. Work strategies were established to maintain continuous monitoring and follow-up of the project in order to keep the FPMIS indicator matrix up to date, including: monthly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 Technical Reports Submitted: 3 PIRs and 6 PPRs. 3 AOP/B presented. 3 Steering Committee Meetings held. 2 Letters of Agreement monitored (IFLA and ENAFOR). 7 meetings for planning, review and adjustment of action strategies carried out. 3 field missions with multi-disciplinary teams carried out. 1 technical tour with international 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 Technical Reports Submitted: 4 PIRs and 8 PPRs. 4 AOP/B presented. 4 Steering Committee meetings held. 8 Letters of Agreement monitored (IFLA I and II, MISIÓN ARBOL, ENAFOR I and II, CONARE, CENDITEL and ABAE). 10 meetings for planning, review and adjustment of action strategies carried out. 10 field missions with multi-disciplinary teams carried out. 11 technical tours carried out. 13 working groups and various meetings held with the project's implementing partners (MINEC, IFLA, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Technical Reports Submitted: 5 PIRs and 10 PPRs. 5 AOP/B presented. 6 Steering Committee meetings held. 9 Letters of Agreement monitored (IFLA I and II, MISIÓN ARBOL, ENAFOR I and II, CONARE, CENDITEL, ABAE and TUKUPU). 13 meetings for planning, review and adjustment of action strategies, carried out. 30 field missions with multi-disciplinary teams carried out. 18 technical tours conducted. 52 working groups and various meetings held with the project's implementing partners. 19 virtual follow-ups under teleworking modality. 1 quality self-assessment workshop for projects in the implementation phase. 	85%	

			and quarterly reports, progress reports from the implementing partners, joint working groups, accompaniment during field trips, technical support to contracted specialists.	consultants to learn about the experiences of forest management in the IFR. • 7 working groups and various meetings held with the project's implementing partners (MINEC, IFLA, ENAFOR, CONARE and MISION ARBOL). • Periodic technical visits to IFR communities by the project's technical team.	ENAFOR, CONARE and MISION ARBOL); • Periodic technical visits to IFR communities by the project technical team. • Monitoring of work plans, activity/progress reports, and technical documents presented in the framework of the consultancies contracted by the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodic technical visits to IFR communities by the project technical team. • Monitoring of work plans, activity/progress reports, and technical documents presented in the framework of the consultancies contracted by the project. • Ongoing monitoring and updating of the FPMIS system. • 2 new Letter of Agreement proposals in preparation to be signed with IFLA and the National Parks Institute (INPARQUES). • 339 adjustments and readjustments in FPMIS to the activity and product indicators, referring to the wording, units of measurement, means of verification or milestones for compliance, taking into consideration the Project Document (PRODOC) and its compatibility with the reality of implementation, as well as the recommendations of the MTR. • Following the recommendations of the MTR as of August 2020, Two consultants were incorporated to support the Monitoring and Follow-up, that have made it possible to streamline these functions.. 		
Output 4.1.2: Mid-term and final evaluations conducted and implementation and sustainability strategies adjusted and recommendations made	Q4 Y6				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MTR was conducted in February-March 2020 by an independent consulting team with the support of FAO Venezuela, FAO RLC and the FAO-GEF coordination unit; with the objective of reviewing the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, inclusion of cross-cutting dimensions and prospects for sustainability of the project during the first implementation period (2016- 2019). • A 10-day fieldwork was carried out, where key informants present in Caracas and the states of Bolívar and Mérida were accessed, in addition to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Management Response (MR) to the MTR was prepared, containing the strategies for the implementation and sustainability of the project, in response to the accepted MTR recommendations. • Likewise, the MTR Dissemination Plan was prepared and its implementation began to make known to the interested parties the main findings and results of said Review process. • Due follow-up has been given to the implementation of strategies contemplated in the management plan to the Management Response. 	70%	

					conducting on-site observation in the intervention territory, using a participatory approach, combining quantitative and above all qualitative collection techniques and instruments.			
Output 4.1.3: Good practices and project lessons published	Q4 Y6				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is quality material available for publication, based on the documents generated in components 1, 2 and 3, which are being reviewed, validated and systematized. • The Communication and Dissemination Plan was prepared, which dictates the basic guidelines for the design of the project's content and communication strategies. • An article was prepared to make the project visible, published in the GEF Newsletter. • Progress is made in editing and correcting the documents produced by the project, to then give way to layout and layout. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Semiannual Newsletter published. • 11 dissemination materials on the Project and its achievements (articles, publications and interviews) with great national and international diffusion. • More than 100 publications for social networks, especially on the Twitter account of the FAO Representation in Venezuela (@FAO_Venezuela) and the EPSDC Tukupu Twitter and Instagram accounts: @tukupu_ve.. • 11 publications entered into FAO's PWS system, in the process of review and adjustments. • 7 proposals for content to be published on the website. • 5 primers developed in component 2, designed and laid out. Long video "Sembramos para la Humanidad: Los kariña y la conservación de los bosques en Venezuela" (Sowing for Humanity: The Kariña and forest conservation in Venezuela); • Short video (Social Networks) "Sembramos para la Humanidad: Los kariña y la conservación de los bosques en Venezuela"; • Five audios + transcription, by Cecilia Rivas for the PODCAST; • Aníbal Girón's Life Story "Embracing Change". • The Kariña communities of Imataca are being provided with communication tools so that they can transmit their contents and messages, thus diversifying the platforms and dissemination channels for the project. A radio program "La voz kariña" was launched, broadcast on La Sifonteña 104.5 FM, hosted by the indigenous captain Cecilia Rivas. 	65%	

Output 4.1.4: Web page for dissemination of information and exchange of experiences.	Q4 Y5				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The structure of the Web page was designed and is in the process of being updated with information on the progress of the project. • As support for dissemination, the virtual platform (Twitter) of the representation is being used to send relevant messages about the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project's Communication and Dissemination team, together with CENDITEL, prepared the final proposal for the structural map of the web page, defining the sections and the definitive navigation. • Ongoing communication is maintained with FAO's Publications Coordination, making significant progress on the technical aspects of the web page. • During the first half of 2021, the structure of the web page and the uploading of content for its definitive launch were completed and it is currently operational and in the process of being updated. 	85%	
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4. Information on Progress, Outcomes and Challenges on Project Implementation

Please briefly summarize main progress achieving the outcomes (cumulative) and outputs (during this fiscal year):

- **Progress has been made in the implementation of protocols and methodologies for the collection and updating of forest data**, as a contribution to the improvement of forest assessment and monitoring capacity in Venezuela, such as: Protocols for updating and processing geospatial information prepared according to the Terra Amazon model; Protocol for collecting sociocultural and economic information from communities; Methodologies for multipurpose plots including information on carbon flows and mapping of forest types; Protocols for participatory forest monitoring; as well as Methodological compendiums and preparation of the first 25 thematic charts at a scale of 1:250 000 (located in the west of the country) of biodiversity.
- **Knowledge of Venezuela's forest biodiversity has been expanded** through specific studies that have made it possible to generate a floristic database and its characteristics, in addition to the development of risk assessment protocols for the species identified. Studies have been completed on the current and potential use of the species, their physical-mechanical properties and the valuation of the forest's ecosystem services. Additional studies on bromatology, resins, latex and essential oils have been completed, as well as a water inventory of the IFR, the latter not contemplated in the project design.
- **The project has contributed to the development of technical capacities and the acquisition of knowledge on SFM in public sector partners and indigenous communities.** 54 workshops/courses have been held so far, with the participation of 1,281 people (49% women), mostly officials from MINEC, its attached agencies and other institutions. Thirteen community courses/workshops have been held with the participation of 238 people (39% women).
- **A co-management alliance was formed between the Venezuelan State and the Kari'ña indigenous communities for the creation, registration and recognition of the first Indigenous Forestry Company, named TUKUPU.** An agreement was reached with MINEC to grant a concession for the administration of forest resources over an area of more than 6,500 ha. The operational forestry Plan for the first 1000 ha of the co-management unit assigned to the Kari'ña communities was prepared, obtaining the census and inventory of the forest mass, information on aerial coverage, and other carbon deposits, NTFPs, phytosociological, structural and phenological aspects of the forest, among the most important.
- **Progress has been made in the implementation of development strategies to promote forest and land conservation and restoration** through sustainable forest management and sustainable land management practices, as evidenced by the development of criteria and indicators for the selection of priority areas for forest restoration, and the preparation of a specific strategy for the rehabilitation and recovery of forest cover in the IFR, which is being implemented with the direct and active participation of the Kari'ña communities, organized in the EPSC TUKUPU. With the participation of 10 Kari'ña communities, women's groups have been organized to collect seeds of native species for traditional use, developing community and family nurseries that have allowed the production of forest and fruit plants, to be later established in the field. A manual on Venezuela's xerophytic forests was prepared and two national consultants are working on the preparation of manuals on Venezuela's tropical forests and mangrove forests.
- **Project management has been strengthened and the monitoring system has been reinforced**, making it possible to periodically monitor the progress of the project, the quality of the actions and diagnose in time the measures to be taken in the face of the constant delays caused by the pandemic. The implementation of products and activities has been achieved through letters of agreement with partner institutions and communities, which has accelerated

