



## FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

### 2022 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

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## 1. Basic Project Data

### General Information

<b>Region:</b>	Latin America and the Caribbean
<b>Country (ies):</b>	Venezuela
<b>Project Title:</b>	Sustainable Forest Lands Management and Conservation under an Eco-social Approach
<b>FAO Project Symbol:</b>	GCP/VEN/011/GFF
<b>GEF ID:</b>	5410
<b>GEF Focal Area(s):</b>	Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation, Sustainable Forest Management/REDD+
<b>Project Executing Partners:</b>	Ministry of People's Power for Eco-socialism (MINEC)
<b>Project Duration (years):</b>	6 years
<b>Project coordinates:</b>	<p>Imataca Forest Reserve, Bolivar State, Venezuela.            N 7° 40' 22" W 61° 7' 19" (GeoNames)            7.497526, -61.029774 (GoogleMaps)</p> <p>Links:  <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=19N4PGk4XbWyp-Ilr9xbMmNNR5V7EvEpL&amp;ll=7.212300767062357%2C-65.37812141966485&amp;z=7">https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=19N4PGk4XbWyp-Ilr9xbMmNNR5V7EvEpL&amp;ll=7.212300767062357%2C-65.37812141966485&amp;z=7</a>   <a href="https://earthmap.org/?aoi=GEF&amp;boundary=gcpVEN001&amp;layers=%7B%22IntactForestLandscapes%22%3A%7B%22opacity%22%3A1%7D%7D&amp;map=%7B%22center%22%3A%7B%22lat%22%3A6.361347662056102%2C%22lng%22%3A-65.73352502399916%7D%2C%22zoom%22%3A6%2C%22type%22%3A%22roadmap%22%2C%22mapType%22%3A%22roadmap%22%7D&amp;scripts=%7B%22IntactForestLandscapes%22%3A%7B%22aggregation%22%3Anull%2C%22dateRange%22%3A%5B2020%2C2020%5D%7D%7D">https://earthmap.org/?aoi=GEF&amp;boundary=gcpVEN001&amp;layers=%7B%22IntactForestLandscapes%22%3A%7B%22opacity%22%3A1%7D%7D&amp;map=%7B%22center%22%3A%7B%22lat%22%3A6.361347662056102%2C%22lng%22%3A-65.73352502399916%7D%2C%22zoom%22%3A6%2C%22type%22%3A%22roadmap%22%2C%22mapType%22%3A%22roadmap%22%7D&amp;scripts=%7B%22IntactForestLandscapes%22%3A%7B%22aggregation%22%3Anull%2C%22dateRange%22%3A%5B2020%2C2020%5D%7D%7D</a></p>

### Project Dates

<b>GEF CEO Endorsement Date:</b>	July 14, 2015
<b>Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :</b>	October 31, 2016
<b>Project Implementation End Date/NTE<sup>1</sup>:</b>	December 31, 2022
<b>Revised project implementation end date (if approved) <sup>2</sup></b>	Request for extension under final validation: April 30, 2023

<sup>1</sup> As per FPMIS

<sup>2</sup> If NTE extension has been requested and approved by the FAO-GEF CU.

**Funding**

<b>GEF Grant Amount (USD):</b>	8,249,316
<b>Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc<sup>3</sup>:</b>	25,730,000
<b>Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2022 (USD)<sup>4</sup>:</b>	6,435,518
<b>Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2022<sup>5</sup></b>	22,470,800.21

**M&E Milestones**

<b>Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:</b>	June 20, 2022
<b>Expected Mid-term Review date<sup>6</sup>:</b>	N/A
<b>Actual Mid-term review date (when it is done):</b>	February 05, 2020 – April 30, 2020
<b>Expected Terminal Evaluation Date<sup>7</sup>:</b>	October- November 2022
<b>Tracking tools/Core indicators updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)</b>	YES

**Overall ratings**

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

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

<sup>4</sup> For DEX projects, the GEF Coordination Unit will confirm the final amount with the Finance Division in HQ. For OPIM projects, the disbursement amount should be provided by Execution Partners.

<sup>5</sup> Please refer to the section 12 of this report where updated co-financing estimates are requested and indicate the total co-financing amount materialized.

<sup>6</sup> The Mid-Term Review (MTR) should take place after the 2<sup>nd</sup> PIR, around half-point between EOD and NTE. The MTR report in English should be submitted to the GEF Secretariat within 4 years of the CEO Endorsement date.

<sup>7</sup> The Terminal Evaluation date should be discussed with OED 6 months before the project's NTE date.

**ESS risk classification**

<b>Current ESS Risk classification:</b>	Low
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**Status**

<b>Implementation Status</b> <i>(1<sup>st</sup> PIR, 2<sup>nd</sup> PIR, etc. Final PIR):</i>	6 <sup>th</sup> PIR
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**Project Contacts**

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## 2. Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s) (Development Objective)

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

*Please indicate the project's main progress towards achieving its objective(s) and the cumulative level of achievement of each outcome since the start of project implementation.*

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators <sup>8</sup>	Baseline	Mid-term Target <sup>9</sup>	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress <sup>10</sup> since project start Level on 30 June 2022	Progress rating <sup>11</sup>
<b>Component 1: National Integrated Forestry Information System (SINIIF)</b>							
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.	<b>Outcome 1.1.</b> 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	<b>Cumulative progress of 85% is estimated, expressed as follows:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3,821,900 ha of the Imataca Forest Reserve (IFR) have been monitored and evaluated, including estimation of stored carbon reserves and CO2 emissions/removals between 2010 and 2020, incorporating Unit V and the MINEC-Owned Company Co-management area Community Direct Social (EPSDC) Tukupu I in Unit C3. There are flora lists from the IFR, which report the total existence of 2,362 species of spermatophytes, belonging to 913 genera and 159 families. The IFR fauna list was generated and updated, reporting 1,314 species that represent 27.9% of the species known to date in Venezuela and 56.29% of those reported for the Guayana region.</li> <li>The first version of the National Integrated Forest Information System (SINIIF 1.0) is available, made up of 4 thematic modules: Species, Tree, Social, Ethnic and Cultural Aspects and the Forest module.</li> <li>There are 40 thematic charts at a scale of 1:250,000 that cover 48.8% (446,916 km<sup>2</sup>) of the national territory, located in the north-west and east of the country, where 356 works have been analyzed (research papers, theses, books, floristic, ecological and silvicultural</li> </ul>	S

<sup>8</sup> This is taken from the approved results framework of the project.

<sup>9</sup> 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.

<sup>10</sup> Please report on results obtained in terms of Global Environmental Benefits and Socio-economic Co-benefits as well.

<sup>11</sup> Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory (HS)**, **Satisfactory (S)**, **Moderately Satisfactory (MS)**, **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)**, **Unsatisfactory (U)**, and **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)**.

					inventories) finding 158,544 reports, 14,062 species, in 2,749 genera and 379 families.		
	<p><b>Outcome 1.2.</b> 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.</p>	<p>Number of hectares (area) under a sustainable management plan <b>Indicator BD-2.</b> <i>II.1: Direct and Indirect Cover</i> <b>Indicator SFM/REDD+ 1.2</b> <i>Best management practices applied in existing forests</i> <b>Indicator LD.</b> <i>I.5.2: Protected habitat</i></p>	<p>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.</p>		<p>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.</p>	<p><b>Cumulative progress of 85% is estimated, expressed as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Forest Planning and Management Plan (FPMP) was updated for the 167,320 ha of Unit V of the IFR, where innovative elements are incorporated under a systematic approach and the principle of multiple use that involves the Kariña indigenous community, agroforestry systems, non-timber forest products and the protection and conservation of forest potential, biodiversity and carbon sequestration. For the preparation of this plan, the existing FPMP (2012) and the multiple products that have been developed within the framework of the project were taken into consideration.</li> <li>• FPMP was prepared for the 6,487.12 ha of Unit C3 of the IFR, EPSDC Tukupu co-management area, and the Operational Forestry Plan (OFP) for the first 1,000 ha, incorporating innovative elements related to forestry potential, biodiversity, and carbon capture.</li> <li>• There is a database for the evaluation of the diversity of flora and fauna of the IFR, applying risk assessment protocols of the identified species, forming the floristic, and faunal database with their respective attributes that are being systematized and integrated into the SINIIF, in the SPECIES module.</li> </ul>	S
<p><b>Component 2: Capacity building and innovative tools for SFM.</b></p>							

	<p><b>Outcome 2.1.</b> 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</p>	<p><b>1/SFM/REDD+:</b> Area (number of hectares) under application of good management practices and sustainable forest co-management in forests of the IFR.<sup>12</sup> *</p>	<p>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.</p>		<p>1) 167,320 ha in Unit V of the IFR, under sustainable forest management / co-management plans.</p>	<p><b>Cumulative progress of 70% is estimated, expressed as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pilot forest co-management scheme was designed, and progress is being made in its third stage of implementation.</li> <li>• New participatory SFM tools, such as the application of reduced impact techniques, fauna assessment, establishment and remeasurement of plots for carbon estimation, among others, with the direct participation of the inhabitants of the communities, have been implemented in 82,802.79 ha corresponding to: 7,152.64 ha of the initial co-management area assigned to the EPSDC-Tukupu in unit C-3 of the IFR; 10,984.19 ha of the STMI II and III-Z1 areas, assigned to ENAFOR in unit V; 16,749.96 ha assigned to the private company ROHICA in unit V, and an additional 47,916 ha that were recently assigned to the EPSDC Tukupu (II) in unit V.</li> <li>• The Environmental and Socio-Cultural Impact Study (ESCIS), the Forest Planning and Management Plan (FPMP) and the first operational forest plan for the MINEC-Tukupu I forest co-management area were prepared. Planning and Management of Unit V of the IFR, which is being considered by the MINEC for its approval, and progress is being made in the development of the FPMP of the Tukupu II Forestry Co-management Production Unit and its second OFP, which include as innovative elements the forestry potential, biodiversity, and carbon capture, to be completed in the second half of 2022.</li> <li>• A proposal for a National Forest Co-management System (SINACOF) was designed, to be considered by the MINEC as a national sustainable forest management policy to be implemented in different areas of the country destined for permanent forest production with the involvement of the indigenous and local communities that live in them, giving sustainability and scaling to these results based on the good practices and lessons learned from the project through the Tukupu indigenous forestry company.</li> </ul>	<p>MS</p>
		<p><b>2) SFM / REDD + 2.1: Enhanced capacities to reduce emissions and increase carbon stocks.</b> Number of institutions, indigenous communities and people with strengthened technical capacities for the implementation of Sustainable</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</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><b>The goals of this indicator have been exceeded by more than 100%, provided that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 82 institutions have benefited from the strengthening of technical capacities in matters of sustainable forest management and forest co-management.</li> <li>• 12 indigenous communities have been incorporated into the capacity building process, under the learning-by-doing methodology.</li> <li>• To date, 2,196 people have been trained, of which 47% are women.</li> </ul>	<p>HS</p>

<sup>12</sup> 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.

		Forest Co-management and other participatory forest governance tools*	not have technical capacities in forest management. Sustainable forest co-management has not been addressed at either the institutional or community level				
	<p><b>Outcome 2.2.</b> 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 IRF'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.<sup>13</sup> *</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.</p> <p>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><b>The fulfillment of this goal presents an advance of 70%, considering that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Workshop "Diagnosis and Evaluation of Forest Management in Venezuela, and formulation of criteria and indicators for SFM" was held. 6 criteria, 32 indicators and 24 verifiers for SFM were validated as a starting point for the global model.</li> <li>• A Global Model of Criteria and Indicators for SFM in Venezuela was developed under international standards. These were validated in a national consultation by 97% of the key stakeholders that participated. This has five (05) criteria, 20 sub-criteria, 45 strategies, 37 sub-strategies, and a system of 560 associated indicators.</li> <li>• The proposal for a technical standard was developed, as well as the corresponding ministerial resolution model and the strategic plan for its implementation, which were made available to the national environmental authority (MINEC) for its consideration.</li> <li>• Progress is being made in the process of compiling information resulting from the 105 monitoring plots established throughout the IFR and the reports generated in the life cycle of the project to identify the initial indicators associated with the criteria of the global model with its local application as established in the PRODOC.</li> <li>• 18 workshops have been carried out in the learning-by-doing modality, aiming for participatory monitoring of the forest in the great line of synergy, and transversality of products 1.1.6, 2.2.1 and 2.2.2.</li> </ul>	MS
		<p>2)SFM/REDD+: Direct and indirect avoided emissions. <b>Indicator CCM-5. LULUCF</b></p>	<p>Estimated loss of 453,135.81 tCO2eq/year due to the use of conventional forest practices over an area of</p>		<p>2) Direct avoided emissions:  2.a)1,136,759.35tC O2eq for the 5 years of the project on 25,000</p>	<p><b>The targets of this indicator have far exceeded 100%</b>, as a result of the consultancy for the estimation of emissions and carbon capture in different deposits, it was possible to quantify in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a) 5,395,705 tCO2eq direct and indirect avoided emissions (SFM/REDD+), and</li> <li>• b) 28,760,011.56 tCO2eq indirect emissions avoided (SFM/RED+)</li> </ul>	HS

<sup>13</sup> 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.