the budgetary and technical execution of the project. The area of communication and dissemination has been strengthened, promoting the publication of material generated by the project's research and creating digital spaces for its dissemination. The implementation of the project's web page, the publication of various research studies and the preparation of planned communication and dissemination products have been speeded up. The Kari'ña communities of Imataca are being provided with communication tools so that they can transmit their contents and messages.

What are the major challenges the project has experienced during this reporting period?

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, field activities associated with the project were worryingly delayed, affecting the progress of the different project products that were in the implementation and validation stage in the field. It was therefore necessary to promote strategies to advance in some products through the technological platform, and on the other hand, to implement in the field (according to the flexibility allowed), the Great Line of Synergy and Transversality that allowed addressing several related actions simultaneously in the field, by hiring multi-task teams (local staff) and the alliance with the EPSC Tukupu to ensure the participation of the indigenous communities living in the IFR. Overcoming language barriers to achieve the participation of the communities in the life testimonies and audiovisual reports made at the site has been one of the biggest challenges for the communications area of the project.

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

Please note that the overall DO and IP ratings should be substantiated by evidence and progress reported in the Section 2 and Section 3 of the PIR.

For DO, the ratings and comments should reflect the overall progress of project results.

	FY2021 Development Objective rating²⁰	FY2021 Implementation Progress rating²¹	Comments/reasons²² justifying the ratings for FY2021 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	S	S	<i>The project has made significant progress towards the achievement of results, identifying and promoting relevant and impactful activities that have a cross-cutting impact on the entire project. The progress achieved was aimed at strengthening the capacities of state institutions and Kari'ña communities that are partners in the initiative, as well as the implementation of forest restoration strategies. Mechanisms were promoted to improve the dissemination and disclosure of the project's achievements. The resilience to assume project commitments and achieve significant progress under a pandemic situation caused by COVID-19 are aspects to highlight in this report.</i>
Budget Holder	S	S	<i>Despite the challenges posed by COVID -19 , the project managed to maintain implementation until 2020, when the plans for the involvement of indigenous peoples were implemented through the entry into operation of the Tukupu EPDSC and the design of its first operational forest plan. Concrete actions and adjustments to the work plan have been taken by the project team in order to improve the execution of field activities considering the restrictions imposed by the Pandemic.</i>

²⁰ **Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating** – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet.

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

²¹ **Implementation Progress Rating** – Assess the progress of project implementation. For more information on ratings definitions please refer to Annex 1.

²² Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

GEF Operational Focal Point	S	S	<i>The project has made significant progress in its implementation, especially in the activities associated with the focal area of Climate Change, as well as the strengthening of the TUKUPU social property company, being a concrete action for the incorporation of our indigenous communities, led by women to Sustainable Forest Management, empowering vulnerable sectors, and incorporating them into decision making; This takes on even more value considering that the results of the Mid-Term Review were given days before the beginning of the Pandemic, and yet the project's technical team has been able to incorporate them into the project's execution in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Unilateral Coercive Measures.</i>
Lead Technical Officer²³	S	MS	<p><i>To date, the project has made significant progress in terms of development objectives, such as the implementation of an innovative process to involve the Reserve's indigenous communities, and the articulation of actions between communities and government institutions in favor of sustainable forest management, restoration processes and biodiversity conservation.</i></p> <p><i>Regarding implementation progress, the project continues to face challenges due to COVID-19, and important processes for its completion could not be carried out, such as restoration actions, validation of protocols and field data collection, among others. However, the resilience and adaptability of the project team must be recognized, as well as their planning capacity and the creativity employed to find short and medium-term solutions.</i></p>
FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer	S	MS	<i>The project has taken important steps in terms of advancing towards global environmental results, especially at the field level and in community work. However, the Covid19 pandemic has had a strong impact on the development of activities in Venezuela, so it has been deemed necessary to extend the duration of the project given the low rate of progress in the current reporting period. The return to the field and the adequate institutionalization and sustainability of results remain as challenges to be met during the last year of execution.</i>

²³ The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

This section of the PIR describes the progress made towards complying with the approved ESM plan, when appropriate. Note that only projects with **moderate** or **high** Environmental and Social Risk, approved from June 2015 should have submitted an ESM plan/table at CEO endorsement. This does not apply to **low** risk projects. Please add recommendations to improve the implementation of the ESM plan, when needed.

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

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

Overall Project Risk classification (at project submission)	Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ²⁴ . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Moderate	<p>No, the preventive actions and mitigation measures adopted by the project during almost 5 years of implementation in the field, have made it possible to reduce the environmental and social risks identified during the formulation and presentation. The current overall risk classification is "Low" because:</p> <p>-With regard to adverse impacts on traditional practices or agricultural systems in the area: Special care have been taken in the process of capacity building for the Kari'ña indigenous communities, regarding the internalization of the principles of planning and sustainability of economic and productive activities, in line with their worldview of protection and respect of the Kari'ña people to the nature, taking only what is necessary for their livelihood and ensuring the cycles of renewal of the natural resources that provide them timber and non-timber forest products. In addition, the non-timber products to be marketed will privilege their indigenous identity and cultural-traditional relevance. As an example, highlighting the cultural and traditional identity of the Kari'ña people products (cassava, hot sauce, melipona honey, onoto, cachire and others) has been part of the conversations initiated by EPSDC Tukupu with the market company Makro (part of the international consortium SHV).</p> <p>-Regarding the workload of local communities or subgroups within communities: As indicated in the mitigation measures in PRODOC, efforts have been made to optimize the process of participation and involvement of indigenous communities, through two concurrent actions. On the one hand, the strengthening of capacities and technical-intellectual tools such as planning and technification of agricultural and forestry production for the benefit of the communities, such as the establishment of planned and technified agroforestry systems in traditional conucos. And on the other hand, with the promotion of economic and productive diversification of its activities, maintaining the principle of identity and cultural-traditional relevance, as well as the inclusion of the participation of women in the use of timber and non-timber forest products, thanks to the concession granted to EPSDC Tukupu for forest co-management of more than 7,000 ha of forests in the IFR, resulting in better management and use of time.</p> <p>-With regard to the development of capacities of individuals or organizations affected or involved in the project, as well as to review and update policies, laws, regulations or to develop alliances: The project has promoted the participation, involvement and training of the communities as a fundamental aspect, to generate the expected environmental, social and economic benefits. Pilot protocols, methodologies and schemes have been developed, which allow the generation of information and systematization of experiences and knowledge related to the promotion of forest conservation and management, as well as the strengthening of capacities and innovative instruments for sustainable forest co-management, participatory monitoring of forests and the restoration of intervened or degraded forest ecosystems, with special attention to the participation of local indigenous populations. Criteria and indicators for SFM are also being defined for the development of the relevant technical standard and numerous alliances have been established (and continue to be established) with public, private, academic, community and other actors who are also interested in participatory co-governance of the forests.</p>

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

N/A

²⁴ **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is changing, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

6. Risks

Risk ratings

RISK TABLE					
<p><i>The following table summarizes risks identified in the Project Document and reflects also any new risks identified in the course of project implementation. Please make sure that the table also includes the Environmental and Social Management Risks captured by the Environmental and social Management Risk Mitigations plans. The <u>Notes</u> column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in your specific project, as relevant.</i></p>					

	Risk	Risk rating ²⁵	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²⁶	Notes from the Project Task Force
1	Political and institutional risk: Biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest and land management are not prioritized at the regional level.	Low	The project will help promote and strengthen forest policy at the national, regional and local levels. Improved and increased availability of information and knowledge will help to raise awareness among authorities and civil society and to increase the value placed on biodiversity conservation and the need for sustainable forest and land management.	SINIF is providing valuable information: Thematic maps of biodiversity, list of forest species (endemic, threatened, exotic) with their respective conservation status. A database of goods and products of biodiversity and forest ecosystems has been created, including timber forest products (TFP) and non-timber forest products (NTFP). Technical and community capacities have been strengthened through training plans	It has made a fundamental contribution to strengthening state institutions and Kariña communities that are partners in the initiative.
2	Political and institutional risk: Political and institutional consensus cannot be achieved to shape and finance investment funds for SFM / SLM, support for forest product marketing and application of SFM sustainability standards.	Moderate	The project will carry out the detailed design to confirm the technical and financial feasibility to set up the investment funds (Component 3). Through high-level ministerial meetings, the project will seek to inform of the need to create funds for the development of SFM and SLM activities, seeking to generate the necessary political dialogue to reach agreements for the creation and operation of a fund of this nature in view of the new reality that exists in the management of forest resources.	Forest governance actions have been implemented, promoting the participation of the area's indigenous communities in decision-making and social, economic and environmental benefits, through forming a strategic alliance between the Venezuelan government and the EPSDC TUKUPU for forest co-management.	MINEC and the other partner institutions show a high level of adherence and commitment to the project's objectives and activities. This has led to the establishment of cooperation networks between FAO and public institutions, which in turn has facilitated access, dialogue and joint work with the various stakeholders.
3	Administrative risk: Low project management capacity.	Moderate	The Steering Committee's functions will include supporting the timely implementation of the project, promoting policy dialogue, coordination and collaboration among participating institutions, and the timely provision of co-financing.	The Steering Committee (SC) facilitates the participation of the government, other partners and stakeholders in project implementation. Much of the project management has been implemented through letters of agreement with partner institutions, which has been effective in accelerating the technical and budgetary execution of the project.	The project designed and implemented a monitoring system that complies with FAO standards, requirements and tools, enabling it to improve management based on continuous risk analysis and early warnings.

²⁵ GEF Risk ratings: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High

²⁶ If a risk mitigation plan had been presented as part of the Environmental and Social management Plan or in previous PIR please report here on progress or results of its implementation. For moderate and high risk projects, please Include a description of the ESMP monitoring activities undertaken in the relevant period".

	Risk	Risk rating ²⁵	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²⁶	Notes from the Project Task Force
4	Socio-economic risk: Communities and forest sector stakeholders resist adopting sustainable forest and land management practices.	Low	Local populations may be unwilling to develop the proposal because of the economic benefits they derive from other activities such as illegal mining.	In coordination with MINEC and with the active participation of the Kari'ña communities, the first Indigenous Forestry Company was created, registered and recognized for the administration of an area under forest co-management, which implies the administration and use of forest resources, always under strict criteria of long-term sustainability, but with the preponderant participation of the Kari'ña ethnic group. The indigenous communities participate in the Seed Network and have established 10 nurseries in their communities and, under a letter of agreement, support plantation activities.	
5	Environmental risk: Impact of climate change on key ecosystems in the IFR and their ecosystem services	Low	Protocols will be developed to enable the collection of data on land use and changes in use. Promote SFM and the development of instruments that contribute to the implementation of appropriate use measures and their minimal impact, helping to mitigate possible effects of climate variability.	The project has made progress in the development of criteria and indicators for the selection of priority areas for forest restoration and in the preparation of a specific strategy for the rehabilitation and recovery of forest cover in the IFR with an eco-social approach. The operational plans being implemented and the co-management scheme within the framework of the TUKUPU indigenous enterprise are accompanied by a multidisciplinary approach.	
6	Public health risk: Nationwide mobilization limitation due to COVID-19 pandemic.	Moderate	The project makes adjustments to its work plan in response to containment measures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Teleworking is adopted to advance programmed activities.	Intervention strategies have been identified and implemented to advance the project's field tasks, following biosafety measures and minimizing risks for personnel performing field activities.	

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

FY2020 rating	FY2021 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2021 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Low	Low	No changes have been made to the project's risk rating.

7. Adjustments to Project Strategy – Only for projects that had the Mid-term review (or supervision mission)

If the project had a MTR review or a supervision mission, please report on how the MTR recommendations were implemented as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented
<p>Recommendation 1: Carry out a realistic analysis of the possibility of achieving the pending outputs and targets, in order to propose a prioritization of the most essential ones.</p> <p>Suggestion 1: To achieve the project's objectives, it will be necessary to prioritize the implementation of the SINIIF (with the existing information), the web site and the communication plan, the restoration manuals and the missing monitoring plots (with on-site training and adaptation of the methodology to a more feasible one), in addition to the space for inter-institutional articulation.</p> <p>Suggestion 2: Accelerate the installation of the servers, ensuring that the minimum conditions of infrastructure, security and maintenance capacity of the equipment are met.</p> <p>Suggestion 3: It would be advisable to approve the requested extension, even, if it is possible in budgetary terms, to evaluate the possibility of extending the project between 8 and 12 months. This would allow additional time to approach the project targets and improve the chances of sustainability of the initiative.</p>	<p>In response to recommendation 1, two main lines of work have been implemented:</p> <p>(a) Outputs whose activities can be developed under technological platforms and whose advances do not require actual field execution. This includes outputs: 1.1.1, 1.1.5, 1.2.3, 3.2.2. and 3.2.3.</p> <p>b) Outputs and activities whose execution must be carried out in the project intervention areas, and which are in the implementation and field validation stage. The Great Line of Synergy and Transversality (GLST) was implemented, which is a field strategy with a multidisciplinary approach that takes advantage of the existing connection between outputs and components to enhance the progress of the project, which also implies the efficient use of the project's logistical and financial resources. Outputs 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.1.3, 2.3.1, 3.1.3, 3.2.1, 3.2.4 and 3.2.5 are included.</p> <p>Suggestion 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the case of the SINIIF, the development approach according to functional modules was changed to the thematic module approach, which allows making available the partial modules, as they are completed, without having to wait for the system as a whole. • To date, a web page is operational, only waiting for CENDITEL to finalize the process of technological transfer and credentials to MINEC. • The Project's Communication and Dissemination Unit was formed. The communication plan was designed, identifying the communication objectives, strategic messages, as well as the appropriate mechanisms for disseminating the information provided by the project. In addition, a Graphic Identity Manual was created to standardize all the communication products of each of the components. • The Xerophytic Forest Restoration Manual was prepared and is in the process of being revised for publication. Two national consultants have been hired and are preparing the manuals for the restoration of the humid forest and the mangrove forest. • Regarding the monitoring plots, the survey and design of sampling units (plots) for multipurpose surveys has been carried out, in accordance with the GLST, and in the context of the execution of the census and forest inventory of the Operational Plans that are being implemented.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress is being made in inter-institutional coordination between the State (MINEC/ ENAFOR) and the EPSDC Tukupu for the implementation of forest co-management in the IFR. With the support of the project task force (BH, LTO and FLO), proposals were developed to adjust most of the indicators and targets of Outcomes 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1 and 3.2, in accordance with the findings and recommendations of the MTR . The proposals for adjustments made by the project team with the technical approval of the Task Force, as well were approved by the VII Project Steering Committee, held on August 18, 2021. These adjustments are detailed in the next part of this section. <p>Suggestion 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The servers necessary to host SINIIF, were installed in the areas destined by MINEC for this purpose, keeping the corresponding security measures. They are enabled and in perfect operation. <p>Sugerencia 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The necessary considerations were made and an extension was initially requested until December 2021, but as the public health risk has continued and it has increased for the first half of 2021, the request to extend the project with no additional cost until December 2022 was presented to the steering committee and approved by this body.
<p>Recommendation 2: Develop mechanisms to improve the fluidity of internal and external communication (general public and consultants) of the project, as well as facilitate access to relevant information from project partners.</p> <p>Suggestion: Systematize, edit and publish the material generated (scientific research, social, economic and cultural benefits of the approach, the experience with the TUKUPU company, methodologies, manuals, etc.) by the project.</p>	<p>Internal and external communication has improved significantly, as evidenced in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of April 2020, the area of Communication and dissemination of Component 4 was strengthened, with the hiring of specialists in the area of communication, editing and graphic design, managing to dynamize progress to deepen the visibility of the good practices and lessons of the project. Dozens of messages related to actions undertaken by the project have been published on FAO Venezuela's social media accounts. Life stories and articles have been written about Captain Cecilia Rivas and the progress of the project. They have been disseminated in global portals of FAO, as well as in the media of the United States, United Kingdom and France. A video documentary was also made about TUKUPU, the first indigenous forestry company in the country, which is in the process of being published by FAO RLC. Progress is being made in the publication process of the various documents generated by the project through FAO's PWS publication system. The project's first Newsletter was published and progress is being made on the second Newsletter. Two guides are currently in Step 4 of the PWS: "Technical Guide on Good Community Practices for the Selection of Seed Trees and Handling of Forest Seeds" and "Technical Guide: Guidelines for Forest Seed Certification.
<p>Recommendation 3: Implement a comprehensive training program for leaders of TUKUPU, with a focus on gender, inclusion of young people and</p>	<p>In line with recommendation 3, the following has been carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The human talent training program and dialogues for the exchange of local knowledge have been implemented on issues related to plant production in nurseries, plantation