			5,000 ha under forest use.		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 on 80,000 ha).		
	<b>Outcome 2.3.</b> Intersectoral dialogue on SFM strengthened.	Number of stakeholders (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. <sup>14</sup> *	There are numerous stakeholders 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) stakeholders with strengthened technical capacities and actively participating in a platform for dialogue and intersectoral coordination for forest governance. *	<b>An advance of 85% is estimated, expressed in the following:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 stakeholders directly involved in sustainable forest management in the Imataca Forest Reserve.</li> <li>• 35 courses/workshops have been given with the participation of 599 people, 48% women.</li> <li>• The Strategic Alliance for the "Implementation and execution of the Forest Planning and Management Plan in forest areas", signed between ENAFOR and the EPSDC Tukupu, with the purpose of implementing a sustainable forest co-management scheme with the organized Kariña communities, continues.</li> <li>• Progress was made in the implementation of two new alliances (8 in total) with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for the socio-productive support of the Kariña communities through the supply of seeds, agro-inputs, tools and machinery for the production and processing of food, and with the Embassy of the United Kingdom in Venezuela for the strengthening of SFM capacities, through the promotion of organized women's groups, the establishment of family and community nurseries and the restoration of 40.5 ha of forests with reforestation and agroforestry techniques.</li> <li>• The Tukupu Indigenous Forestry Company joined the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) in companies of UN Women and the Global Compact. The Tukupu Indigenous Forestry Company continues to actively participate in the community of WEPs companies in Venezuela, as well as in the Business Sustainability Forum of Venezuela. There it strengthens relationships with other important companies in the country committed to sustainability and the SDGs.</li> <li>• Conversations are progressing to sign new agreements with municipalities and private sector stakeholders involved with the SFM.</li> </ul>	S
<b>Component 3: Restoration, Conservation and SFM/SLM of Forests in Areas Affected by Degradation Processes</b>							
	<b>Outcome 3.1.</b> Technical and institutional capacities for forest and forest	1) SFM / REDD + <b>1.2: Good management practices applied in existing forests.</b>	The Forestry Law establishes the legal basis for a strategy for the restoration and		1) Five (5) national institutions, ten (10) indigenous communities of the IFR and at least two	<b>Cumulative progress of over 100% is estimated, expressed in:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Six (06) national institutions (MINEC, CONARE, MISION ARBOL, ENAFOR, INPARQUES and IFLA) have strengthened their technical capacities in terms of restoration and SFM.</li> </ul>	HS

<sup>14</sup> 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.

	land restoration through SFM/SLM practices strengthened.	Number of institutions, indigenous communities and people representing government institutions, NGOs, community-based organizations, Indigenous and local communities with installed and strengthened technical capacities on SFM/SLM topics. *	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.		hundred (200) people (at least 40% women) with installed and strengthened technical capacities on SFM/SLM topics. *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,419 people (47% women) have been trained in restoration of forests and forest lands through SFM / SLM practices, which represents more than five times the proposed goal.</li> <li>• A training workshop was held at the national level for MINEC technical staff and four workshops with the Kariña communities in the IFR, aiming the application of criteria and indicators for the selection of priority areas where forest plantations and agroforestry systems have been established.</li> <li>• The local component of the Network of Seed Providers was implemented in 10 communities of the IFR with the formation of groups of trained Kariña women who lead the collection of seeds and develop community and family nurseries. They have produced more than 80,000 forest and fruit plants.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Outcome 3.2.</b></p> <p>Restoration and regeneration of 1,440 ha of forests through SFM/SWM strategies within the framework of an ecosystem approach and prioritizing the multi-functionality of forests.</p>	<p>1) <b>BD-2. III.4:</b> Management practices that integrate biodiversity.</p>	An estimated loss of 453,135.81 ton/year CO <sub>2</sub> e from the use of conventional forestry techniques for an area of forest harvesting of 5,000 ha per year.		<p>1) Sequestration of 512,985.68 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 1,440 ha:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reforestation (748 ha): 262,348.88 Tons/haCO<sub>2</sub>e</li> <li>- Analog Forestry (342 ha): 122,976 Tons/haCO<sub>2</sub>e</li> <li>- Agroforestry (350 ha): 127,660.08 Tons /haCO<sub>2</sub>e</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cumulative progress is estimated at 60%, considering that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In total, 215,200 tCO<sub>2</sub>e have been captured, in 969 ha restored inside and outside the IFR; Through agroforestry (443 ha) 99,105 tCO<sub>2</sub>e have been sequestered, reforestation (440 ha) has sequestered 86,815 tCO<sub>2</sub>e and analog forestry (86 ha) captured 29,280 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.</li> <li>• The biodiversity of soil microorganisms (Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi-AMF and bacteria) was determined in areas affected by forest management in the IFR; In the case of AMF, a total of 65 morphospecies were recorded, of which 42 were identified as species. The high diversity of AMF and abundance of bacteria indicate that the forests under SFM in the IFR have high resilience to recover their ecosystem functions.</li> <li>• As part of the third LoA with IFLA, the autoecological characterization of the algarrobo, puy, zapatero, and murello species, threatened species due to selective forest extraction in the IFR, was carried out. This study describes each species its geographic distribution (Venezuela and other countries), phenology and pollination, dispersion and germination, growth and development of seedlings, growth rate, and yield, and pests and diseases that affect them.</li> </ul>	MS
		<p>2) Area (number of hectares) of restored and regenerated forest and forest land. <sup>15</sup> *</p>	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.		<p>2) 1,440 ha of restored and regenerated forest and forest land. *</p>	<p><b>Cumulative progress is estimated at 70%, since:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 969 ha of forests and woodlands within and outside the IFR have been restored and regenerated.</li> <li>• The production of more than 1,400,000 plants of 80 forest species and 50 fruit trees was promoted in 50 nurseries located in 20 states of the country.</li> <li>• In alliance with the EPSDC Tukupu, 12 community and/or family nurseries were established in 6 Kariña communities of the IFR, with a production of more than 80,000 forest and fruit plants of 40 different species.</li> </ul>	MS

<sup>15</sup> 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.

			The area restored by the ENF until 2015 covered 20 ha of reforestation in the Unit V of the IFR.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the IFR with the support of the Tukupu indigenous forestry company, 197 ha have been restored through analog forestry strategies (86 ha), reforestation (56 ha), and agroforestry systems (55 ha), prioritizing the multifunctionality of forests that promote the conservation of biodiversity, the protection of threatened tree species and the food security of the Kariña communities.</li> <li>• In other areas of the country, with the participation of rural institutions and communities, 772 ha of degraded forest and forest land have been restored through agroforestry (388 ha) and reforestation (384 ha) with the establishment of more than 500,000 forest and fruit trees, distributed in 21 states and 27 National Parks, Natural Monuments and/or Recreation Parks, totaling 969 ha of forests and forest lands restored and regenerated inside and outside the IFR.</li> <li>• The MINEC reinforced its institutional commitment to the restoration, rehabilitation, and recovery of degraded/intervened areas, through the implementation of the National Reforestation Plan, which has as its goal the establishment of 10 million trees between 2022 and 2023. The National Plan for the Mangrove Restoration, for which the project is providing all the necessary support, has been reinforced by MINEC as well.</li> </ul>	
<b>Component 4: Project M&amp;E and Information Dissemination.</b>						
<b>Outcome 4.1.</b> 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		62% progress in achieving results.	Project results 100% achieved and demonstrating sustainability.	<p><b>The implementation of the project based on results-based management presents a cumulative progress of 90% in achieving the results reported to date.</b></p> <p><b>In the line of work in M&amp;E:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Although an extension had already been approved in 2021, a further extension of the deadline for completion of the project, at no additional cost, was requested by the Venezuelan government until April 2023. due to delays caused by the COVID 19 pandemic and other external factors. Additionally, it was necessary to implement an exit, sustainability, and scaling strategy to ensure the durability and replicability of the results achieved. The requested extension was approved on 20 June 2022 by the 8th. Steering Committee and is under validation by the Project Task Force.</li> <li>• The M&amp;E System remains 100% operational and generates the necessary alerts for the correct management of the project: having exceeded the goals of semi-annual and annual progress reports (11 PPR and 6 PIR). In addition, 5 POA/P and 8 Steering Committee Meetings, 14 Planning Meetings, 64 technical tours, and field missions, and more than 100 worktables and virtual follow-ups have been held.</li> <li>• The Mid-Term Review (MTR) and the Management Response (MR) were completed. Also, the implementation of the recommendations of the MTR and the MR are permanently monitored. Among other important issues included are the updating of most of the indicators of the results of components 2 and 3 in 2021.</li> <li>• The technical support from the M&amp;E to the LoA signed with implementing partners, as well as the co-financing reported by them, is maintained.</li> </ul>	S

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The approval of the extension of the project by the Steering Committee was achieved. This implies rescheduling the final evaluation for the first quarter of 2023.</li> </ul> <p><b>In Communication and Dissemination:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have the website: <a href="https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve">https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve</a> designed, operational, and updated, and hosted on servers under the domain of MINEC.</li> <li>• The second informative bulletin is being published, containing advances, good practices, and results in forest conservation in the IFR, interviews with consultants, as well as life stories of leaders and members of indigenous communities.</li> <li>• Eighteen dissemination materials have been published on the project and its achievements (publications in PWS and the Bosques de Venezuela website) with wide national and international circulation. As well as more than 150 publications for Social Networks, especially in the Twitter account of the Representation of FAO Venezuela: @FAO_Venezuela.</li> <li>• Another 30 studies, protocols, and technical-scientific documents generated by the project are in the process of being reviewed and edited, containing systematized experiences of good practices and lessons learned that are of high value for publication.</li> <li>• The EPSDC-Tukupu continues to be supported with the dissemination of information related to it in various media, social networks, and virtual and face-to-face events.</li> </ul>
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Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
<b>Outcome 2.1</b>	<b>Products 2.1.2 and 2.1.3.</b> To advance in the implementation process of the first operational forestry plan, which goes hand in hand with compliance with the co-management design carried out. Advance in the collection of data from the forest census for the preparation of the second operational forest plan, within the framework of the second FAO-Tukupu LoA.	EPSDC-Tukupu, CTP, ATC-2, Extensionists and support staff hired locally in the action area.	2nd semester 2022
<b>Outcome 2.2</b>	<b>Product 2.2.1.</b> A proposal for a technical standard on criteria and indicators for SFM was drafted in 2021, and progress is being made in seeking approval from MINEC for its incorporation into the country's environmental regulations. Working groups are being held with representatives of MINEC, and an agreement has been reached to prepare a document containing the results of the pilot experience of criteria and indicators applied in the IFR, which should contain the theoretical and methodological bases of C&I for SFM in the country, as a fundamental contribution for its implementation in the medium and short term.	CTP, ATC-2, EPSDC Tukupu, Consultant hired to design the Technical Standard on Criteria and Indicators for the Environmental and Social Sustainability of the SFM.	2nd semester 2022
<b>Outcome 3.2</b>	<b>Products 3.2.1.</b> To promote the activities indicated in the second LoA with the EPSDC-Tukupu to meet the production goals of 50,000 plants in nurseries, restoration of 496 ha through agroforestry, reforestation, and analog forestry. In addition to the remeasurement of 36 plots for carbon monitoring. Incorporate a National Consultant to carry out technical support and monitoring the establishment of nurseries and plantations.	EPSDC- Tukupu, CTP, ATC3. National Consultant for technical support and monitoring of the establishment of nurseries and plantations.	2nd semester 2022
	<b>Products 3.2.2 y 3.2.5.</b> Adequately monitor the activities contemplated in the 3rd LOA signed with IFLA to ensure that execution according to the planning	IFLA, CTP, ATC3	2nd semester 2022
	<b>Product 3.2.4.</b> Guide and monitor two Kariñas extensionists hired by EPSDC Tukupu to implement the community NTFP plans (oils extracted from the seeds of forest species and others). Encourage the participation of the Kariñas in the training workshops given by the University of Guayana on TFP processing. .	CTP, ATC3, EPSDC-Tukupu	2nd semester 2022

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

### 3. Implementation Progress (IP)

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

Outcomes and Outputs <sup>16</sup>	Indicators (As per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (As per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements <sup>17</sup> (please avoid repeating results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance <sup>18</sup> in delivering outputs
<b>Outcome 1.1</b> Improved capacity for national forest monitoring and evaluation within the framework of the National Forest Inventory (NFI)	<b>Indicator BD-2. II.1:</b> Direct and Indirect Coverage  Indicator SFM/REDD+ 2.1 Improved capacities for emissions reduction and increase in carbon stocks	4,465,909 ha of forest ecosystems monitored and evaluated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A study was carried out on the estimation of stored carbon reserves and CO2 emissions/absorptions between 2010 and 2020. The study shows the values of C in its different deposits (living biomass, dead biomass, and organic carbon in the soil), as well as in the different types of forest, based on information from remote sensing and data from plot surveys carried out in the IFR in general, and in particular in Unit V and the Co-management Tukupu I area.</li> <li>The IFR flora lists were updated, reporting the total existence of about 2,362 species of spermatophytes, belonging to 913 genera and 159 families. Similarly, the updated list of fauna was achieved, reporting 1314 species which represent 27.9% of the species known so far in Venezuela and 56.29% of those reported for the Guayana region.</li> <li>The first SINIIF 1.0 version is in operation, made up of 4 thematic modules: Species, Tree, Social, Ethnic, and Cultural Aspects; and the Forest module is being updated and in the process of loading and validating data, for which the services of IFLA were contracted.</li> <li>Progress is being made in the elaboration of the thematic charts, reporting the completion of 15 charts at a scale of 1:250,000, which are located to the east of the country and cover 17.7% (162,247 km2) of the national territory in the following states: Bolívar with 64.4% (105,320 Km2), Delta Amacuro with 23.8% (38,607 Km2), Monagas with 8.7% (14,048 Km2), Sucre with 2.3% (3,660 Km2) and Anzoátegui with 0.4% (612 Km2).</li> </ul>	To complete the 4,465,909 ha, 429,700 ha of xerophytic land and 214,309 ha of mangrove forest are being monitored and assessed.
<b>Output 1.1.1</b>  Information system that integrates data on	Percentage of completion	National Integrated Forest Information System (SINIIF) working at 100% and providing up-to-date, high-quality information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is version 1.0 of the National Integrated Forest Information System with 77% progress in the development of the technical-thematic requirements that conceptualize it (SINIIF 1.0). For access to specific information, the SINIIF has 4 thematic modules (Species, Tree, Social, Ethnic and Cultural Aspects, and the</li> </ul>	To be completed Data integration to the SINIIF: Data and information are

<sup>16</sup> Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

<sup>17</sup> Please use the same unit of measurement of the project indicators as per the approved Implementation Plan or Annual Workplan. Please be concise (max one or two short sentences with main achievements)

<sup>18</sup> Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

<p>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</p>			<p>Forest module), which are accessed through 4 functional modules: Load, Consultation, Map, Evaluation, and Monitoring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently, the SINIF 1.0 version is being restructured through microservices technology and the stage of development, and continuous implementation and delivery of data in a distributed manner has begun to achieve 100% validation according to MINEC requirements.</li> </ul> <p>Based on the state of development and evaluation carried out on the SINIF version 1.0, a series of activities were determined leading to corrections, validations, and development of SINIF functionalities, advancing in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replication of the SINIF installation in a controlled online environment.</li> <li>• Generation of the map server and server for loading data associated with each thematic module; server to which the IFLA consultants will have access to identify possible shortcomings of the SINIF.</li> </ul>	<p>currently being collected, systematized and validated to be integrated into the SINIF through its load module.</p>
<p><b>Output 1.1.2</b> 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.</p>	<p>Protocol for updating and processing geospatial information (planning, monitoring, control and research, designed and implemented).</p>	<p>Goals exceeded in previous periods</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The implementation of these protocols continues for the monitoring and evaluation of the 4,465,909 ha of forest ecosystems foreseen in result 1.1., obtaining data to study the dynamics of land cover and use, monitoring, and estimation of carbon.</li> <li>• In the revision made to the protocol for the multi-temporal analysis of forest cover at the national level, it was determined the need to update and strengthen the characteristics of the forests. In this regard, progress is being made in generating another protocol that specifically monitors FOREST DEGRADATION processes, associated with selective forest use, forest fires, and the local use of wood for firewood and cattle grazing.</li> </ul>	
<p>Protocol for the multi-temporal analysis of forest cover at the national level, designed and implemented.</p>	<p>Adjustment Percentage and Corrections of Design Protocols</p>	<p>15%</p>		
<p><b>Output 1.1.3</b> Protocols for the gathering of socio-cultural-economic information of communities and indigenous peoples associated and / or dependent on forests.</p>	<p>Protocol designed and implemented</p>	<p>Goal exceeded in previous periods</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The socioeconomic information collected in the field is in the process of systematization, adaptation, and transcription for data upload and feed the Social Aspects Module of the SINIF.</li> <li>• Data collection continues in 10 Kariña communities based on the protocol designed and the information needs of the SINIF, anticipating improvements and adjustments based on the experiences gained from its application in the field.</li> </ul>
<p>Adjustment Percentage and Protocol Corrections</p>	<p>15%</p>			
<p><b>Output 1.1.4</b> 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</p>	<p>Study of flows and stocks of greenhouse gasses (GHG) in 3 types of forest</p>	<p>1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The study of "Estimation of Carbon Emissions Avoided Direct Indirect IFR" was carried out, determining the values of C in its different deposits (living biomass, dead biomass and organic carbon in the soil), as well as in the different types of forest, based on information from remote sensing and data from parcel surveys carried out in the IFR in general, and in particular in Unit V and in the Co-management area of the EPSC Tukupu.</li> <li>• For the second semester of 2022, the establishment of 09 permanent plots is planned (in addition to another 9 plots established in previous years, giving a total of 18 permanent plots) using the protocol of multipurpose plots in Unit V IFR. On the other hand, the remeasurement of 9 permanent plots of those established in previous years will continue.</li> </ul>	
<p>Number of permanent plots established</p>	<p>9</p>			
<p>Number of permanent plots remeasured</p>	<p>9</p>			