<p>emphasis on the development of management skills.</p> <p>Suggestion: Take advantage of the space to level expectations regarding the economic and social benefits that the company will have in the participating communities.</p>	<p>establishment, equipment management (compass), identification of commercial trees and measurement (for the forestry census). This training process has involved both members of the communities (high participation of women, children and youth), as well as the EPSDC TUKUPU.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress has been made in training members of the Tukupu indigenous company in administrative, communication and document drafting issues, among others. • The existing dynamics in the training spaces allow us to talk with the communities regarding the expectations of obtaining economic and social benefits with the start-up of Tukupu.
<p>Recommendation 4: Enrich the team structure with profiles from the social sciences (e.g. anthropology or sociology with experience in gender) and communications, to provide cross-cutting support to the 4 project components.</p>	<p>In line with recommendation 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The communications and dissemination area was strengthened, incorporating an anthropologist, specialist in communications; a specialist in letters and literature to attend to editing and documentation, and a specialist in graphic design. • The monitoring and follow-up area has been strengthened with the incorporation of two specialists in the social area (Bachelor in International Studies, Bachelor in Administration, both trained in the area of project planning and monitoring); • A consultant in the area of social sciences was hired to take charge of gender equity (conceived as a cross-cutting dimension).
<p>Recommendation 5: Strengthen technical support in the management of the GEF project cycle and in the inclusion of cross-cutting perspectives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Country Office has made the necessary arrangements to strengthen the capacities of national teams, participating in meetings, workshops and virtual meetings organized by FAO RLC to address issues such as gender mainstreaming in large-scale projects, training on gender mainstreaming in the project cycle, self-assessment of project quality in the implementation phase, gender equality in FAO's work, and other aspects related to indigenous peoples, among many other issues related to cross-cutting perspectives.

<p>Recommendation 6: Design and implement an exit strategy aimed at ensuring the sustainability of the effects and processes promoted by the project. This should include at least the following lines of action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy oriented to institutional anchoring of the effects and processes promoted by the project through decrees, norms, regulations, public programs, etc. • Inter-institutional articulation (working groups, coordination spaces, among others). • Agreements for the maintenance and permanent updating of the SINIIF and other project outputs. • Subsequent financing alternatives. <p>Suggestion: Maintain the active accompaniment of the FAO representation in Venezuela in the processes of support to the design of public policies.</p>	<p>In relation to the suggested lines of action, progress is being made in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress is being made in the design of a proposal for a technical standard on Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for environmental and social sustainability of the forest heritage that will lay the foundations for a national certification program for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) by the Ministry of People's Power with environmental competence, to add value to the products and services of the forest heritage; to this end, a National Consultation is currently being carried out to validate the criteria and indicators for SFM in Venezuela. • Progress is being made in the preparation of a Reduced Impact Logging Manual for sustainable forest management in Venezuela, which will contribute to the education and training of the technical personnel who will be responsible for supervising and executing forest harvesting. • Inter-institutional coordination spaces have been established with the formation of the strategic alliance signed between the Venezuelan State and EPSDC TUKUPU, to develop forest co-management activities in the area granted in the IFR. • A close relationship is maintained with the MINEC team, specifically with the Forest Patrimony Directorate, who are the final users and responsible for the SINIIF. • Progress is being made in the development of a scheme for the creation of a financing fund to strengthen the socio-productive projects promoted by the EPSDC Tukupu and the actions for SFM within the framework of forest comanagement in the IFR.
<p>Recommendation 7: Compile or generate information that allows for a potential economic, environmental and social valuation of the Imataca Forest Reserve and develop a proposal for financing mechanisms that are aligned with the country's strategic interests, while maintaining the national principle of non-participation in the Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM).</p>	<p>In follow-up to recommendation 7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A consultancy was hired to design and apply a protocol for the economic environmental valuation of the different values of direct use (extractive, non-extractive), indirect use (biodiversity conservation, environmental services), option, legacy and existence value (threatened and endangered species) of the IFR. • With this study, we will have elements to make decisions about the conservation of the area. It will also lead to the formulation of financing mechanisms, through economic incentives, for such conservation.

<p>Recommendation 8: Develop an internal training plan aimed at promoting the development of institutional capacities on the inclusion of the gender dimension during the cycle of projects under implementation and to be implemented.</p>	<p>With the coordination and support of the Gender Focal Point of the country office, the following activities were carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A consultation was held during the month of February 2021 for the entire Representation team, entitled "Gender training needs assessment" as part of the office's Gender Stocktaking exercise. The results of this assessment, as well as the key points and minimum standards of FAO's new gender equality policy 2020-2030 were presented to all FAOVE staff. The work plan for 2021 was also presented, as well as the possibility of carrying out the Country Common Assessment of Gender in Agriculture this year. • During the months of April and May, a new training course was held on gender mainstreaming in large-scale projects, with the participation of new consultants joining the FAOVE staff in 2021 and the incorporation of a new specialist in gender and socio-environmental analysis, which adds to the existing capacities of the office's specialists in gender and GRDA, as well as gender and attention to bilingual indigenous communities who have joined FAOVE in the last 12 months. • As part of the training action plan proposed by FAO, FAOVE staff participated in June in the "Regional Training for the Construction of Transformative Gender Indicators for Projects". All these activities have been promoted and/or coordinated with the support of the country office's GFP.
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Adjustments to the project strategy.

Please note that changes to outputs, baselines, indicators or targets cannot be made without official approval from PSC and PTF members, including the FLO. These changes will follow the recommendations of the MTR or the supervision mission.

Change Made to	Yes/No	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
Project Outputs	No	
Project Indicators/Targets	Yes	<p>The MTR determined that some indicators / targets of the Outcomes 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1 and 3.2, corresponding to the components 2 and 3 of the project, had characteristics of indicators / target of output or effect and of the way in that had been originally designed did not allow to measure or adequately report the contribution of the outputs to the achievement of the proposed outcomes objectives.</p> <p>The technical team with the support of the Project Task Force (LTO, FLO and BH) developed proposals to adapt the outcome indicators / targets designed in the PRODOC in such a way that they allow to adequately report the progress achieved in the implementation, being these approved by the VII Project Steering Committee, held on August 18, 2021.</p> <p>The only indicator of the aforementioned outcomes that did not suffer changes was indicator 2 of the Outcome 3.2, which became indicator 1, after the previously mentioned modification.</p> <p>Likewise, indicator 2 of the Outcome 2.1 was transferred to the Outcome 2.2, considering that it is more coherent in its measurement and reporting based on the application of environmental and social sustainability standards for the production of timber and non-timber forest products.</p>

	<p>After the approval made by the Steering Committee of the adjustment proposals developed by the technical team of the Project with the support of the Task Force (LTO, FLO and BH), the indicators and targets of the Outcomes 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1 and 3.4, were as follows:</p> <p>Component 2: Strengthening capacities and innovative instruments for Sustainable Forest Management</p> <p>- Outcome 2.1: Community actors, national government and local governments involved in sustainable forest management through new participatory management tools, covering at least 167,320 ha of forests in the Imataca V Management Unit of the IFR.</p> <p>Indicator 1: SFM / REDD + 1.2. Area (number of hectares) under application of good management practices and sustainable forest co-management in forests of the IFR. Target 1: 167,320 ha in Unit V of the IFR, under sustainable forest management / co-management plans</p> <p>Indicator 2: SFM / REDD + 2.1 Enhanced capacities to reduce emissions and increase carbon stocks. Number of institutions, indigenous communities and people with strengthened technical capacities for the implementation of Sustainable Forest Co-management and other participatory forest governance tools. Target 2: Five (5) institutions, ten (10) indigenous communities and at least five hundred (500) people, representatives of institutions and communities (at least 40% women) with developed and strengthened capacities for forest management and co-management of the IFR .</p> <p>- Outcome 2.2: Development and initial implementation of a National Program for the application of environmental and social sustainability standards for the production of timber and non-timber forest products.</p> <p>Indicator 1: Demonstration area (number of hectares) of Unit V of the IFR, under application of the scheme pilot of national standards of environmental and social sustainability in balance with the provision of forest goods and services. Target 1: A demonstration area within Unit V covering 15,000 ha, managed under environmental sustainability standards for the production of timber and non-timber forest products, applying participatory monitoring mechanisms.</p> <p>Indicator 2: SFM / REDD +. Direct and indirect avoided emissions: CCM-5 indicator. LULUCF Targets 2: 2.a) Direct avoided emissions 1,136,759.35tCO₂eq for the 5 years of the project in 25,000 ha (227,351.87 tCO₂eq for 5,000 ha / year). 2.b) Indirect avoided emissions: 18,188,149.06 tCO₂eq for the 5 years of the project (3,637,629.92 CO₂eq per year in 80,000 ha).</p> <p>- Outcome 2.3: Intersectoral dialogue on Sustainable Forest Management strengthened</p> <p>Indicator 1: Number of actors (national and local government institutions, indigenous communities, community-based organizations, companies, and NGOs) with strengthened capacities and participating in an intersectoral dialogue and coordination platform for forest governance in Venezuela. Target 1: At least fifteen (15) actors with strengthened technical capacities and actively participating in a platform for dialogue and intersectoral coordination for forest governance</p> <p>Component 3: Restoration, conservation and SFM / SLM of forests in areas affected by degradation processes</p> <p>- Outcome 3.1: Technical and institutional capacities for the restoration of forests and forest lands through SFM / SLM practices strengthened.</p> <p>Indicator 1: SFM / REDD + 1.2. Good management practices applied in existing forests. Number of institutions, indigenous communities and people representing government institutions, NGOs, grassroots organizations, Indigenous and local communities with installed and strengthened technical capacities on SFM/SLM topics. Target 1: Five (5) national institutions, ten (10) indigenous communities of the IFR and at least two hundred (200) people (at least 40% women) with installed and strengthened technical capacities on SFM/SLM topics.</p>
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	<p>- Outcome 3.2: Restoration and regeneration of 1,440 ha of forests through SFM / SLM strategies within the framework of an ecosystem approach and prioritizing the multifunctionality of forests.</p> <p>Indicator 1: BD-2. III.4 Management practices that integrate biodiversity Target 1: Sequestration of 512,985.68 tCO₂eq in 1,440 ha.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reforestation (748 ha): 262,348.88 Ton / haCO₂eq. • Analog Forestry (342 ha): 122,976 Ton / haCO₂eq • Agroforestry (350 ha): 127,660.08 Ton. / haCO₂eq <p>Indicator 2: Area (number of hectares) of forests and forest lands restored and regenerated Target 2: 1,440 ha of restored and regenerated forest and forest land.</p> <p>In the case of 3 of these indicators and their respective targets, it was considered that the best way to measure and report them was to associate them with the Output 3.1.2: "Strategy for the restoration, rehabilitation and recovery of forest cover in the IFR with an ecosocial approach designed and implemented", that best responds to their objectives.</p> <p>- Indicator 1 and Target 1 of the Outcome 3.1: In this case, the MTR indicated that it was an indicator / target with (incomplete) characteristics of a output indicator and also a source of verification, therefore it was proposed that the indicator/ target be included in the output 3.1.2, as follows:</p> <p>Activity 3.1.2.3. Preparation of national manuals for the restoration of tropical humid forest and forest lands, tropical dry thorn forests and mangroves.</p> <p>Indicator: Number of forest restoration manuals prepared, validated and disseminated Target: Three (3) forest restoration manuals developed, validated and disseminated</p> <p>- Indicator and Target 1 of the Outcome 2.1: The MTR indicated that it was an Indicator / target with the characteristics of an effect indicator, since the outputs of the outcome are oriented to the development of capacities and the design of planning instruments and proposals of schemes of co-management, not allowing its adequate measurement and reporting.</p> <p>- Indicator and Target 1 of the Outcome 3.2: It was drafted in a similar way to indicator and target 1 of Outcome 2.1. Furthermore, in this case, the MTR highlighted that it was an Indicator with (incomplete) characteristics of a output indicator. Therefore, it was proposed to merge them and add them to Output 3.1.2, as follows:</p> <p>Activity 3.1.2.4. Report of stabilized forest species at Unit V level, monitored through measurement of autoecology, abundance, diameter distribution of the species, structure, floristic composition and soils.</p> <p>Indicator: Number of stabilized forest species. Target: Four (4) stabilized and monitored forest species: Carob (<i>Hymenaea courbaril</i>), puy (<i>Handroanthusserratifolius</i>, <i>H. impetiginosus</i>), zapatero (<i>Peltogyne floribunda</i>) and mureillo (<i>Erismia uncinatum</i>).</p>
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Adjustments to Project Time Frame

If the duration of the project, the project work schedule, or the timing of any key events such as project start up, mid-term review, final evaluation or closing date, have been adjusted since project approval, please explain the changes and the reasons for these changes. The Budget Holder may decide, in consultation with the PTF, to request the adjustment of the EOD-NTE in FPMIS to the actual start of operations providing a sound justification.

Change	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
Project extension	<p>Original NTE: 12/31/2021 Revised NTE: 12/31/2022</p> <p>Justification:</p> <p>The current situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, as a result of the blockade and economic sanctions imposed, as well as the public health risk generated by the COVID 19 pandemic, which remains constant, has caused a complex situation at all levels of the country, directly affecting the execution of project activities, which has caused significant delays in field operations, including application and validation of protocols, monitoring and participation of indigenous communities. This has limited the progress programmed for this last stage of the project.</p> <p>In view of these circumstances, a work plan/budget 2021 was prepared, with extension until 2022, including the action strategies that under this described reality can dynamize the project intervention and bring it to a successful conclusion. Revised and enriched with contributions from the BH, Technical FLO and the project's LTC, it was accepted and approved in full by the project's Steering Committee at its 6th meeting on June 17, 2021.</p>