benefits of deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+).				
<b>Output 1.1.5</b> Thematic maps of biodiversity that include information on the distribution of flora species, their abundance, frequency, dominance and phyto-geographical relationships	Number of Thematic maps produced	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The services of the Latin American Forestry Institute were contracted through an agreement letter to complete the preparation of the 50 thematic charts and the training workshops.</li> <li>Progress was made in the preparation of 15 thematic charts at a scale of 1:250,000, which are located towards the east of the country, covering 17.7% (162,247 km<sup>2</sup>) of the national territory in the following states: Bolívar with 64.4% (105,320 Km<sup>2</sup>), Delta Amacuro with 23.8% (38,607 Km<sup>2</sup>), Monagas with 8.7% (14,048 Km<sup>2</sup>), Sucre with 2.3% (3,660 Km<sup>2</sup>) and Anzoátegui with 0.4% (612 Km<sup>2</sup>). For the generation of these charts, 119 works were analyzed, where 68,047 reports were found, of which 6,395 species were determined, representing 40.4% of the country's vascular plants, in 1,571 genera and 234 families.</li> </ul>	Completion of the remaining 35 thematic charts is scheduled for the third quarter of 2022.
<b>Output 1.1.6</b> Participatory mechanism for monitoring forest coverage and status and GHG fluxes in deforested and degraded forests	Percentage of participatory monitoring mechanism designed and implemented	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The implementation of participatory monitoring continues. In addition, as part of the broad line of synergy and cross-cutting outputs 1.1.6, 2.2.1, and 2.2.2. 18 training workshops have been held in the learning modality aimed at strengthening the participatory forest monitoring capacities of members of Kariña communities who have participated in the establishment of monitoring plots and forest inventory carried out on the first 1,000 hectares located in the Co-management area of the Tukupu indigenous company. This method of execution has allowed community spokespeople of area of work to participate and carry out continuous practices of the techniques of measurement and recording of the information in the 105 plots erected in the IFR during the period 2016-2021.</li> </ul>	
<b>Outcome 1.2</b> 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 <b>Indicator BD-2. II.1:</b> Direct and indirect coverage <b>SFM/REDD+1.2</b> indicator. Good management practices applied in existing forests <b>Indicator LD. I.5.2:</b> Protected habitat.	The FPMP of the Imataca Unit V of the IFR integrates data and information on the cover, changes in the use of forest types, deforestation, degraded areas, carbon stocks, and conservation measures for forest biodiversity and community participation in decision-making for management. An area of 167,320 ha. has been covered under sustainable forest management coverage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The updating of the Forest Planning and Management Plan (FPMP) for the 167,320 ha of Unit V of the IFR was completed, considering zoning criteria that involve the protection and conservation of forest potential, biodiversity, and carbon sequestration.</li> <li>A technical report containing the methodology, and results of the zoning proposal, commercial census, and multipurpose plots for the new areas that will be delivered by the MINEC in co-management to the EPSC TUKUPU. The report covers an area of 47,916 ha, located in Unit V of the IFR. This information will be key for preparing the FPMP for this new co-management unit.</li> <li>It was possible to update the lists of flora and fauna of the IFR, applying risk assessment protocols of the identified species, creating a database with their respective attributes that are being systematized and integrated into the SINIF. The floristic information will be enriched with the information from product 1.1.5, referring to the thematic maps that include information on the distribution of flora species, their abundance, frequency, dominance, and phyto-geographic relationships at the national level.</li> </ul>	
<b>Output 1.2.1</b> Lists of forest species, flora and	Species risk assessment protocol (e.g.: IUCN and CITES Red List Index (RLI)).	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The list of Plants with seeds in the IFR was generated, showing that there is a total of 2,362 species of spermatophytes, belonging to 913 genera and 159 families,</li> </ul>	



fauna (endemism, threatened, exotic) of the IFR and critical carbon areas in Unit V.	Percentage of development in the SPECIES Module the CONSERVATION STATUS Attribute to incorporate information to the SINIIF.	20%	<p>reporting their Conservation Status (Endangered, Vulnerable, Near Threatened, Least Concern).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The list of fauna for the IFR (endemic, threatened, exotic) was generated. Here 1314 registered and confirmed species are reported, grouped into 186 families and 44 orders corresponding to the terrestrial taxonomic groups (birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians) representing 27.9% of the species known so far in Venezuela and 56.29% of those reported for the Guayana region.</li> </ul>	
	Updated list of forest species, flora and fauna and their conservation status.	2		
<b>Output 1.2.2</b> 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.	Document of guidelines for the study and definition of zoning of management units prepared.	Goal exceeded in previous periods	<p>In the review and update of Unit V and the EPSDC Tukupu forest management areas, criteria were considered based on physiographic analysis, forest potential, biological diversity, carbon sequestration, coverage, and current use of the land and micro-basin units. The result of this was a spatial organization in which the types of management that can be carried out in each of the areas were recommended. The FPMP and OFP generated in the project have been made incorporating the criteria defined above.</p>	
	Number of reports with the Incorporation of guidelines in operational forestry plans and FPMP.	2		
<b>Output 1.2.3</b> Database of goods and services of biodiversity and forest ecosystems, considering timber and non-timber products and their multiple use by local communities	Percentage of the database designed and implemented	Goal exceeded in previous periods	<p>The services of the Latin American Forest Institute (IFLA) were hired for the collection, systematization, and validation of data and information to be integrated into the SINIIF, through its load module. To date, there are advances in this process such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Presence of a species database of the SINIIF species module integrates the Database of Flora Species (BDEF) generated in the framework of the preparation of the thematic maps of diversity and distribution of vascular plants.</li> <li>Tree Module: Compilation and systematization of the tree module data that was generated during the execution of the fieldwork, including 106 plots that are being integrated into the SINIIF.</li> <li>SCEE Module: Compilation, systematization, review, adaptation, and transcription of information on the indigenous communities in the area of direct influence of the project.</li> <li>Forest Thematic Module: Conceptualization of the Forest Module of the SINIIF, and the first Database Version of the Forest Module. A systematic methodology is established for the classification of plant formations with an emphasis on Forests.</li> </ul>	
<b>Outcome 2.1:</b> Community stakeholders, national and local governments involved in sustainable forest management through new participatory management	SFM/REDD+ 1.2. Area (number of hectares) under application of good sustainable forest co-management and co-management practices in IFR forests.	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>64,665.96 ha under sustainable forest management/co-management plans.</li> <li>The FPMP of Unit V was updated and is being approved by the MINEC, which will allow it to widely exceed the goal of 167,320, completing the aspects related to monitoring and evaluation of carbon, and diversity of flora and fauna.</li> <li>The first Operational Forestry Plan (OFP) was prepared in the area assigned by the MINEC to the EPSDC Tukupu for Sustainable Forest Co-management.</li> <li>The Pilot Scheme for Sustainable Forest Co-management is in the third phase of implementation in the co-management areas assigned to the Tukupu Indigenous Forest Company.</li> <li>A study and a proposal for a Reduced Impact Harvesting Manual for SFM were prepared.</li> </ul>	

tools, covering at least 167,320 ha of forest in the Imataca V Management Unit of the IFR.	SFM/REDD+ 2.1 Improved capabilities 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.	Goals exceeded in previous periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two indigenous communities were incorporated into the Technical-Legal Capacity Strengthening Plan.</li> <li>26 education/training activities were carried out in which 476 people (57% women) participated.</li> </ul>	
<b>Output 2.1.1</b> Technical and legal strengthening of the RR. HH implemented to promote and sustain innovations in SFM using information generated by SINIIF	Training program designed	Goals exceeded in previous periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>26 education/training activities were carried out in which 476 people (57% women) during the evaluation period.</li> <li>Within the framework of the national consultancies in execution, it is estimated that at least three additional workshops will be held during the second half of 2022.</li> </ul>	
	Number of training workshops conducted.			
	Number of people trained			
	Percentage of participation of women			
<b>Output 2.1.2</b> Operational forest plans based on information generated by SINIIF for livelihoods-based forest planning and management developed with local governments and community organizations.	Number of Operational Forest Plans designed and implemented	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress has been made in the implementation of the first operational forestry plan (OFP) of the area under MINEC-Tukupu co-management and parallel in data collection in the field, for the preparation of the second OFP, which is expected to be presented for approval by the environmental authority. (MINEC) in the second half of 2022.</li> </ul>	A OFP has been prepared and is in the implementation phase. Another other is in the process of completion.
<b>Output 2.1.3</b> Pilot scheme for forest co-management with communes or other types of social organizations	Pilot scheme designed and implemented	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress is being made in the third stage of implementation of the co-management pilot scheme (90%), with the consolidation of the Evaluation and Follow-up Committee, made up of five Kariña women's organizations, as part of the Planning and Accountability Council, contemplated in the scheme pilot.</li> <li>The design of the National Sustainable Forest Co-management System (SINACOF), developed within the framework of the project, was achieved. This will be considered by the MINEC as a national policy of forest management to be implemented in different areas of the country, seen as replicability of successful experiences arising from the project, as is the case of the creation and development of the Indigenous Forestry Company Tukupu.</li> </ul>	There is still 10% of implementation to be completed in the 2nd semester of 2022
<b>Outcome 2.2</b> Development and initial implementation of a National Program for the application of environmental and social sustainability standards for the production of	Demonstration area (number of ha) of Unit V of the IFR, under the application of a pilot scheme of national environmental and social sustainability standards in balance with the provision of forest goods and services	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was possible to develop a Global Model of Criteria and Indicators for SFM in Venezuela under international standards, which were validated in a national consultation by 97% of the key participating stakeholders. The model has five (05) criteria, 20 sub-criteria, 45 strategies, 37 sub-strategies, and a system of 560 associated indicators.</li> <li>The technical-standard proposal, the ministerial resolution model, and the strategic plan for its implementation were prepared. These were available to the national environmental authority (MINEC) for its consideration.</li> <li>Progress is being made in the process of compiling information resulting from the 105 monitoring plots established throughout the IFR and the reports generated in the life cycle of the project to identify the initial indicators associated with the criteria of the global model with its local application as established in the PRODOC.</li> </ul>	

timber and non-timber forest products.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18 workshops have been carried out in the learning-by-doing modality, aimed at participatory monitoring of the forest, in the great line of the synergy of products 1.1.6, 2.2.1, and 2.2.2.</li> </ul>	
	SFM/REDD+. Direct and indirect avoided emissions: Indicator CCM-5. LULUCF	<p>a) Direct avoided emissions (SFM/REDD+) 1,136,759.35tCO<sub>2</sub>eq for the 5 years of the project in 25,000 ha</p> <p>b) Direct and indirect emissions avoided (SFM/REDD+): 18,188,149.06 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq for the 5 years of the project in 80,000 ha</p>	<p><b>The goals of this indicator have widely exceeded 100%</b>, considering that as a result of the consultancy for the estimation of emissions and carbon capture in different deposits carried out in 2021, it was possible to quantify in:</p> <p>a) 5,395,705 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq direct and indirect avoided emissions (SFM/REDD+), and</p> <p>b) 28,760,011.56 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq indirect emissions avoided (SFM/REDD+).</p>	
<b>Output 2.2.1</b> Criteria and indicators for environmental and social sustainability of SFM defined based on information generated by the SINIIF.	Technical standard with criteria and indicators for the environmental and social sustainability of SFM based on information generated by SINIIF designed and implemented	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Technical Standard on Criteria and Indicators for Environmental and Social Sustainability of SFM was designed and validated by institutional and community members. There is progress in its socialization before the national environmental authority. For this purpose, technical tables have been held that allowed the final screening of criteria and indicators of the proposed global model and writing of documents and technical guides that allow its implementation.</li> <li>The creation of a database with field information of the plots established during the project cycle was achieved, which provides for the validation of the transversality of the provisions of PRODOC for products 2.2.1, 2.2.2. and 1.1.6. Progress was made on a descriptive inventory of spatial analysis. Progress was also made in developing the mapping. It will be possible to generate indicators under outputs 2.2.1 and 1.1.6.</li> </ul>	
	Technical standard incorporated into the national program of standards	0	Legal actions are being carried out before the General Directorate of Forest Heritage of the MINEC for the review and consideration of the proposed technical standard. The intention is implementing the technical standard via Ministerial Resolution that incorporates it into the national program of environmental and social sustainability standards of the SFM.	
<b>Output 2.2.2</b> 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.	Participatory monitoring implemented	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This product advances in synergy and transversality with 1.1.6 and 2.2.1.</li> <li>In the IFR, 80% of the participatory forest monitoring mechanism has been implemented with the participation of community spokespersons with a learning-by-doing approach. Monitoring of the forest mass has been carried out, as well as a punctual sampling of fauna, collection of botanical samples, sampling of branches and collection of latex and resins of forest species. Information gathering has been carried out during the project cycle on 105 plots established throughout the Forest Reserve, having given 18 training workshops.</li> </ul>	The remaining 20% of Participatory Monitoring is expected to be implemented in the second half of 2022
<b>Outcome 2.3</b> Strengthened intersectoral dialogue in SFM	Number of stakeholders (national and local government institutions, indigenous communities, community-based organizations, companies, NGOs, etc.) with strengthened capacities and participating in an intersectoral dialogue and coordination platform for forest governance in Venezuela.	At least fifteen (15) stakeholders with strengthened technical capacities and actively participating in an intersectoral dialogue and coordination platform for forest governance	<p><b>An advance of 85% is estimated, expressed in the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 stakeholders directly involved in sustainable forest management in the Imataca Forest Reserve.</li> <li>35 courses/workshops have been given with the participation of 599 people, 48% women.</li> <li>The Strategic Alliance for the "Implementation and execution of the Forest Planning and Management Plan in forest areas, signed between ENAFOR and EPSDC Tukupu, to implement a sustainable forest co-management scheme with the organized Kariña communities, continues.</li> </ul>	The remaining 15% refers to the formalization of the intersectoral dialogue and coordination platform for forest governance in Venezuela. It is

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress was made in the implementation of two new alliances (8 in total) with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for the socio-productive support of the Kariña communities through the supply of seeds, agro-inputs, tools, and machinery for the production and processing of food. An alliance was made with the Embassy of the United Kingdom in Venezuela to strengthen SFM capacities through the promotion of organized women's groups, the establishment of family and community nurseries, and the restoration of 40.5 ha of forests with reforestation and agroforestry techniques.</li> <li>The Tukupu Indigenous Forestry Company joined the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) in companies of UN Women and the Global Compact. Tukupu continues to actively participate in the community of WEPs companies in Venezuela, as well as in the Business Sustainability Forum of Venezuela, where it strengthens relationships with other large and medium-sized companies in the country committed to sustainability and the SDGs.</li> <li>Conversations are progressing to sign new agreements with municipalities and private sector stakeholders involved with the SFM.</li> </ul>	expected to be formalized in the second half of 2022 since it has been operating without a defined institutional structure.
<b>Output 2.3.1</b> 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	Number of trained people from the community	Goal exceeded in previous periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress was made during this period. Ten workshops were provided to 810 people, 58% of whom were women.</li> </ul>	
<b>Output 2.3.2</b> 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	Number of inter-institutional coordination and consultation agreements for the governance of forest management and the adequacy of the SINIIF.	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A partnership was established between FAO and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) concerning the strengthening and diversification of the conucos and the development of community socio-productive projects. This alliance has allowed the Kariña communities to receive contributions such as seeds from different areas, as well as tools, equipment, and machinery to establish 65 community and family seed banks, the diversification of crops in agroforestry systems, and the rehabilitation of 5 factories. Casabe artisans (casaberas) in the same number of communities.</li> <li>A partnership was established with the British embassy in Venezuela in favor of sustainable forest management, which led to progress in the formation of 7 Kariña women's organizations for SFM and participatory forest monitoring, capacity building for 150 people at the community level, strengthening of 5 community and/or family forest nurseries, and the restoration of 40.5 ha of degraded areas through reforestation and agroforestry techniques.</li> <li>Progress is being made in the negotiation processes for the next signing of TUKUPU agreements with UNEG, MAKRO, and ROHICA, as stakeholders committed to the SFM.</li> </ul>	
<b>Outcome 3.1</b> Technical and institutional capacities for forest and forestland	<b>1) SFM/REDD+ 1.2 Good management practices applied in existing forests.</b> Number of institutions, indigenous communities, and people representing government institutions, NGOs, community organizations, indigenous and local	Goals exceeded in previous periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>47 workshops were held using the "Learning-by-doing" methodology with the participation of 766 people (57% women). In the IFR, 35 workshops on collecting seeds and seedlings, community nurseries and establishment of plantations were held. Also, 9 workshops on the production of mycorrhizal and bacterial inocula. In four states of the country, 3 training and validation workshops were held for the Mangrove Forest Restoration Manual.</li> </ul>	

restoration through SFM / SLM practices strengthened	communities with technical capacities developed and strengthened on SFM/SL issues.			
<b>Output 3.1.1</b> General standards and indicators to prioritize areas for forest restoration based on information generated by SINIIF.	Technical document with Standards and Indicators designed	Goals exceeded in previous periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the FAO-INPARQUES LoA, 44 priority areas for restoration were identified, covering 230 ha located in 27 national parks or natural monuments in 18 states.</li> <li>Four (4) community workshops were held where the criteria and indicators for the selection of priority areas to restore were applied, considering the restoration strategies and the proposals of the members of the Kariña communities.</li> </ul>	
	Standards and Indicators implemented			
<b>Output 3.1.2</b> Strategy for the restoration, rehabilitation and recovery of forest cover in the IFR with an eco-social approach designed and implemented	Strategy designed and implemented	Goals exceeded in previous periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The following strategies were implemented: 1) Production of bio-inputs in community terraces. 2) Plantations with highly mycotrophic species. 3) Reforestation with "nurse" species that facilitate the establishment of other species. 4) Restoration with analog forestry through the management of natural regeneration.</li> <li>The manuals for the restoration of the tropical-humid forest and the mangrove forest were prepared and are in the process of being revised for publication.</li> <li>The autecological characterization of the species <i>Hymenaea courbaril</i>, <i>Handroanthus serratifolius</i>, <i>Peltogyne floribunda</i>, and <i>Erismia uncinatum</i>, threatened as a consequence of selective forest extraction in the IFR, was carried out.</li> </ul>	
<b>Output 3.1.3</b> National network of forest seed suppliers established.	National network of forest seed suppliers established and functioning	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In alliance with the EPSDC Tukupu, 35 workshops were held applying the "Learning-by-doing" methodology in 8 Kariña communities of the IFR. The training included 622 indigenous people (52% women) in collecting seeds and seedlings, production of plants in community nurseries, reforestation techniques and establishment of agroforestry systems.</li> <li>The local component of the Network in the IFR was strengthened through the incorporation of organized women's groups from 7 indigenous communities (La Fortaleza, El Cafetal, Pozo Vidrio, La Iguana, Río Negro, Matupo I, and Matupo II) who lead the collection of seeds and seedlings, as well as the establishment and maintenance of community and family nurseries.</li> </ul>	
<b>Outcome 3.2</b> 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	BD-2. III.4 Management practices that integrate biodiversity	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In total, it has been possible to capture 215,200 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 969 ha restored within the IFR and outside it. Through agroforestry (443 ha) 99,105 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq have been sequestered. Reforestation (440 ha) has sequestered 86,815 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq, and analog forestry (86 ha) captured 29,280 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq.</li> <li>The biodiversity of soil microorganisms (Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi-AMF and bacteria) was determined in areas affected by forest management in the IFR; In the case of AMF, a total of 65 morphospecies were recorded, of which 42 were identified as species. The high diversity of AMF and abundance of bacteria indicate that the forests under SFM in the IFR have high resilience to recover their ecosystem functions.</li> <li>As part of the third LoA with IFLA, the autoecological characterization of the algarrobo, puy, zapatero, and mureillo species was carried out, and threatened species due to selective forest extraction in the IFR; This study describes each species and its geographical distribution (Venezuela and other countries), phenology and pollination, dispersion and germination, growth and development of seedlings, growth rate, and yield, and pests and diseases that affect them.</li> </ul>	
	Area (number of hectares) of restored and regenerated forest and forest lands	670 ha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In partnership with CONARE and INPARQUES, 530 ha distributed in the Capital District and 20 states of the country were restored.</li> </ul>	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the support of the EPSDC Tukupu, 156 ha were restored through agroforestry, reforestation, and analog forestry in the IFR.</li> <li>• 10 ha of agroforestry systems were established in 9 Agricultural Technical Schools (ETAs) in 5 states, where other FAO projects are implemented.</li> <li>• MINEC is being supported in the formulation and implementation of the National Reforestation Plan and the National Mangrove Restoration Plan.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 3.2.1</b> Model for Forest Restoration through SFM/SLM field-tested with the participation of local governments and communities.</p>	Area (number of ha) under the implementation of the strategy designed in product 3.1.2	670 ha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 696 ha were restored within the IFR and outside of it, implementing strategies for reforestation (326 ha), agroforestry (284 ha), and analog forestry (86 ha)</li> <li>• In the IFR, in alliance with the EPSDC Tukupu, 12 community and/or family nurseries were established in 6 Kariñas communities, with a production of more than 60,000 forest and fruit plants, of 36 different species. These nurseries provided the material for the restoration of 70 ha through agroforestry and reforestation.</li> <li>• At the national level, in agreement with CONARE, 400 ha of plantations were established (56% reforestation and 44% agroforestry) with 284,843 plants, distributed in 12 states. With INPARQUES, the plantations covered 130 ha (56% reforestation and 44% agroforestry) with the establishment of 76,435 plants, located in 27 National Parks, Natural Monuments, and/or Recreation Parks.</li> <li>• Progress was made in restoration through analog forestry in 86 ha of the IFR, because of recovery by natural regeneration on roads, storage yards, and skidding areas in areas where selective forestry exploitation was carried out.</li> <li>• 10 ha of agroforestry systems were established in 9 Agricultural Technical Schools (ETAs) in 5 states, where other FAO projects are implemented.</li> <li>• MINEC is being supported in the formulation and implementation of the National Reforestation Plan and the National Mangrove Restoration Plan.</li> </ul>	
	Number of SFM/MST demonstration sites (mining) implemented	2	No progress during the period.	The conditions of difficult access to the mining areas have prevented progress in this goal.
<p><b>Output 3.2.2</b> Systematized experiences and lessons learned in marketing timber and non-timber products</p>	Number of systematization of experiences and lessons learned	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the third Letter of Agreement with IFLA, information was collected on experiences in the use of forest products, with emphasis on the use of wood and vegetable fibers for artisanal purposes in the Andean regions (Merida state), central (Lara state), western (Anzoátegui State) and southern (Bolívar State) of Venezuela. This will make it possible to prepare the four (4) systematization reports of experiences in the use of TFP and NTFP.</li> </ul>	
	Document of analysis of current and potential use of NTFP	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the framework of the third LoA signed with IFLA, progress was made in the preparation of the document on the analysis of the current and potential use of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) at the national level. This includes conceptual aspects, antecedents in the Amazon region, importance, categories according to their use, ethnobotanical aspects, institutional support and obstacles to their development, and strategies and actions for the promotion of NTFPs as a contribution to local and national sustainable development.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 3.2.3</b> Market and value chains analysis of the main forest products demanded and that affect the forest, and recommendations</p>	Number of market analysis documents and value chains	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the support of the EPSDC Tukupu, the indigenous market was organized and put into operation in Tumeremo, a space for coexistence of the Kariña families. There, producers from Botanamo, La Esperanza, El Cafetal, and Pozo Oscuro communities exchange and offer the products from their crops, those collected from the forest and those made as handicrafts.</li> <li>• As part of the third LoA with IFLA, a document was prepared that assesses market trends for forest products and proposes recommendations to reduce pressure on forests. This document includes the analysis of the national and international</li> </ul>	

for market adjustments and the design of strategies to reduce pressures on forests			markets, the national production of wood, and the size of the markets (sales volume, level of potential competition, and most demanded products).	
<b>Output 3.2.4</b> Community marketing plans for timber and non-timber products implemented according to the multiple use principle	Analysis of TFP and NTFP potentialities	Goal achieved in previous periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regarding non-timber forest products (NTFPs), the implementation of meliponiculture, and annatto (Bixa orellana) production plans continued in Kariña communities of the IFR. In addition, strategies for the management and use of wild fauna were established through zoo farm.</li> <li>Regarding the implementation of the TFP plan, two consultants were hired to develop the project for the construction and implementation of an artisanal carpentry, where members of the indigenous communities will be trained in the processing of small-sized wood (from branches and by-products of forest harvesting).</li> </ul>	
	Number of Community Marketing Plans prepared	1		
	Community Marketing Plans implemented	25%		
<b>Output 3.2.5</b> Financing schemes for SFM, SLM and NTFP commercialization support and implementation of the national SFM standards program established under outcome 2.2.	Financing fund designed	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information was reviewed on elements that allow structuring the proposal and design of the fund, based on the experiences developed for environmental funds in Latin America, considering elements such as mission, vision, lines of action, main donors, innovative sources of own income, and transparency.</li> <li>To establish the legal bases that support the establishment and development of the financing fund, the national legal framework for the establishment of a fund for Forest Co-management in the IFR was reviewed, as well as the international principles of environmental law that should govern the operation of this fund.</li> </ul>	
	Financing fund implemented			
<b>Outcome 4.1</b> Project implementation based on results-based management and facilitating the application of lessons learned and good practices in future operations.	Project results achieved and demonstrating sustainability	15%	<b>The implementation of the project based on results-based management presents a cumulative progress of 90% in achieving the results reported to date.</b>	
<b>Output 4.1.1</b> Project M&E system operational, providing constant information on project progress in achieving outcomes and outputs.	Semi-annual and annual reports	100% operational M&E system. 1 PIR 1 PRP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project's M&amp;E System remains 100% operational, generating up-to-date information on the progress made in meeting the goals of the project's results, products, and activities and generating the necessary alarms to correct any deviation or promote actions that affect sustainability and scaling of the project.</li> <li>The semi-annual and annual reports planned for the period (PPR July-December 2021, PPR January June 2022, and PIR 2021-2022) were prepared and delivered.</li> <li>The Annual Operating Plan (POA) and adjusted budget for this fiscal year were prepared and delivered.</li> <li>Two Planning Meetings, 15 Technical Tours and Field Missions, and more than 40 Worktables and Virtual Follow-ups were held during this reporting period.</li> <li>The Letters of Agreement signed with various partners for the implementation of actions related to the project and its results framework (CENDITEL, CONARE, INPARQUES, IFLA, and Tukupu) continued to be followed up. In addition, conversations began with FUNDAMBIENTE and ABAE for the eventual subscription</li> </ul>	

			of a new LoA that supports the management of the project towards the achievement of results, sustainability, and scaling of the same.	
<b>Output 4.1.2</b> Mid-term and final evaluations conducted, and implementation and sustainability strategies adjusted, and recommendations made	Mid-Term Review and Final Evaluation	No goals for the period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A follow-up report was presented on the implementation of the Mid-Term Review recommendations accepted in the Management Response.</li> </ul>	
<b>Output 4.1.3</b> Good practices and project lessons published	Bulletins and publications of good practices and lessons learned	2 bulletins prepared and disseminated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An informative bulletin and a thematic bulletin on climate change have been prepared. Both bulletins are in revision for their next publication and dissemination.</li> <li>14 documents on good practices and lessons learned were published (5 by the PWS System and 9 on the Bosques de Venezuela website).</li> <li>11 reports, 2 videos, and 54 publications on social networks were made and published, which allowed the dissemination of information about the project and its achievements with a broad national and international scope.</li> <li>24 technical-scientific documents generated by the project were reviewed and are in the editing process.</li> <li>A LoA proposal is being prepared to be signed shortly between FAO and FUNDAMBIENTE for the preparation, editing, publication, and dissemination of good practices and lessons learned from the project, as well as the strengthening of technical capacities of public officials and rural communities.</li> </ul>	
<b>Output 4.1.4</b> Web page for dissemination of information and exchange of experiences.	Website 100% designed and implemented for dissemination of information and exchange of experiences	Website 100% implemented 2 updates to the website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During this period, the 2 planned updates to the website were made, maintaining its operability, and functioning at 100% for the dissemination of project information.</li> </ul>	



## 4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

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

- **As a contribution to improving the capacity for forest assessment and monitoring in Venezuela**, progress continues to be made in updating forest data. A study on estimation of carbon stocks and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions/removals between 2010 and 2020, for the 3,821,900 ha of IFR can be mentioned. The first version of the SINIIF is structured by thematic modules (Species, Tree, Social, Ethnic and Cultural Aspects and the Forest module) whose platform will allow scaling to other thematic modules related to agriculture and food security, also allowing to know and follow up on national targets in relation to climate change and biodiversity conventions. Capacities have been developed in the Kariña indigenous communities of IFR, with 18 theoretical-practical workshops for participatory forest monitoring through learning by doing strategies.
- **As a contribution to improving the state of knowledge of forest biodiversity in Venezuela**, work has been done updating the MPFP work has been done of Unit V of the IFR, and preparing the MPFP and OFP of the areas assigned to the EPSC Tukupu under Forest Co-management, where forest potential, biodiversity and carbon sequestration are considered as innovative elements, integrated into the current national forest policy, which recognizes forests as forest ecosystems whose composition and functioning represent a multiple-use heritage asset. Also, floristic and faunistic studies of the IFR and its conservation status have been completed, generating updated lists. In addition, some 40 thematic maps were prepared at a scale of 1:250,000, covering 48.8% (446,916 km<sup>2</sup>) of the national territory, with information on the distribution of Venezuela's flora and its phytogeographical relationships.
- **Regarding the Eco social area of the project, the positioning of the Kariña indigenous communities of the IFR has been improved.** Examples of this are the direct participation in sustainable forest management through the development and implementation of the Forest Co-management, guaranteeing the preservation of their livelihoods, traditions, and worldview in synergy with the Venezuelan State. At present the EPSDC-Tukupu of the Kariña indigenous communities is a reference in public management in terms of forest policy. The successful management of Tukupu, led by indigenous women, allowed the MINEC to grant a new concession for sustainable forest co-management in an area of 47,916 hectares. The design of the National System for Sustainable Forest Co-management (SINACOF) was achieved, which will be considered by the MINEC as a national policy of forest management to be implemented in different areas of the country. This is a replicability of successful experiences arising from the project. Also, it is the case of the creation and development of the indigenous forest enterprise Tukupu and the implementation of the Sustainable Forest Co-management model in the IFR.
- **It is important to mention the restoration of 969 hectares of degraded and intervened forests at the national level**, with the participation of public institutions, rural communities and indigenous Kariñas, through techniques for agroforestry, reforestation, and analog forestry. This has enabled the recovery of their ecosystem capacities for land restoration, watershed production and conservation, biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation. In total, 215,200 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq have been captured, 969 have been restored inside and outside the IFR. Through agroforestry (443 ha) have been sequestered 99,105 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq. Reforestation (440 ha) has sequestered 86,815 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq and analog forestry (86 ha) captured 29,280 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq. Institutional capacities are strengthened with more than 1,419 people (47% women) trained in aspects related to forest and forest land restoration through SFM/SFM practices.