8. Stakeholders Engagement

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

Lista de partes interesadas	Categoría	Mecanismo de compromiso
Ministry of People's Power for Ecosocialism (MINEC)	Public Institution	Governing body for forestry policy in Venezuela. It governs the management and conservation of forest ecosystems, the recognition of the multiple uses and functions of forests and their valuation as an important part of the national economy. Executing partner, co-financier of components 1, 2, 4 and project management.
ENAFOR (National Forestry Company)	Public Institution	Member of the Project Steering Committee. Manages the project intervention area under concession. Accompanies the process of community involvement. Strategic partner, co-financier of components 1, 2, 4.
CONARE (National Reforestation Company)	Public Institution	Member of the Project Steering Committee. Has expertise and mandate in forest recovery and restoration. Strategic partner and co-financier of component 3.
IFLA (Latin American Forestry Institute)	Public Institution	Member of the Project Steering Committee. Supports in terms of research and academic consultation. Strategic partner and co-financier of components 2 and 3.
Misión Árbol (Mission Tree) Foundation	Public Institution	Member of the Project Steering Committee. Supports the integration and empowerment of rural and urban communities for forest restoration.
Universidad Francisco de Miranda, Universidad de Los Andes (ULA), Universidad Experimental de Guayana (UNEG), Centro de Estudios de Postgrado ULA(CEFAP).	Universities and Research Centers	Academic and scientific contributions in the formulation and design of protocols foreseen in the project components. They have participated in the execution of different outputs of the project.
More than 50 academics related to the project.	Public and private universities	External consultants. Academic and research contributions. They have participated in the different phases of the project, in the development of protocols, methodologies and permanent advisory services.
Nine indigenous communities of the Kari'ña ethnic group: Botanamo, La Esperanza, Pozo Oscuro, La Fortaleza, Los Waicas, Rio Negro, El Cafetal, Matupo I and Matupo II.	Indigenous communities	Direct beneficiaries of the project. They are members of the Project Steering Committee. Organized in the Tukupu Social Communal Property Company (EPSC Tukupu), they participate in the implementation of good practices for the scaling up and sustainability of the project.
Bosco Company	Private Company	It carries out commercial forest harvesting operations in the project's area of influence and is close to signing a cooperation alliance with EPSC Tukupu.
Mayor's Office, Municipality of Sifontes	Public Institution	Local government. Indirect beneficiary of the project. Strategic allies in the area of influence of the project.
ABAE (Bolivarian Agency for Space Activities).	Public Institution	Implementing partner by Letter of Agreement. Provides high-resolution satellite imagery for Component 1 activities (forest ecosystem monitoring).
CENDITEL (National Center for Development and Research in Technology Foundation)	Public Institution	Implementing partner by means of a Letter of Agreement for the development of the SINIIF.

9. Gender Mainstreaming

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

In the formulation phase of the project, a gender diagnosis was not carried out; it was based on a socio-economic evaluation that provided disaggregated information on the proportion of men and women. However, in the implementation phase, specific actions have been carried out that have generated information related to gender, such as the community approach carried out in the Tumeremo-El Dorado axis, south of the IFR: La Fortaleza, Los Waikas, Pozo Oscuro and Cafetal communities, where it was concluded that of the total of 724 people, 369 were Kari'ña women, representing 51% of the people surveyed.

The gender differences observed in the evaluations carried out in the communities are as follows:

- The IFR is a geographic space with different conflicts of interest regarding land use. There are cattle ranchers, mining and forestry workers whose interests in the land are dissimilar. These conflicts relationships affect the women and men of the communities in terms of their mobility through the land, lack of access to strategic areas of the forest, degradation of sacred sites and difficulties in the collection of non-timber species for the practice of ancestral medicine.
- Kari'ña women are the guardians of traditional knowledge about non-timber species and their customary uses within the communities. It is evident that approximately 90% of the women interviewed are monolingual speakers of the Kari'ña language and active knowledgeable about the uses of timber and non-timber species for health and food.
- Access to health and education is limited by different aspects: remoteness of health centers, limited availability of educational centers, there are only 5 schools for 11 communities.
- Kari'ña women are more discriminated comparatively because of their indigenous status, lack of resources for subsistence and the traditional knowledge they practice, which is stigmatized by the society of the nearest non indigenous population center.
- The workload of women in their daily activities has been determined in hours of work applied to paid and unpaid work. So far, the entire workload is done without any type of remuneration in the different roles faced by women.
- The workday has been valued at 14 hours of continuous work compared to 9 hours for men. The workload increases when the cassava (manioc) production begins, the main food in the community's diet,
- Access to land for food production is determined by marriage. The conuco is the result of this access. These can be by family or collective. Each family ensures its diet through the establishment of the conuco (a plot of land prepared by hand for planting). Families with a conuco have women who are better off than those whose head of household practices mining, because the conuco provides them with food and regular incomes, while family unification is maintained by working the couple in it, meanwhile when the man-head of the family goes to work in the mining industry, leaves the family in a situation of socioeconomic vulnerability, because they do not have a conuco or regular incomes, they have difficulties to access to food and other basic products, and left them in a situation of helplessness being without the male figure for long periods of time in an eminently patriarchal society..
- Women's access to collective gathering, fishing and energy (firewood) activities may be hindered by cultural biases based on physiological functions (menstruation), protection against disease or by jungle rituals or spiritual beliefs that affect only women.
- The decision-making process, in the participation within the assemblies is mediated by the man, the woman acts as a "reminder", in case the man does not master the topic he is presenting. In this case, the woman decides based on the dominance of the man in the assemblies.

Does the M&E system have gender-disaggregated data? How is the project tracking gender results and impacts?

M&E keeps gender-disaggregated records of the beneficiaries who participate in the various training activities, information that is entered in the forms used to report semi-annual progress. Similarly, it is a requirement for the different consultants who carry out activities in the project to provide information disaggregated by gender on those who participate in the activities they carry out.

Does the project staff have gender expertise?

The project team does not have expertise in gender work; however, it collects and maintains the measurement of beneficiary participation according to gender in each and every one of the products it develops. To reinforce this area, a consultant was incorporated to carry out gender mainstreaming actions within the project.

Following recommendation of the MTR, with the support of the FAO Venezuela Gender Focal Point and the team of FAO regional specialists in Gender, training activities have been developed, allowing the team to acquire knowledge on gender mainstreaming in the project cycle, as well as the construction and measurement of gender-related indicators.

If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:

- **closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources.**
- **improving women's participation and decision making; and or**
- **generating socio-economic benefits or services for women**

The project has decisively supported the increase in the participation of women in technical training activities aimed at both technical officials of government or academic institutions, as well as members of the communities, having to date a female participation of 49% in the case of women with responsibilities as public officials and 39% in the case of indigenous women who inhabit the Kari'ña communities of the IFR, which is quite significant, considering that traditionally in the patriarchal Kari'ña society, women play roles generally in domestic and agricultural work on the conucos, but always subject to the authority of the man (husband or father).

Specific leadership tools have also been provided to the Kari'ña women of the IFR, which is reflected in the fact that currently and for the first time in history, two women occupy the position of captains of their communities and one of them (Cecilia Rivas), has been elected as General Captain and therefore the highest indigenous authority of the eleven (11) Kari'ña communities served by the project in the IFR, despite the fact that these positions had always been held exclusively by men.

We have supported and advised the Kari'ña women to establish international relations with indigenous organizations in the region, as is the case of FILAC, with whom we were able to articulate the granting of a full scholarship, so that the indigenous captain Cecilia Rivas, to attend the "15th Edition of the Expert Degree in Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights and International Cooperation", under the virtual modality, under the auspices of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID), the Anne Deruyttere Foundation and the Pawanka Foundation.

Kari'ña women, with the support of the project, have played a fundamental role in the process of creation and consolidation of the first indigenous forestry company in Venezuela, EPSDC-Tukupu, having majority participation in it. Currently, the presidency of this company is exercised by the General Captain Cecilia Rivas and the rest of the management functions such as General Manager, Legal Advice, Administration, etc. they are also exercised by women.

It has also been women who, with the support of the project, have taken the leading role in the external communication of their life stories, their achievements and also their needs. The Kari'ña women were fully committed to creating a website for EPSDC Tukupu, where together with the technical staff of the project, they develop bilingual Kari'ña-Spanish virtual content, as well as the implementation of a radio program called "La voz kari'ña", produced by a group of indigenous women with the support of the project's communications team and conducted by Captain General Cecilia Rivas and which is broadcast on the local radio of Tumeremo in the Kari'ña language. Thanks to the efforts of the project's communications team, Captain Cecilia Rivas has become the national and international image of the Kari'ña peoples of the IFR and the EPSDC Tukupu, actively participating in interviews, articles, seminars, work meetings and others forums for environmental, indigenous, women's issues and for the generation and consolidation of alliances and business, both nationally and internationally.