- **Regarding the information and dissemination of good practices of the project**, the publication during this year of 14 documents on good practices, 2 bulletins, 11 reports, 2 videos and 54 publications on social networks, participation in congresses and webinars is highlighted, made the project's actions and achievements visible at national and international level.

#### Challenges:

- The project is in its last year of implementation, so as part of its exit, sustainability and scaling-up strategy, the installation and start-up of a Kariña artisanal carpentry workshop has been contemplated, where secondary forest products from forest harvesting (branches and lianas) can be used to produce furniture and other artisanal products that, in line with the environmental objectives of the project, will increase and diversify the income of Kariña families, reducing the impact on biodiversity and the CO2 emissions by taking advantage of secondary TFP that would traditionally be left to degrade in the forest after selective industrial harvesting. . However, to achieve this desired situation it is necessary to strengthen the capacities and skills of the local indigenous labor force in the carpentry skills. Also, we need to speed up the administrative procedures of the Country Office (FAOVE) for the construction of a carpentry and purchase the necessary equipment and materials. This implies strategies that streamline administrative procedures and follow-up to the implementation of carpentry training workshops.
- In support of public policies, a proposal has been developed for the creation of the National System for Sustainable Forest Co-management (SINACOFs) by Presidential Decree. We have made significant progress in preparing a draft of the aforementioned document. Also, a Proposal for a Technical Standard of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) was also prepared. To achieve this, we need to establish interinstitutional relationships to generate the proper conditions for the final approval of these documents through advocacy strategies for the adoption/promulgation of the respective Decrees, as these legal instruments contribute to the sustainability of the project's actions.
- Processes are currently underway for the completion of activities that will enable the achievement of the objectives and results set out in PRODOC and MTR, including the implementation of Letters of Agreement that would culminate in the second half of 2022. An extension of 4 months would be necessary to complete the technical, administrative, and financial closure processes of the project, as well as the final evaluation of the project. It should be noted that the project has sufficient financial and budgetary resources for this purpose, which is why this proposal was submitted to the Steering Committee of the project and the extension was approved at no additional cost.

The development of the National Integrated Forestry Information System (SINIIF) has significant delays in its development and implementation, as the partner CENDITEL was unable to finalize the product requested in the signed letter of agreement. A team of professionals needs to be hired to complete the development and integration of the SINIIF software for its optimal operation. The FAO Country Office in Venezuela has published tenders for the direct hiring of professionals in software architecture, data integration and geomatics. CENDITEL was asked to formally deliver the access and administration credentials for the production server to MINEC (already delivered).

### **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.

	<b>FY2022 Development Objective rating<sup>19</sup></b>	<b>FY2022 Implementation Progress rating<sup>20</sup></b>	<b>Comments/reasons<sup>21</sup> justifying the ratings for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period</b>
<b>Project Manager / Coordinator</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<i>The results reached show a satisfactory performance in the execution of the project, managing to alleviate the challenges imposed by the pandemic COVID-19. The incorporation of Kariña communities in the process of Forest Co-management, Participatory Forest Monitoring and Forest and Land Restoration, organized through EPSDC Tukupu, support the sustainability and consolidation of the project's exit strategy. Significant advances in monitoring forest cover and knowledge of forest biodiversity in the country have allowed the formation of a large database integrated into SINIIF, as part of the capacity building generated in the implementation of the project.</i>
<b>Budget Holder</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<i>Despite the delays imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the return to a "new normal", the project has brought satisfactory results. The strategies to strengthen the implementation of the project in the field have strengthened the achievement of results and the design of an exit strategy. We can highlight the progress in the consolidation of the EPSDC-Tukupu of the Kariña indigenous communities, which has become a reference in public management in the sector. The MINEC has granted it a new concession for Sustainable Forest Co-management in an area of</i>

<sup>19</sup> **Development Objectives Rating** – A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.

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

<sup>20</sup> **Implementation Progress Rating** – A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the projects approved implementation plan. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

<sup>21</sup> Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

			<i>47,916 ha. This strengthens the institutionalization of the shared management model of forest resources and opens the possibility of its replication in other forest reserves in the country. To this end, the project has supported the formulation of public policies by developing the proposal for the creation of the National Sustainable Forest Co-management System (SINACOFS), which is expected to be adopted by Presidential Decree. In addition, further efforts should be made towards the conclusion of SINIIF in the period up to April 2023, so that the system is incorporated into forest management mechanisms according to the needs of the MINEC, this system has the potential for the inclusion of new thematic modules that allow the monitoring of other natural resources linked to agriculture and food security, in the perspective that can evolve towards a National Environmental Information System (SINIA).</i>
<b>GEF Operational Focal Point<sup>22</sup></b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<i>The Project Management Unit, with MINEC and FAO, was able to find courses of action to continue the implementation of the project in an adverse scenario of the COVID-19 pandemic. Similarly, maintaining strategic alignment with national priorities, and contributing in particular to the strengthening of the National Reforestation Plan of the National Biodiversity Strategy and other national policies, to battle the triple multidimensional environmental crisis of climate change, loss of biodiversity, and Pollution.</i>
<b>Lead Technical Officer<sup>23</sup></b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<i>The improvement of conditions and the flexibility of the sanitary measures imposed by the Pandemic by COVID-19, the development and adequate implementation of the strategy and plans to address the challenges faced, have enabled significant progress in achieving results. We can highlight the inclusive and participatory forest management of the reserve as a model to be replicated, methodologies and results as input to public policies of co-management that aim at sustainability and scalability of project results. We can also highlight SINIIF as a powerful tool that will</i>

<sup>22</sup> In case the GEF OFP didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.

<sup>23</sup> The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

			<i>help the country to monitor national targets in terms of climate change and biodiversity.</i>
<b>FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>MS</b>	<p><i>Nearing the final period of implementation, the project has made important progress, especially in the field interventions in the Imataca Forest Reserve, regarding sustainable use and reforestation. The level of involvement of local communities and indigenous people is evident and in this context the project could be classified as a good example to follow in other projects. It will be important to adequately document the experience to facilitate diffusion.</i></p> <p><i>However, the project has still important challenges ahead regarding the work at the institutional level, finishing and implementing the national forest information system. There are also several products with delays, although it is planned that they will be achieved by the second semester of 2022. The project was extended to allow more time due to important delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, and during June a new 4 month no-cost extension was approved by the Steering Committee. The remaining period will be crucial to focus on the activities required to complete and leave the system operative in the MINEC, that will be the institution that will be leading the forest monitoring process when the project has concluded. The project is also working on an exit and sustainability strategy that will be fundamental to achieve long term results.</i></p>

## 5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

*Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)*

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

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

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

Initial ESS Risk classification (At project submission)	Current ESS risk classification Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid <sup>24</sup> . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Moderated	<p>LOW</p> <p>The initial Environmental and Social Risk classification is not valid now. The preventive actions and mitigation measures adopted by the project during its implementation in the field have allowed reducing the environmental and social risks identified during the formulation and presentation of the project. The current global risk classification is "Low" because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regarding adverse impacts on traditional practices or agricultural systems in the area: Special care has been taken in the process of training the Kariña indigenous communities, considering the internalization of the principles of planning and sustainability of economic and productive activities. This, in line with the Kariña's people vision of protecting and respecting nature, which means taking only what is necessary for their subsistence and ensuring the cycles of renewal of natural resources that provide them with timber and non-timber forest products. In addition, non-timber products that are marketed will privilege their indigenous identity and their cultural-traditional relevance. For instance, the appreciation of the cultural and traditional identity of the products of the Kariña people (yuca, hot sauce, honey from meliponas bees, annatto, cachire, among others) has been part of the talks initiated by EPSDC Tukupu with the marketing company Makro (part of the international consortium SHV) The idea is establishing a strategic partnership to strengthen capacities for the production and marketing of traditional Kariña products, especially those of non-timber forest origin.</li> <li>• Regarding the workload of local communities or subgroups within communities: As indicated in the PRODOC mitigation measures, efforts have been made to optimize the process of participation and involvement of indigenous communities, through two concurrent actions. On the one hand, capacity building and technical-intellectual tools such as the planning and technification of agricultural and forestry production for the benefit of communities under the learning-by-doing method. This has allowed progress in the establishment of planned and technified agroforestry systems in traditional conucos. On the other hand, the promotion of the economic and productive diversification of the Kariña activities, maintaining the principle of identity and cultural relevance, and the inclusion of women's participation in the use of timber and non-timber forest products. This has been possible thanks to the concessions granted by the Venezuelan State to the EPSDC Tukupu for the forest co-management of more than 50,000 hectares of forests in the IFR, which results in better management and use of time.</li> <li>• Concerning the development of the abilities of the people or organizations affected or involved in the project, as well as the review and updating of policies, laws, regulations, or the development of partnerships: The project has promoted the participation, involvement, and training of communities as a fundamental aspect, to generate the expected environmental, social and economic benefits. Protocols, methodologies, and pilot schemes have been developed to generate information and systematize experiences and knowledge related to the promotion of forest conservation and management. As well as strengthening abilities and innovative tools for sustainable forest management, participative forest monitoring, and restoration of damaged or degraded forest ecosystems, with special attention to the participation of local indigenous peoples. Criteria and</li> </ul>

<sup>24</sup> **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

	<p>indicators for SFM were also defined and a proposal for a technical standard for the sustainability of forest management in Venezuela was prepared. A technical and regulatory proposal for the creation of the National System of Forest Co-management (SINACOF) was also presented to MINEC to replicate the experience developed by the project in the IFR together with the Kariña communities and their indigenous forestry company Tukupu in other areas destined for the permanent forest production of the country where indigenous communities live. In addition, important partnerships have been established (and continue to be established) with public, private, academic, community and other actors who are also interested in engaging in the development and strengthening of forest co-management and participatory monitoring.</p>
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***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



## 6. Risks

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

	Type of risk	Risk rating <sup>25</sup>	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	<b>Political and institutional risk:</b> Biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest and land management are not prioritized at the regional level.	Low	Y	The project will contribute to the promotion and strengthening forest policy at a national, regional, and local scales. The improvement and increased availability of information and knowledge will help raise awareness among authorities and civil society. This also will give greater value to biodiversity conservation and the need for sustainable forest and land management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SINIIF is providing valuable information: Thematic maps of biodiversity, listing of forest species (endemic, threatened, exotic) with their respective conservation states. A database of biodiversity goods and products and forest ecosystems has been established, considering multi-use timber forest products (TFP) and non-timber forest products (NTFP).</li> <li>• Technical and community capacities have been strengthened through training schemes.</li> <li>• Favorable meetings were held with regional and municipal authorities on the importance of SFM and the need to conserve forest biodiversity in IFR and the rest of the country. These meetings have been well received, especially by the government of Bolivar State, as well as in Sifontes and Piar municipalities, which is where the actions of the project are focused on the IFR.</li> </ul>	There is evidence of a fundamental contribution to the strengthening of national, regional, and local institutions of the Venezuelan State. In addition, the private sector and Kariña communities associated with the initiative that prioritize the need to preserve biodiversity and promote SFM/SLM are also contributing to ensure the sustainability of forests from the IFR and the country.

<sup>25</sup> Risk ratings means a rating of accesses the overall risk of stakeholders internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives.

Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. For more information on ratings and definitions please refer to Annex 1.

	Type of risk	Risk rating <sup>25</sup>	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
2	<b>Political and institutional risk:</b> 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	Y	The project will carry out the detailed design to confirm the technical and financial feasibility of forming investment funds (Component 3). Through high-level ministerial meetings, the need to create funds for the development of SFM and SLM activities will be reported. This seeks to generate the political dialogue necessary to reach agreements for the creation and operation of a fund of this nature in the face of the new reality that exists in the management of forest resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forest governance actions have been achieved. This has encouraged the participation of indigenous communities living in the area in decision-making and social, economic, and environmental benefits. As a result, the conformation of a strategic partnership for the forest control and co-management has been established between the Venezuelan government and the EPSDC TUKUPU.</li> <li>• At the third LoA FAO-IFLA a technical and financial proposal is being developed. The idea is to promote the formation and sustainability of the special funding fund to help develop SFM/ SLM actions and support the marketing of forest products, and the application of standards sustainability of the SFM.</li> </ul>	The MINEC and other partner institutions show a high adherence and commitment to the objectives and activities of the project. This reality 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 interested parties. Thanks to the improvement of the country's economic conditions and productive reactivation, new opportunities have been created to develop the investment fund proposal.
3	<b>Administrative risk:</b> Low project management capacity.	Moderate	Y	One of the Steering Committee functions will be supporting the timely implementation of the project. This will be done by promoting political dialogue, coordination, and collaboration among the participating institutions, and the timely contribution of co-financing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Project Steering Committee (PSC) facilitates the participation of government, other partners, and stakeholders in the implementation of the project. Much of the project management has been implemented through letters of agreement with partner institutions, which has proved efficient in accelerating the technical and budgetary execution of the project.</li> <li>• The PSC has prioritized taking advantage of the savings made in the administrative management of the project to finance actions framed in an exit, sustainability, and scaling plan to ensure the permanence and replicability of the results achieved in the implementation.</li> </ul>	The project designed and implemented a monitoring system that complies with the standards, requirements, and tools provided by FAO. This allows it to improve the project management, based on continuous risk analysis, and early warnings, including the and the timely contribution of co-financing. A strategy of exit, sustainability and scaling of the project has been designed with the support of the stakeholders involved.
4	<b>Socio-economic risk:</b> Communities and forest sector stakeholders resist adopting sustainable forest and land management practices.	Low	Y	Local populations may be unwilling to develop the proposal, due to the economic benefits they derive from other activities such as illegal mining.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In coordination with MINEC and the participation of the Kariña communities, the first Indigenous Forestry Company was created and registered. This company will be responsible for the management of an area under forest co-management, which implies the administration and usufruct of the forest resources present. This company will also work under strict criteria of long-term sustainability, but with preponderant participation of the Kariña ethnic group.</li> <li>• The indigenous communities participate in the Seed Network. 12 nurseries were established in their communities. A LoA supports the restoration activities of 500 ha (approx.) of forests in the IFR.</li> </ul>	The experience of Tukupu has been successful and in recognition of the commitment of the Kariña communities to develop SFM practices, the Venezuelan Government decided to grant a new concession in an area more than 7 times higher than the initial, exceeding 55,000 ha under co-management. In addition, it is planned to replicate this experience in other areas of the country.