Despite traditional limitations on women's access to ownership of land and other natural resources, the project has taken actions that allow them to generate socio-economic benefits for themselves and their families. An example of this is the local component of the National Network of Forest Seed Suppliers in the IFR, led by groups of Kari'ña women who are responsible for the collection and selection of forest and fruit seeds. 41% of the people involved in the activities of setting up community nurseries and producing plants are women. In addition, through the implementation of plans for the sustainable production and commercialization of non-timber forest products, such as: meliponiculture, cassava, onoto, copaiba and andiroba oils, among others. In addition, the active participation of a group of Kari'ña women in activities related to the installation and operation of the Indigenous Market and the Indigenous Handicraft Carpentry in the city of Tumeremo is contemplated in the coming months.

It is worth noting that with the support and accompaniment of the project, most of the Kari'ña men have very willingly accepted these changes in their cultural patterns that allow the empowerment of women through greater participation in technical training, socio-political and communicational leadership. , exercise of paid work, among other aspects that women were not allowed before the start of the project implementation.

10. Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval

Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.

Internal and external communication of project progress and results has been strengthened. Documents have been entered into FAO's PWS publication system, which include the systematization of the knowledge gained from the various project consultancies, including the effective publication of the project's first Newsletter. Two guides are currently in Step 4 of the PWS: "Technical guide on good community practices for the selection of seed trees and handling of forest seeds" and "Technical guide on guidelines for forest seed certification". Documents resulting from completed research projects are under review: Sustainable Forest Management, Meliponiculture in the Imataca Forest Reserve, Manual for the restoration of xerophytic forest in Venezuela, Protocol for updating and monitoring national forest cover, Ethnobotany study in the Imataca Forest Reserve, among other documents. The "Forests of Venezuela" Web page is being set up as a platform for the publication of digital content, in order to make the information available, accessible and usable worldwide.

Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.

The project has a Communication and Dissemination Plan, which contains the communication strategy to be followed, achieving significant and tangible progress. Monthly content has been prepared for social networks that allow real-time monitoring of the actions implemented by the project. The Kariña communities of Imataca are being provided with communication tools so that they can transmit their contents and messages, thus diversifying the project's platforms and dissemination channels. A radio program "La voz kari'ña" was launched, broadcast on La Sifonteña 104.5 FM, hosted by the indigenous captain Cecilia Rivas; and we also provided advice for the design, publication and management of the web page of the TUKUPU Indigenous Forestry Company, which will serve to disseminate the experience of this company, as well as the plans underway. Lastly, a major audiovisual report was produced, which gathers the testimonies of Kari'ña women and men, as well as the indigenous vision on the progress of the project and how it has transformed the reality of these communities in the Imataca Forest Reserve for the better. It is currently being published on MINEC and FAO's platforms.

Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected global environmental benefits. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.

The life story of Cecilia Rivas, the "captain" of the Kariña communities living at the heart of Venezuela's Imataca Forest Reserve has been highlighted nationally and internationally. In march 2021, the USA digital newspaper "Huffpost" published her story, highlighting that has been working relentlessly to protect her forests, invaded for decades for mining and logging industries.

To protect the forests, governments and industry need to listen, she said. "Before taking any action, the voices of the Indigenous peoples who inhabit the forests must be heard. Our point of view is the one that should guide each project carried out in our territories."

One example of this is an Indigenous-led initiative Rivas has worked on with the help of the Venezuelan government and FAO. In 2019, the Kariña women founded Tukupu, an Indigenous women-led forestry company, named after a tiny, striped fish native to the forest that has been endangered by industrial threats. The government granted them 7,000 hectares (17,300 acres) of the Imataca Forest Reserve, which became the heart of restoration efforts to revitalize areas destroyed by logging and mining. The women have cultivated hundreds of nurseries to grow plants for reforestation, and the company is also working to revive the tupuku fish population. https://www.huffpost.com/entry/deforestation-indigenous-land-rights-climate-change_n_605b525cc5b6531eed00efbf

In October 2020, Rivas wrote a press column for the Venezuelan newspaper "El Universal" entitled: We sow for Humanity. She stated: In my people Kariña we have a word for "sharing", Mayú. Tukupu and the GEF-FAO-MINEC project that was born in 2016, have allowed us to bring the community together around a common idea, they are our Mayú. Now, the nurseries have become our usual space to build a different future, the opportunity to contribute our will for the benefit of all, That is why we continue day by day, without getting tired or giving up, attending to the recommendations of the project teachers, providing the knowledge that we have inherited for a long time. <https://www.eluniversal.com/internacional/81817/sembramos-para-la-humanidad>

Also in October 2020, the article "The Guardians of the Imataca Forest Reserve in Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)" was published on the FAO website, which was republished in August 2021 on the occasion of the commemoration of the International Day of the Indigenous Peoples, in which Cecilia explains: Once the Kariña communities created their company, the area granted by the Venezuelan government has become the center of training and restoration activities to revitalize areas degraded by mining.

The land grant was one of the main achievements of the project. However, for Cecilia, an even more important result was the change of mentality in her communities: "We have shown that the Kariña people can implement the project successfully." This recognition has been absolutely essential for Cecilia, because she believes that the Kariñas are "the true guardians of the forest."

The project also helps communities find new ways of obtaining sustenance from the forest, not only through the commercialization of wood, but also through non-wood products. The rearing of stingless bees to produce honey is one of the innovations of the project. Another is the creation of an indigenous market in Tumeremo - a town in the south of the country - to sell honey and other products, such as cassava and cassava bread. <http://www.fao.org/fao-stories/article/es/c/1318876/>

Finally, in an article published in the first Informative Bulletin of the project (MINEC/FAO. March, 2021) an article called "In Venezuela, forest conservation has a woman's face" was published, in which Cecilia Rivas highlights the improvement of the women role by the project and she affirms: "The indigenous Kariñas were always dominated by men. We women had to grate the cassava, we were relegated. Before we had neither voice nor vote", and she enthusiastically adds: "I have never seen indigenous sisters so motivated, so encouraged with this work, despite all this pandemic. Apart from all the problems that are happening in our country, women are working, women have the initiative to work in their own community". "The community is very happy about this project and there are at least 20 women working every day. They think that if we continue like this, maybe every fifteen days or a month we will have something to buy soap, salt, and other things we need for daily life" said Rivas. <https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/PRIMER-BOLETIN-INFORMATIVO-DEL-PROYECTO-OFSCBPE-1-2021.pdf>

Please provide links to publications, leaflets, video materials, related website, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.

- TUKUPU Indigenous Forestry Company Website
<https://tukupudotcom.wordpress.com/>
- Web Page "Forests of Venezuela".
<https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/>
- First Newsletter of Sustainable Forest Lands Management and Conservation under an Ecosocial Approach project
<http://www.fao.org/documents/card/es/c/CB2832ES/>
- Progress and Achievements of the Sustainable Forest Lands Management and Conservation under an Ecosocial Approach project
<https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Proyecto-OFSCBPE-AVANCES-2021-17-mayo-1.pdf>
- Indigenous peoples and public policies
<https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Pueblos-indigenas-y-politicas-publicas-en-vzla.pdf>
- Triptych on TUKUPU (Kariña-Spanish outreach material)
https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/diptico_TUKUPU_correccion-1-1.pdf
- Video "Sowing for Humanity: The Kariña Peoples and Forest Conservation in Venezuela" [PRIVATE LINK]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e2JbJnc_2SU
- Journalistic article in the U.S. HUFFPOST "How to tackle deforestation? Give indigenous peoples their land rights."
https://www.huffpost.com/entry/deforestation-indigenous-land-rights-climate-change_n_605b525cc5b6531eed00efbf
- Journalistic article in The Independent of the United Kingdom "Indigenous forest defenders in Latin America".
<https://www.independent.co.uk/climate-change/news/indigenous-forest-defenders-latin-america-b1822523.html>
- Report on Radio France International "Rainforests to save the planet and prevent new pandemics".
<https://www.rfi.fr/es/programas/grandes-reportajes-de-rfi/20210423-selvas-salvar-el-planeta-y-prevenir-las-nuevas-pandemias>

- Tweet on TUKUPU's participation in the Independent Dialogues convened by FAO
https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve/status/1395051791998492677
- Sustainable Forest Management Tweet Thread
https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve/status/1384243869647134729
- Tweet to inform about the First Forest Inventory of TUKUPU
https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve/status/1394358841186430976
- Press Release on Workshop on "Processing, use and interpretation of spatial data from remote sensing satellites".
<http://www.fao.org/venezuela/noticias/detail-events/es/c/1374686/>
- Tweet in the framework of the international year of fruits and vegetables "Information about Genipa americana".
https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1364530676519829508
- Tweet in the framework of the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables "Strengthening of Family Conucos".
https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1363096177013624836
- Tuit delivery of FAO supplies to Tukupu
https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1350774978363478022
- Tweet about the program "La voz Kariña" with Cecilia Rivas
https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1336370239328677890
- Tweet on the future commercialization of Non Forest Products
https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1392182732290199563
- **Does the project have a communication and/or knowledge management focal point? If yes, please provide their names and email addresses**
 - Liliam Lara, Responsible for Component 4 (M&E and Dissemination), Liliam.Lara@fao.org
 - José Negrón Valera, Communication and Dissemination Focal Point, Jose.Negronvalera@fao.org
 - María González, Graphic Design María.González@fao.org
 - Rosa Betancourt, Editing and Documentation, Rosa.Betancourt@fao.org

11. Indigenous Peoples Involvement

Are Indigenous Peoples involved in the project? How? Please briefly explain.