	Type of risk	Risk rating <sup>25</sup>	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
5	<b>Environmental risk:</b> Impact of climate change on key ecosystems in the IFR and their ecosystem services	Low	Y	Protocols will be developed to enable the collection of data on land use and changes in use. The SFM will be promoted and the development of policies that contribute to the implementation of appropriate measures of exploitation and to a minimum impact of them, contributing to the mitigation of possible effects of climate variability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project presents progress in developing criteria and indicators for selecting priority forest restoration areas. Progress has also been made in developing a specific strategy for the rehabilitation and recovery of forest cover in IFR with an eco-social approach. The operational plans under implementation and the co-management scheme within the framework of the indigenous company TUKUPU are accompanied by a multidisciplinary approach.</li> </ul>	The technical work of the project team has allowed the development of protocols and methodologies to collect field information on land use and land use changes. Also, these protocols and methodologies allow the determination of volumes of carbon emissions and sequestration and the determination of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management and co-management, representing a valuable contribution to Venezuelan environmental authorities.
6	<b>Public health risk:</b> Nationwide mobilization limitation due to COVID-19 pandemic.	Moderate	N	The project adjusts its work plan in response to containment measures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Telework is adopted to advance programmed activities and as restrictions are relaxed, field work is resumed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intervention strategies have been identified and implemented that allow progress in the field tasks of the project. This has been done following biosecurity measures and minimizing risks for personnel performing field activities.</li> <li>With the decrease in the incidence of positive cases in the country and the increase in vaccination rates, the authorities have authorized greater flexibility that has allowed the resumption of field activities with the necessary safeguards and biosecurity measures to avoid possible contagions of both staff and implementing and beneficiary partners.</li> </ul>	The biosecurity measures adopted by the project team have been effective. Despite the impact of the cessation of field activities for more than a year and a half caused in the achievement of the expected results, provisions have been made for that by extension of the project time (without budget increase). This shows that the project targets can be reached and exceeded.

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

FY2021 rating	FY2022 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Low	Low	No changes have been made to the project's risk rating.

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

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

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented <u>during this Fiscal Year</u>
<p><b>Recommendation 1:</b> 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><b>Suggestion 1:</b> 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><b>Suggestion 2:</b> 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><b>Following the implementation of the work plan, these results were obtained:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• implementation of version 1.0 in the process of data loading, systematization, and data integration.</li> <li>• management and regular updating of the website by the project communication and dissemination team.</li> <li>• a robust communication and dissemination team, responsible for communicating, editing, and designing the communication pieces for the visibility of the project's achievements. A communication plan and a manual on graphic identity guide the way forward in this area.</li> <li>• The 3 planned manuals (Tropical Humid Forests, Xerophytic Forests, and Mangrove Forests) were developed and are currently being revised and adjusted for publication through the FAO PWS.</li> <li>• On the monitoring plots an inventory was made of the spatial location of the temporary. Permanent plots that have been erected during the period 2016-2021. This inventory was analyzed and represented cartographically, to generate actions framed in the Great Line of Synergy and Transversality (GLST), with the focus of multipurpose plots.</li> <li>• Progress has been made in the inter-institutional coordination between MINEC and EPSCD Tukupu, which has been strengthened by the implementation of co-management in the assigned areas. In addition, 47,916 ha new ones have been assigned to Tukupu by the MINEC to expand the implementation of the Sustainable Forest Management Scheme.</li> <li>• It has been possible to show the real progress in each of the indicated results of the revision of indicators and targets for components 2 and 3, with adjustments made to the indicators and targets for results 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, and 3.2. These were adopted at the 7th Project Steering Committee, held on August 18, 2021, and with the approval of the Task Force of the project (BH, LTO, and FLO).</li> <li>• Suggestion 2 was resolved immediately after the MTR.</li> <li>• Suggestion 3 was addressed, and the extension was approved. However, it should be noted that the project is still in progress to achieve 100% of the objectives and results, which are expected to be completed during the second half of 2022. Additionally, an exit, sustainability, and scaling strategy are being promoted to ensure the durability of the results in time after completion. It should also be considered that there is sufficient budgetary availability. Therefore, MINEC requested a new no-cost extension until April 30, 2023, which was endorsed by the 8th Steering Committee of the Project on June 20, 2022. This extension was also reviewed and endorsed by the Task Force to promote optimal technical, administrative, and financial closure.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Recommendation 2:</b> 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a strengthened Communication and Dissemination team that has generated a diligent and flexible dynamic to socialize project information. A prioritized list of documents, research, manuals, and protocols has been drawn up and is being reviewed for editing and subsequent publication through the different mechanisms established for this purpose. Twenty-four technical-scientific documents generated by the project were reviewed and are in the process of being edited.</li> <li>• A proposed Letter of Agreement is being prepared to be signed soon between FAO and FUNDAMBIENTE for the preparation, editing, publication, and dissemination of good practices and lessons learned from the project.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendation 3:</b> Implement a comprehensive training program for leaders of TUKUPU, with a focus on gender, inclusion of young people and 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With advice from the project, the Tukupu Indigenous Forest Enterprise joined the women's empowerment principles (WEPs) for companies from UN Women and the Global Compact. Tukupu also continues to actively participate in the WEPs business community in Venezuela, as well as at the Business Sustainability Forum of Venezuela, where it strengthens relations with other important companies in the country committed to sustainability and the SDGs.</li> <li>• Based on the relationship with the previously mentioned instances, partnerships with companies such as Makro and KPMG are being evaluated to strengthen the management capacities of EPSDC Tukupu with a gender and intersectionality approach.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendation 4:</b> 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>A team trained in project planning and monitoring composed of a bachelor's in international studies and a bachelor's in administration was established to address the monitoring and evaluation issues. Also a Bachelor of Arts, a Graphic Designer, and a Forest Engineer, provide transversal support to communication and dissemination area in the project. The communication team was led by an anthropologist and later by a journalist.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 5:</b> Strengthen technical support in the management of the GEF project cycle and in the inclusion of cross-cutting perspectives.</p>	<p>The Country Office provides online workshops to strengthen capacities in project cycle management, and the inclusion of cross-cutting perspectives (especially gender and indigenous issues).</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 6:</b> 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"> <li>• Advocacy oriented to institutional anchoring of the effects and processes promoted by the project through decrees, norms, regulations, public programs, etc.</li> </ul>	<p>As an exit strategy for the project, it is necessary to strengthen the strategic partnership between EPSCD Tukupu and MINEC. MINEC is currently in the process of handing over a new area for Sustainable Forest Co-management with an area of 47,916 ha located in Unit V of the IFR. This will consolidate in the long term all the forest co-management work with indigenous communities executed through the EPSCD TUKUPU.</p> <p>In this context, the project is working on technical support for the EPSC Tukupu in its training process for the implementation of a small-scale carpentry workshop. An agreement with the Universidad Nacional de Guayana's School of Forestry Engineering is being promoted for this purpose. During this execution phase, training will be provided to the indigenous community personnel who will oversee the carpentry operations in the future.</p> <p>At the same time, work is being carried out in parallel with the specialists provided by the project to take charge of the engineering design of the carpentry, with the financial resources for its implementation on land managed by the EPSDC Tukupu.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-institutional articulation (working groups, coordination spaces, among others).</li> <li>• Agreements for the maintenance and permanent updating of the SINIIF and other project outputs.</li> <li>• Subsequent financing alternatives.</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggestion:</b> Maintain the active accompaniment of the FAO representation in Venezuela in the processes of support to the design of public policies.</p>	<p>Based on this experience, a public policy proposal has been developed for the development of a National Forest Co-management System with indigenous peoples in areas of permanent forest production and the economic and social inclusion of local communities. This model contributes to the transformation of food systems and the empowerment of communities. It is an innovation that respects ecology rights and promotes the use of traditional knowledge in policies, plans, and programs.</p> <p>In addition, the adoption of the Technical Standard on Environmental and Social Sustainability Criteria and Indicators is being promoted through a ministerial resolution that incorporates it into the National Standards Program.</p> <p>MINEC has just announced the launch of the National Reforestation Plan which includes an ambitious goal of planting 10 million forest and fruit trees in the country. MINEC is also formulating a National Mangrove Restoration Plan that would guarantee the sustainability and scaling up of the restoration strategies promoted by the project.</p> <p>We are promoting the adaptation of physical space and equipment for the installment of a room for satellite image processing and SINIIF operation on the 11th floor of MINEC's headquarters. In addition, we have promoted with MINEC, FUNDAMBIENTE, and IFLA officials everything related to the integral management of the system, from data uploading to its maintenance and operation.</p> <p>Progress is also being made in the institutional formalization of the Platform for Intersectoral Dialogue and Coordination for SFM.</p> <p>With the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), there are plans to replicate the co-management and enterprise model for natural resource management in the framework of another project that is being formulated for sustainable development in the south of Bolivar State. This will include the active participation of the indigenous peoples of the area. We are also supporting MINEC in the formulation of project proposals to be submitted to the Green Climate Fund.</p> <p>Currently, all the actions and goals of the exit, sustainability, and scaling-up strategy are being systematized for formal presentation to the corresponding authorities of MINEC, FAO, and GEF.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 7:</b> 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This recommendation was addressed and a study on the economic, environmental, and social valuation of the IFR is available.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendation 8:</b> 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This recommendation was addressed by the gender focal point of the country office, and workshops are being developed for capacity building on the inclusion of the gender dimension in the project cycle.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please describe</b></p>	<p>Yes, the project has an exit, sustainability, and scaling-up strategy (see recommendation 6, where it is described in broad terms).</p>
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## 8. Minor project amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines<sup>26</sup>. Please describe any minor changes that the project has made under the relevant category or categories. And provide supporting documents as an annex to this report if available.

Category of change	Provide a description of the change	Indicate the timing of the change	Approved by
Results framework			
Components and cost			
Institutional and implementation arrangements			
Financial management			
Implementation schedule	Project Extension until April 2023		Project Steering Committee
Executing Entity			
Executing Entity Category			
Minor project objective change			
Safeguards			
Risk analysis			
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%			
Co-financing			
Location of project activity			
Other			

<sup>26</sup> Source: <https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/guidelines-project-and-program-cycle-policy-2020-update>

## 9. Stakeholders' Engagement

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

Stakeholder name	Role in project execution	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement
<b>Government Institutions</b>			
Ministry for the People's Power for Eco-socialism (MINEC)	Governing body for environmental and 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.	MINEC has led the Steering Committee and promoted implementation strategies from this space. It has also promoted strategies from the National Project Directorate located in the General Directorate of Forest Heritage and the Operational Focal Point for the GEF located in the Office of Integration and International Affairs. We have worked closely on the development and implementation of the SINIIF and the web page on the ministry's official website. Also, accommodation was provided for the satellite image processing and the SINIIF room (11th floor). It has also been involved in the development of public policy proposals and regulations developed by the project in favor of SFM. These are the technical standard on criteria and indicators of environmental and social sustainability of SFM and the National System of Sustainable Forest Management (SINACOF). Among the strategic lines for Eco-socialism promoted by MINEC are: "Strengthen Eco-socialist training", "Consolidate reforestation and recovery of degraded areas", and "Guarantee conservation of the national territory and its biodiversity" and "Implement territorial management taking into account the consequences of climate change and drought". This shows that most of them are closely linked to the project objectives. Among MINEC's main policies for the 2022-2023 period is the development of the National Reforestation Plan for the establishment of 10 million trees in this period for the recovery of degraded areas, and the promotion of the Forestry Engine for the rational and sustainable use of the country's forest resources.	There have been several changes in the General Directorate of Forest Heritage, which include changes in the National Directorate of the project. Those changes have required slowing down processes while generating transition and adaptation.
ENAFOR (National Forest Company)	Member of the Steering Committee of the project. It manages the project intervention area under concession. ENAFOR goes in hand with the process of community involvement. It is also a strategic partner, and co-financier of components 1, 2, 4.	ENAFOR established the strategic alliance with the EPSDC Tukupu that allowed the allocation of the second concession area for Forest Co-management in the IFR (Tukupu II: 47,916 ha in Unit N5).	ENAFOR's operational capacity for field activities has been reduced.
CONARE (National Reforestation Company)	Member of the Project Steering Committee. This committee has expertise and mandate in forest recovery and restoration. It is	CONARE provided support with the supply of forest and fruit plants for the establishment of reforestation and agroforestry restoration plantations. With the implementation of the	



	also a strategic partner and co-financier of component 3.	2nd LoA, 400 ha of forests and forest lands were restored in the capital district and 20 states of the country. Together with Misión Árbol, it leads the National Reforestation Plan.	
IFLA Foundation (Latin American Forestry Institute)	Member of the Project Steering Committee. It supports the project with research and academic consultation. Fundación IFLA is a strategic partner and co-financier of components 2 and 3.	IFLA began the application of a 3rd LoA for activities related to components 1, 2 and 3, which include: The development of the second version of the SINIIF, the review and update of protocols, capacity building, systematization of experiences, development of the financing fund, among others. The communication and information dissemination strategy are also being supported with the possibility of publishing articles on good practices and lessons learned in the IFLA journal.	
Misión Árbol Foundation	Member of the Steering Committee. It supports the integration and empowerment of rural and urban communities for forest restoration.	Misión Árbol continues to support actions to restore forest ecosystems in the country and it is a fundamental part of the National Reforestation Plan.	FAO had to unilaterally close the LoA signed with Misión Árbol due to the institution's failure to deliver its financial report in a timely manner.
Bolivarian Agency for Space Activities (ABAE)	Implementing partner through letters of agreement. It provides high-resolution satellite imagery for forest ecosystems monitored under Component 1.	Discussions were initiated for the possible subscription of a second LoA for the supply of high-resolution satellite images to be used in the development of the SINIIF.	
<b>Non-Government organizations (NGOs)</b>			
Kariña Communities	Project beneficiaries. They are involved in the implementation of activities of components 1, 2 and 3.	They actively participate in the implementation of best practices for the scaling up and sustainability of the project, such as sustainable forest co-management, participatory forest monitoring, and forest restoration of intervened/degraded areas through reforestation, agroforestry, and analog forestry strategies, etc.	
<b>Private sector entities</b>			
New private sector entities have been identified during project implementation, has mentioned below			
<b>Others [1]</b>			
<b>New stakeholders identified/engaged</b>			
Communal Direct Social Ownership Company (EPSDC) Tukupu	Socio-productive organization of the beneficiary communities. Responsible for the pilot implementation of forest co-management in the IFR. It is the executing partner through letters of agreement.	EPSDC-Tukupu has developed its technical, operational, and logistical capacities for the sustainability and scaling up of forest co-management. EPSDC-Tukupu supported through LoA the implementation of ecosystem restoration actions (179 ha), sustainable forest management, and participatory forest monitoring. It also developed production and commercialization capacities for TFP and NTFP.	
National Parks Institute (INPARQUES)	Implementing partner through Letter of Agreements for forest restoration in national parks and natural monuments.	130 ha of degraded forest areas in 27 national parks and natural monuments in the country were restored. Institutional nurseries were strengthened to ensure the sustainability of these actions.	