Prior to initiating project implementation, the indigenous communities located in the IFR area were consulted about their interest in participating in the project; they gave their free, prior and informed consent. The participation of the Kari'ña indigenous people in decision-making has been active, with equal participation of men and women.

Among the activities that have been consulted and are in execution we have: Selection of participants in the different courses/workshops implemented in the communities, selection of the area for the development of the first operational forestry plan, selection of areas for nursery establishment (community/family), as well as the fruit species to be produced, selection of areas for plantation establishment (establishment of agroforestry systems in fallow areas), dialogues with women for the knowledge of their individual and collective rights within the context of the reserve.

Actions have been implemented for the active participation of the indigenous communities, reflected in the following results:

- The indigenous community has representation with voice and vote in the Project Steering Committee.
- They participate in the working groups formed for the design of methodologies to be applied in the reserve area (participatory forest monitoring, forest co-management, etc.).
- Actively participate in the elaboration of teaching materials on SFM in Kari'ña-Spanish language designed for the courses/workshops given in the communities.

- With the support and guidance of the project, the first indigenous forestry company was formed: TUKUPU Indigenous Communal Direct Social Property Company, made up of inhabitants of the different communities living in the IFR.
- With the support of the project, EPSDC-TUKUPU currently manages an area of 6,500 ha of natural forest in Management Unit C-III of the IFR, assigned by the Venezuelan government.
- A letter of agreement was signed between the EPSC Tukupu-FAO, which, under the ongoing guidance of the project, allows for the administrative and technical strengthening of this indigenous company.
- Incorporation of a national consultancy oriented to the linguistic rescue and ancestral uses of the forest.
- Support has been provided for the creation of a web page where all the women, together with the project's technical staff, develop bilingual Kari'ña-Spanish virtual content.
- We have supported and advised the Kari'ña women to establish international relationships with indigenous organizations in the region, such as FILAC, with whom we were able to articulate the granting of a full scholarship, so that the indigenous captain Cecilia Rivas, to attend the "15th Edition of the Expert Degree in Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights and International Cooperation", under the virtual modality, under the auspices of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID), the Anne Deruyttere Foundation and the Pawanka Foundation.

12. Innovative Approaches

Please provide a brief description of an innovative²⁷ approach in the project / programme, describe the type (e.g. technological, financial, institutional, policy, business model) and explain why it stands out as an innovation.

The project has generated innovative experiences in dissemination and participation, where technical support has been given to the Kari'ña community in the development of their own communication tools, so they can manage the tools by themselves and with a long-term vision. An example of this is the launching of a bilingual Kari'ña-Spanish radio program called "La voz kari'ña. Spanish, called "La voz kari'ña", conducted by a woman (general captain of the Kari'ña), transmitted by the local radio of the "Tumeremo" population center. The approach that has been privileged is that of multiplatforms, which has made that, at the moment, the indigenous company Tukupu has a Web Page (<https://tukupudotcom.wordpress.com/>) and profiles in the most important digital social networks (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Youtube), which guarantees that the most important achievements and actions of this indigenous company can be made visible both nationally and internationally.

13. Possible impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the project

Please indicate any implication of the Covid-19 pandemic on the activities and progress of the project. Highlight the adaptative measures taken to continue with the project implementation.

During the period January-December 2020 and the first half of 2021, field activities associated with the GCP/VEN/011/GFF project have been significantly delayed due to the various contingencies generated by the COVID 19 pandemic. The restrictions to mobility and social distancing adopted by the Venezuelan government for the prevention of COVID-19, affected the progress of those Outputs whose execution should have been carried out in the areas of intervention of the project, and which are in the implementation and validation stage in the field, and therefore require the incorporation of the communities living in the IFR in the development of such actions. Outputs 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.1.6, 1.2.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 3.1.3, 3.2.1, 3.2.4, 3.2.5 were affected in the achievement of their targets, due to difficulties in carrying out field operations.

²⁷ Innovation is defined as *doing something new or different in a specific context that adds value*

In order to achieve the outcomes of the project (current completion date: December 2021), an extension of the project execution timeframe is required (proposed date: December 2022), identifying work mechanisms to advance in the tasks, without detriment to the biosecurity provisions issued by the national government and FAO, for the prevention of COVID-19.

As an adaptation to the change required by the new normality, the Steering Committee approved adjustments to the modalities of implementation of the activities, identifying the outputs whose activities can be developed using virtual tools and platforms to disseminate and share knowledge, reducing semi-face-to-face activities to the minimum necessary. In the case of outputs and activities that must be carried out in the field, a strategy with a multidisciplinary approach has been developed, taking advantage of the existing cross-cutting nature of the project's components and outputs, whose approach through the creation of a multitask work team makes it possible to obtain results that contribute to different outputs.

As a lesson learned in the context of the pandemic, the incorporation of indigenous communities is highlighted, through the implementation of a letter of agreement with the EPSC Tukupu, to advance in the establishment of nurseries, plantations, among others, applying the methodology of learning by doing, with the accompaniment of local technicians. This has been very positive, since in an organized way, through Tukupu, it has been possible to maintain and activate activities simultaneously in the field, the results of which contribute to different outputs. The fact that due to the extension of the IFR and the distance of the communities from the nearest population center has allowed them to remain isolated to avoid COVID 19 infections is another of the practices used by these communities to resist this pandemic.

14. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing ²⁸	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2021	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
GEF Agency	FAO	IN KIND	230,000.00	212,699.93	161,296.87	17,300.07
National Government	MINEC	IN KIND	3,000,000.00	2,080,404.26	1,679,928.23	919,595.74
National Government	ENAFOR	IN KIND	10,000,000.00	7,726,258.65	7,481,413.90	2,273,741.35
National Government	CONARE	IN KIND	8,000,000.00	4,970,386.07	3,501,863.82	3,029,613.93
National Government	MISIÓN ÁRBOL	IN KIND	3,000,000.00	2,157,999.34	1,720,178.26	842,000.66
National Government	IFLA	IN KIND	1,500,000.00	1,053,599.84	963,490.95	446,400.16
		TOTAL	25,730,000.00	18,201,348.09	15,508,172.03	7,528,651.91

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

The year 2020-2021 has been a year of difficult implementation in the field due to the COVID-19 situation and the difficulty of internal mobilization in the country. However, the commitment of the partner institutions to continue providing co-financing is evident.

²⁸ Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Other.

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet. **DO Ratings definitions:** **Highly Satisfactory (HS)** - Project is expected to achieve or exceed **all** its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”); **Satisfactory (S)** - Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings); **Moderately Satisfactory (MS)** - Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve **some** of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits); **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)** - Project is expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only **some** of its major global environmental objectives); **Unsatisfactory (U)** - Project is expected **not** to achieve **most** of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits); **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)** - The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, **any** of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.)

Implementation Progress Rating – Assess the progress of project implementation. **IP Ratings definitions:** **Highly Satisfactory (HS):** Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as “good practice”. **Satisfactory (S):** Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action. **Moderately Satisfactory (MS):** Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action. **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU):** Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action. **Unsatisfactory (U):** Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan. **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU):** Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.