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National Technology Research and Development Center Foundation (CENDITEL)	Executing partner through Letter of Agreements for the development of the SINIIF and the project's web page.	SINIIF 1.0 Version was delivered for testing, adjustments, corrections, and improvements by the project and MINEC team.	
National Foundation for Environmental Education (FUNDAMBIENTE)	Possible implementing partner through Letters of Agreement for capacity building and communication and dissemination of project results.	Discussions were initiated for the possible signing of a Letter of Agreement that would allow for capacity building, communication, and dissemination of project results.	
Mayor's Office of Sifontes Municipality	Local government. Indirect beneficiary of the project. Strategic ally in the area of influence of the project.	It has continued to support project management in the implementation territory and the Tukupu indigenous forestry company and the Kariña communities living in the section of the IFR located in the municipality.	
Mayor's Office of Piar Municipality	Local government. Indirect beneficiary of the project. Strategic ally in the area of influence of the project.	It continues to support SFM in the municipality's territory through an alliance signed within the framework of the project.	
Universities and research centers: Universidad de Los Andes (ULA), Universidad Experimental de Guayana (UNEG), Centro de Estudios de Postgrado ULA (CEFAP), Universidad Central de Venezuela (UCV), Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones Científicas (IVIC), Instituto de Investigaciones para el Desarrollo Forestal de la ULA (INDEFOR).	Academic and scientific contributions in the formulation and design of protocols foreseen in the project components. They have participated in the execution of different products of the project.	They continue to support the creation and management of knowledge in the development of research and the production of studies, technical documents, protocols, methodologies, pilot schemes, etc.	
Maderas Bosco	Private company that carries out commercial forest harvesting operations in the area of influence of the project.	Discussions were initiated to sign a cooperation alliance with EPSDC Tukupu to strengthen the development of the timber forest products value chain and the sustainability of the project's actions in the SFM.	
ROHI C. A	Private company concessionaire of an area of the Unit N5 of IFR.	This has been the first private company in the IFR to join sustainable forest management by adopting sustainability criteria and indicators and the lines of action developed by the project in its own Sustainable Forest Planning and Management Plan.	
MAKRO	Trading company, part of the international SHV consortium.	It is in talks with EPSDC Tukupu to enter into a strategic partnership to strengthen the capacities of the Kariña communities for the production and marketing of non-timber forest products. This alliance will highlight the identity and worldview of the Kariña peoples in the products that would be placed on specially identified shelves of the Makro store network in Venezuela.	
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Organization in charge of assisting people in conditions of human mobility.	Through inter-agency work with FAO, seeds, equipment, and tools were provided to strengthen the capacities of 65 Kariña families to establish family and community seed banks. This will strengthen the diversification of food production in agroforestry systems established in the traditional Kariña conucos. Support was also provided in the provision of machinery and equipment to strengthen five casaberías (artisanal cassava processors to produce casabe).	
Office of the UN Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System (UNS) in Venezuela	Responsible for the coordination of UNS agencies, funds and programs in Venezuela.	It promoted the incorporation of EPSDC Tukupu in the Venezuelan Business Sustainability Forum and the adoption of the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPIs).	

## 10. Gender Mainstreaming

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

Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages.	No	<p>A gender diagnosis was not carried out during the project formulation phase. Instead, it was based on a socioeconomic assessment with disaggregated information on the proportion of men and women. In the implementation phase, specific actions have been carried out that have generated gender-related information.</p> <p>During this implementation period, it was observed that the Kariña women trained by the project have executed important specific actions that contribute to sustainable forest co-management (seed collection, construction and maintenance of family and community nurseries, plant production and restoration of degraded areas).</p> <p>The productive inclusion of women has allowed them to generate additional income for themselves and their families. This income has been different from what they eventually receive from the sale of casabe and/or from the sale of the surplus of the conucos production in the indigenous market of Tumeremo. This has had a direct impact on improving their livelihoods and living conditions.</p> <p>In 2021, a consultancy was contracted for the development of a Gender Attention Program in bilingual indigenous communities (Kariña-Spanish), which was not completed with the expected results. Therefore, the systematization of available information is currently being completed to complete the program.</p>
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?		<p>During this period, the indigenous forestry company Tukupu adopted the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) of UN Women and the Global Compact. This is the first company of its kind to join this global tool. (See: <a href="https://www.weps.org/compania/empresa-propiedad-social-directa-comunal-tukupu">https://www.weps.org/compania/empresa-propiedad-social-directa-comunal-tukupu</a>)</p> <p>Within the framework of project GCP/VEN/021/UK, financed by the United Kingdom embassy in Venezuela, and implemented under the umbrella of GCP/VEN/011/GFF, seven Kariña women's organizations (KWO) were formed for sustainable forest co-management (seed collection, construction and maintenance of family and community nurseries, plant production and restoration of degraded areas) and participatory monitoring of forests and the effects of climate change on them.</p> <p>With support from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), we supported the rehabilitation and provision of five artisanal factories to produce cassava (casaberas), which are managed by Kariña women in the same number of communities.</p> <p>Margarita Medina was elected as Capitana (highest traditional authority) of the Kariña Los Waikas community. She is the first woman to hold this position in the community and the second in the IFR after Captain General Cecilia Rivas.</p> <p>Thanks to the project's technical and institutional capacity-building program, 2,196 people from 82 national, regional and municipal institutions and 12 Kariña communities have been trained, 47% of whom</p>

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		are women. Other 35 courses/workshops have been given to promote the dialogue and intersectoral coordination for forest governance with the participation of 599 Kariña people, 48% women.
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):		
a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources	Yes	<p>The formation of the Tukupu Indigenous Forestry Company as a community-based, parity-based organization (50% men and 50% women) has had an impact on closing gaps in access to and control of the natural forest resources assigned to them by the Venezuelan State for sustainable forest co-management. In addition, the Tukupu Indigenous Forestry Company is presided over by Captain General Cecilia Rivas and managed by a majority of women.</p> <p>Tukupu's successful management, led by indigenous women, allowed MINEC to grant it a new concession for an area of 47,916 ha, more than 7 times the initial concession area of 6,487.12 ha.</p> <p>The Kariña women organized in Tukupu have promoted the establishment of 12 community and family nurseries where more than 80,000 forest and fruit plants have been produced for the restoration of 197 ha of the forest through reforestation, agroforestry, and analog forestry techniques.</p>
b) improving women's participation and decision making	Yes	<p>The women who lead the EPSDC Tukupu have participated in different instances of national and international visibility. They have participated in the Venezuela Business Sustainability Forum 2021, the first meeting of the Community of signatory companies of the WEPs principles in Venezuela, the World Forestry Congress, the first Venezuelan congress of researchers against climate change, the FAO Transforma Fair, among others.</p> <p>Women's leadership in the Imataca Forest Reserve continues to be strengthened with the election of Margarita Medina as Captain of Los Waikas community. It is expected that more women will be elected as leaders of the communities served by the project in the 2023 indigenous authority renewal process.</p>
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	<p>50 Kariña women are currently employed directly by the indigenous forestry company Tukupu. They have been able to access important socioeconomic benefits.</p> <p>The rehabilitation of five casaberas in an equal number of communities allows Kariña women to increase their production for self-consumption and commercialization. Therefore, they can improve their livelihoods and living conditions.</p> <p>The opening of the Kariña Indigenous Market in the town of Tumeremo has also allowed many indigenous women to market their timber and non-timber forest products, such as handicrafts, firewood, charcoal, cassava, honey from melipona bees, annatto, fruits, vegetables, tubers and other agricultural products. This has led to a significant increase in their income.</p> <p>The project to set up a Kariña carpentry workshop is nearing completion, where secondary forest products such as branches and vines can be used to make furniture. This will also increase and diversify the Kariña women's income.</p>
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Yes	The project's M&E system maintains gender-disaggregated data on institutional and community beneficiaries participating in capacity building and other project activities. This information is reported in the various M&E reports prepared by the project.
Staff with gender expertise	No	The project team does not have specialized or experienced personnel in gender matters. Although several gender mainstreaming training initiatives have been carried out by the FAO Representation in Venezuela and the FAO Regional Representation for Latin America and the Caribbean, the project team has been sensitized and improved its capacities in this area.
Any other good practices on gender	No	

## 11. Knowledge Management Activities

<b>Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in Knowledge Management Approach approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval <u>during this reporting period.</u></b>	
<p>Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.</p>	<p><b>Yes.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work in Kariña indigenous communities under the free, prior and informed consent</li> <li>2. Work in Kariña indigenous communities with the gender equality approach</li> <li>3. Participative monitoring of the forest</li> <li>4. Creation of the first Indigenous Forest Enterprise</li> <li>5. Formulation and consolidation of the National Forest Seed Supplier Network</li> <li>6. Development and implementation of the Forest Co-management Pilot Scheme for the Imataca forest reserve and proposal for the establishment of the National Forest Management System (SINACOF)</li> <li>7. Definition of criteria and indicators for the environmental and social sustainability of the SFM and development of a technical-standard proposal</li> <li>8. Strengthening productive capacities</li> <li>9. Implementation of agroforestry systems</li> <li>10. Strategy of restoration, rehabilitation, and recovery of forest cover in the IFR and other areas of the country with an eco-social approach</li> <li>11. Improving the livelihoods of Kariña indigenous communities</li> <li>12. Methodology for CO<sub>2</sub> measurement in the Imataca forest reserve</li> <li>13. Capacity building to ensure sustainability</li> </ol> <p>Good practices carried out through the project have been collected and visualized through the Project Newsletter, Volume 1 and Volume 2 (forthcoming) In addition, through the media: social networks, website <a href="https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/">https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/</a> And the national press has made visible the good practices resulting from the project. Also, it is considered an essential strategy for knowledge management all that is related to the realization and participation of: Congresses, webinars, workshops, exchange of knowledge, courses, and meetings for the formulation, proposing, and promotion of important research and findings generated in the project. World Forestry Congress, Korea 2022 <a href="https://programme.wfc2021korea.org/en/session/41e7f59d-a9c1-ec11-997e-a04a5e7cf9dc">https://programme.wfc2021korea.org/en/session/41e7f59d-a9c1-ec11-997e-a04a5e7cf9dc</a> 1st National Congress of Climate Change Researchers</p> <p><b>Participation in the webinars:</b></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1527741070464929792?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1527741070464929792?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1530247551928221697?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1530247551928221697?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1531661804446810113?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1531661804446810113?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1534233862901047297?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1534233862901047297?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p>In addition, the process of technical-scientific research continues to consolidate the various publications on editorial matters that have been generated during the project.</p>
<p>Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.</p>	<p><b>Yes.</b> It is detailed in the communication and dissemination plan of the project: <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ncCKhr9QkAwBue-boihYGVYwqOQlqvU0/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ncCKhr9QkAwBue-boihYGVYwqOQlqvU0/view?usp=sharing</a></p> <p>During the COVID 19 pandemic, the importance of communication through various technological platforms was evidenced. It was a challenge to communicate and to inform the communities linked to the project in the Imataca forest reserve. Radio communication was fundamental as a base tool for the dissemination and information of activities in this area. In addition, given the basic protection measures, various exchanges of knowledge, workshops, courses, and meetings were held to strengthen the capacities of the indigenous Kariña communities involved. It also included the fluidity of information in the field, providing interviews, documentation, and audiovisual inputs. All of these were necessary to make effective dissemination through the channels established in the communication strategy: social network Twitter of the Organization: @FAO_Venezuela. Website of the project: <a href="https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/">https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/</a>. Website of the Organization: <a href="https://www.fao.org/venezuela/noticias/detail-events/fr/c/1538217/">https://www.fao.org/venezuela/noticias/detail-events/fr/c/1538217/</a></p>
<p>Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected Global Environmental Benefits. Please indicate any Socio-economic Co-benefits that were generated by the project. Include at</p>	<p>Anibal Giron is the protagonist of this story in the Kariña indigenous community of the Imataca forest reserve. He is a leader who stands out for his pronouncement and action regarding gender equality in the area. This is a quality that highlights him thereby strengthening their leadership and ability to work for the common good.</p>

least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.


The following link describes a life story that is part of the content about to be published in 2nd. Project newsletter. This story, told by Anibal Giron, describes the benefits and livelihood improvement of the Kariña indigenous community, of the Imataca forest reserve, from the arrival of the project.

Embracing Change: A Kariña Story:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19ywrzaOrvd5Bzs2bqECQ10FRQnDuOsI/view?usp=sharing>

Photos:



	
	<p>Photo 1: Harrison Ruíz</p> <p>Photo 2: José Negrón</p> <p>Photo 3: Ernesto Arends</p>
<p>Please provide links to related website, social media account</p>	<p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela</a></p> <p><a href="https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/">https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/</a></p> <p><a href="https://instagram.com/tukupu_ve?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=">https://instagram.com/tukupu_ve?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=</a></p> <p><a href="https://instagram.com/bosquesdevzla?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=">https://instagram.com/bosquesdevzla?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.fao.org/venezuela/noticias/detail-events/fr/c/1538217/">https://www.fao.org/venezuela/noticias/detail-events/fr/c/1538217/</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve?lang=es">https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve?lang=es</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.facebook.com/bosquesdevzla/">https://www.facebook.com/bosquesdevzla/</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla</a></p>
<p>Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.</p>	<p><b>PWS system:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://doi.org/10.4060/cb3668es">https://doi.org/10.4060/cb3668es</a> Community Good Practice Technical Guide for Seed Tree Selection and Forest Seed Handling</li> <li>• <a href="https://doi.org/10.4060/cb3918es">https://doi.org/10.4060/cb3918es</a> Technical guide - Guidelines for certification of forest seeds</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.fao.org/documents/card/es/c/cb6704es">http://www.fao.org/documents/card/es/c/cb6704es</a> Primer: Make your own forest nursery</li> <li>• <a href="https://doi.org/10.4060/cb7322es">https://doi.org/10.4060/cb7322es</a> Proposed protocol for updating and monitoring national forest cover, using remote sensing images</li> </ul> <p>Also in: <a href="https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/">https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/</a></p> <p>Video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vulHZN353Zk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vulHZN353Zk</a></p> <p>Also in: <a href="https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/">https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/</a></p> <p><b>Other media and publications:</b></p> <p>Communities #Kariña of the Imataca Forest Reserve received toolkits and seeds donated by @OIM_RRMV to 65 families para 65 beneficiary families de @FAO_Venezuela y TheGEF through the project #OrdenaciónForestalSustentable.</p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1458884364939542528?s=20&amp;t=iM5FwjjlvWE77ZEg84_Gqw">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1458884364939542528?s=20&amp;t=iM5FwjjlvWE77ZEg84_Gqw</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1458884528487890944?s=20&amp;t=iM5FwjjlvWE77ZEg84_Gqw">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1458884528487890944?s=20&amp;t=iM5FwjjlvWE77ZEg84_Gqw</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1458884645857095680?s=20&amp;t=iM5FwjjlvWE77ZEg84_Gqw">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1458884645857095680?s=20&amp;t=iM5FwjjlvWE77ZEg84_Gqw</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1458885103644397568?s=20&amp;t=iM5FwjjlvWE77ZEg84_Gqw">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1458885103644397568?s=20&amp;t=iM5FwjjlvWE77ZEg84_Gqw</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1458885423149707299?s=20&amp;t=iM5FwjjlvWE77ZEg84_Gqw">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1458885423149707299?s=20&amp;t=iM5FwjjlvWE77ZEg84_Gqw</a></p> <p>In support of the communities #Kariña in the south of the country, @FAO_Venezuela distributes tools and seeds donated by @OIM_RRMV to the indigenous producers of #ReservaForestallmataca</p>

	<p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1464229041293172765?s=20&amp;t=EitezQQaYW95oqjileTeg">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1464229041293172765?s=20&amp;t=EitezQQaYW95oqjileTeg</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1464229308713607185?s=20&amp;t=EitezQQaYW95oqjileTeg">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1464229308713607185?s=20&amp;t=EitezQQaYW95oqjileTeg</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1464229648615809055?s=20&amp;t=EitezQQaYW95oqjileTeg">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1464229648615809055?s=20&amp;t=EitezQQaYW95oqjileTeg</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1464229902450892805?s=20&amp;t=EitezQQaYW95oqjileTeg">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1464229902450892805?s=20&amp;t=EitezQQaYW95oqjileTeg</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1464230227190730755?s=20&amp;t=EitezQQaYW95oqjileTeg">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1464230227190730755?s=20&amp;t=EitezQQaYW95oqjileTeg</a></p> <p>The virtual stand of the #OrdenacionForestalSustentable project is along with 200 other successful experiences in the rural area, organized by @MinAgricultura @FAO_Colombia @VecolColombia among other institutions.  <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1466484825494278157?s=20&amp;t=S9mZfZnECHF8ywwi75MB7w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1466484825494278157?s=20&amp;t=S9mZfZnECHF8ywwi75MB7w</a></p> <p>The project that @FAO_Venezuela develops in #ReservaForestalImataca, incorporates the approaches of gender and interculturality to rescue the value that has #women in the processes of participation and collective decision-making. #DíaPueblosIndigenas  <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1466723971588665347?t=WotUq_WnwiYtx2Erz8RmQ&amp;s=19">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1466723971588665347?t=WotUq_WnwiYtx2Erz8RmQ&amp;s=19</a></p> <p>We are already using the toolkits and seeds we received from the World Organization for Migration @OIM_RRMV thanks to the support of @FAO_Venezuela and the #OrdenacionForestalSustentable @bosquesdevzla This donation strengthens our actions at @tukupu_ve  <a href="https://t.co/sRbwgijE1b">https://t.co/sRbwgijE1b</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve/status/1461006947243728899?s=20&amp;t=qwqdLhaOS43jyblwcn8E6Q">https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve/status/1461006947243728899?s=20&amp;t=qwqdLhaOS43jyblwcn8E6Q</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve/status/1461006994052165633?s=20&amp;t=qwqdLhaOS43jyblwcn8E6Q">https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve/status/1461006994052165633?s=20&amp;t=qwqdLhaOS43jyblwcn8E6Q</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve/status/1461007010867122181?s=20&amp;t=qwqdLhaOS43jyblwcn8E6Q">https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve/status/1461007010867122181?s=20&amp;t=qwqdLhaOS43jyblwcn8E6Q</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve/status/1461007029728854025?s=20&amp;t=qwqdLhaOS43jyblwcn8E6Q">https://twitter.com/tukupu_ve/status/1461007029728854025?s=20&amp;t=qwqdLhaOS43jyblwcn8E6Q</a></p> <p>The progressive distribution of 65 kits of tools and seeds donated by @OIM_RRMV to the producers of #ReservaForestalImataca is carried out in the Karina communities of Matupo, La Esperanza, Botanamo, El Cafetal, Pozo Oscuro, and La Fortaleza.  <a href="https://t.co/V57ZsforZP">https://t.co/V57ZsforZP</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1464241255718834178?s=20&amp;t=5cyXS6tzR7dAP3leSg9h9w">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1464241255718834178?s=20&amp;t=5cyXS6tzR7dAP3leSg9h9w</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1464241262635200520?s=20&amp;t=5cyXS6tzR7dAP3leSg9h9w">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1464241262635200520?s=20&amp;t=5cyXS6tzR7dAP3leSg9h9w</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1464241272470835205?s=20&amp;t=5cyXS6tzR7dAP3leSg9h9w">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1464241272470835205?s=20&amp;t=5cyXS6tzR7dAP3leSg9h9w</a></p> <p>We will be at the Meeting of Successful Rural Extension Experiences. Register and Participate in the free and virtual event that brings together more than 200 experiences from around the world, from 2 to 4 December  <a href="https://t.co/iVq0o4h4f7">https://t.co/iVq0o4h4f7</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466050640975642628?t=XStrUxgT2EM3YN9MftZJYA&amp;s=19">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466050640975642628?t=XStrUxgT2EM3YN9MftZJYA&amp;s=19</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466050669635411970?s=20&amp;t=8aU6v-N2YeqrLz966MRhYQ">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466050669635411970?s=20&amp;t=8aU6v-N2YeqrLz966MRhYQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466050694625042442?s=20&amp;t=8aU6v-N2YeqrLz966MRhYQ">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466050694625042442?s=20&amp;t=8aU6v-N2YeqrLz966MRhYQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466050696575393794?s=20&amp;t=8aU6v-N2YeqrLz966MRhYQ">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466050696575393794?s=20&amp;t=8aU6v-N2YeqrLz966MRhYQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466050750560223233?s=20&amp;t=8aU6v-N2YeqrLz966MRhYQ">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466050750560223233?s=20&amp;t=8aU6v-N2YeqrLz966MRhYQ</a></p> <p>The project Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Conservation in the Ecosystem Perspective is presented at the Meeting of Successful Rural Extension Experiences. Extension Pavilion as public policy - Room C. Visit our stand!  <a href="https://t.co/9JFVc3d0vy">https://t.co/9JFVc3d0vy</a>  <a href="https://t.co/hT5yGaf8jz">https://t.co/hT5yGaf8jz</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466530774329356294?t=UhCUS6wlGgrUzRzheGVRhw&amp;s=19">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466530774329356294?t=UhCUS6wlGgrUzRzheGVRhw&amp;s=19</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466530834090020872?s=20&amp;t=9lYjCwsAKy9SKY6kt9B3WQ">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466530834090020872?s=20&amp;t=9lYjCwsAKy9SKY6kt9B3WQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466530901316100096?s=20&amp;t=9lYjCwsAKy9SKY6kt9B3WQ">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466530901316100096?s=20&amp;t=9lYjCwsAKy9SKY6kt9B3WQ</a></p> <p>Get to know the experience of #ComanejoForestal designed and implemented with the communities of the #ReservaForestalImataca in the framework of the #OrdenacionForestalSustentable since 2016, thanks to @MinedicOficialVe @FAO_Venezuela and @theGEF  <a href="https://t.co/9JFVc3d0vy">https://t.co/9JFVc3d0vy</a></p>
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	<p><a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466531771512619008?t=3yAEe1cHBOItXII-n-QNw&amp;s=19">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1466531771512619008?t=3yAEe1cHBOItXII-n-QNw&amp;s=19</a></p> <p>Donation IOM Tukupu We have given 65 Kariña producers and their families 65 kits of tools and seeds for planting that were donated by the International Organization for Migration, IOM, in Venezuela.</p> <p><a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CW4AYIEIU-v/?utm_medium=copy_link">https://www.instagram.com/p/CW4AYIEIU-v/?utm_medium=copy_link</a></p> <p>We share with you our tour of 6 Kariña communities located in the Imataca Forest Reserve and on the outskirts of the city of Tumeremo, Bolivar State</p> <p><a href="https://www.facebook.com/101207691612991/posts/431843591882731/">https://www.facebook.com/101207691612991/posts/431843591882731/</a></p> <p>YEAR 2022</p> <p>Illustrated Guide: Make and enjoy your meliponary, in commemoration of World Bee Day <a href="https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Guia-meliponicultura-para-comunidades.pdf">https://bosquesdevenezuela.minec.gob.ve/portal/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Guia-meliponicultura-para-comunidades.pdf</a></p> <p>Story of Life of Ramón Enrique Jaramillo Lejarazo (50). He has a superpower. He can look at any segment of the forest and recognize one by one the trees found there, identifying them by name, characteristics and benefits <a href="https://www.fao.org/venezuela/noticias/detail-events/en/c/1538217/">https://www.fao.org/venezuela/noticias/detail-events/en/c/1538217/</a></p> <p>The project enabled capacity building of 150 people from Kariña village (60% women) and restoration of 40 hectares of forest <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1517504375790387200?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1517504375790387200?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p>In Venezuela, a group of indigenous Kariña women lead an FAO forest conservation project and @theGEF in the Imataca Reserve. Hear in this podcast how they are paving the way to protect their forests <a href="https://bit.ly/3qjaviI">https://bit.ly/3qjaviI</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1505921689984634888?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1505921689984634888?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p><b>#LecturaRecomendada</b> These women are "Guardians of the Imataca Forest Reserve" <a href="https://bit.ly/38oQ1xT">https://bit.ly/38oQ1xT</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1492831038309023744?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1492831038309023744?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a> She is Iveth, one of the women working everywhere for gender equality. A key to a better and more sustainable future <b>#MujeresRurales</b> <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1505846799730462726?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1505846799730462726?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p>Among the photographs are the most outstanding experiences of the projects executed by the Venezuelan Government and @FAO_Venezuela highlights the leadership of the #women in the <b>#EmpresaForestalIndigena @tukupu_ve</b> <a href="https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1501931767896293377?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/bosquesdevzla/status/1501931767896293377?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p>In the nursery of the community of <b>#Botanamo</b>, Imataca Forest Reserve, indigenous women <b>#Kariña</b> are in charge of collecting seeds, Prepare substrates. fill bags. Create terraces. Sow. Maintain about 20,000 plants <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1493903134514724869?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1493903134514724869?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p>The indigenous Venezuelans of the Kariña ethnic group, with the support of @FAO_Venezuela @MinecOficialVe and financial resources of @TheGEF, are forest managers who provide shelter and sustenance. <b>#GrandesResultadosFAO2021</b> <a href="https://twitter.com/FAOAmericas/status/1482016059091730439?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAOAmericas/status/1482016059091730439?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p>We invite you to know the superpower of Ramón Enrique Jaramillo. Visit our website: <a href="https://bit.ly/3axh7Y5">https://bit.ly/3axh7Y5</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1533795892637188098?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1533795892637188098?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p>Restoring degraded areas in a forest is a challenge. Indigenous <b>#Kariña</b> work in an area of 40 hectares of the <b>#ReservaForestal</b> of Imataca as part of a project of @FAO_Venezuela, with support from the <b>#ReinoUnido. #EarthDay #DiaDeLaTierra</b> <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1517504364923002886?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1517504364923002886?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p>In Imataca, we work with the Kariña for the development of participatory monitoring techniques <b>#CambioClimático</b>. Today, <b>#DiaDeLaTierra</b>, we highlight their contribution as guardians of forests and promoters of solutions for an effective <b>#AcciónPorElClima</b> in <b>#Venezuela</b>. <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1517504379309502465?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1517504379309502465?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p>With joy and enthusiasm the girls and boys students of ETA Sr. de la Buena Esperanza; @FAO_Venezuela@MINEC y @MPPEDUCACION planted "a tree for life and ecosystem restoration". <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1514936908144680965?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1514936908144680965?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p>
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## 2022 Project Implementation Report

	<p>On International Forest Day the Representative of the @FAO_VE and the Minister of @MinecOficial, developed a meeting to strengthen partnerships and review the status of FAO projects in the country on productive and sustainable forest management  <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1506417208796327939?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1506417208796327939?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p>@FAO_Venezuela invites you to visit the PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION: "Venezuelan rural women: creators of climate resilience"  <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1502600357930803202?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1502600357930803202?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p> <p>On World Bee Day we remember the contribution of beekeepers: Reserve natural habitat areas. Create plant barriers. Reduce pesticide use. Respect nesting sites. Sow crop attractions in the field.  <a href="https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1527635291506462720?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w">https://twitter.com/FAO_Venezuela/status/1527635291506462720?s=20&amp;t=Flpt48_8F0PSYsTqQpE5w</a></p>
<p>Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point's Name and contact details</p>	<p>Liliam Lara            Email: <a href="mailto:Liliam.Lara@fao.org">Liliam.Lara@fao.org</a>            Cellphone number: +584166228708</p> <p>Rosa Elena Betancourt            Email: <a href="mailto:Rosa.Betancourt@fao.org">Rosa.Betancourt@fao.org</a>            Cellphone number: +58 4241700804</p>

## 12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

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

If applicable, please describe the process and current status of on-going/completed, legitimate consultations to obtain Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) with the indigenous communities.

Before the implementation of the project began, the indigenous communities located in the IFR area were consulted about their interest in participating in the project. These communities gave their free, prior and informed consent. The participation of the indigenous Kariña people in decision-making has been active, with the participation of men and women being equal.

To obtain Free, Prior, and Informed Consent, a community approach was carried out in the IFR from December 12 to 16, 2016, under the leadership of the Technical Coordinator of the project. On December 13, 2016, a meeting was held in the community of Botanamo with the Indigenous Captains of the Bochinche Sector, Tumeremo - Bochinche highway axis of the Imataca Forest Reserve. In this meeting, had the participation of the General Captain of the Sector, Mrs. Cecilia Rivas, the Captain of the Community of La Esperanza, Mr. Alejandro Fernández, Captain of the Matupo I Community, Mr. Juanillo Figuera, as well as Vice-captains and representatives of the community of La Iguana.

Once the project was presented by the Technical Coordinator, the different Captains were consulted. They expressed their agreement with the execution of the project in their areas of influence, as it would bring significant environmental and socio-economic benefits to all its inhabitants. They showed interest in integrating and participating in the different activities to be developed during the execution of the project.

Community participatory diagnosis was then performed, where the main needs were prioritized (i) a vehicle for the transportation of people and products within the IFR; (ii) a center for medical care (ambulatory); and (iii) materials and supplies for the preparation of conucos. In addition, a participatory diagnosis was made, specifically to determine training needs where participants expressed their main needs and from there three thematic axes were derived: (i) productive development, (ii) sustainable forest management and (iii) environment.

Among the activities that continue to be constantly consulted with the Kariña indigenous communities are: Selection of participants in the different courses/workshops that are implemented in the communities, selection of the area for the development of the first and second operational forest plan, selection of the areas for establishment of nurseries (community/family), as well as of the fruit species to be produced, selection of the areas for establishment of plantations (establishment of agroforestry systems in fallow areas), dialogues with women to know their individual and collective rights within the context of the reserve.

Do indigenous peoples and or local communities have an active participation in the project activities? If yes, briefly describe how.

Yes

With the process of development and capacity building of the Kariña communities by the project (according to participatory diagnosis), organized participation in sustainable forest management was promoted. For this purpose, a pilot scheme was designed for the implementation of the sustainable forestry co-management model, creating the Tukupu Social Direct Communal Property Company as the first indigenous forestry company in Venezuela. Therefore, an indigenous organization based on community and parity (50% men and 50% women), with its legal personality, and empowered to obtain from the Ministry of Popular Power for Eco-socialism, the allocation of an area of 6,487.12 ha of forest in IFR Unit C3 for the pilot implementation of the forest co-management model.

The indigenous forestry company Tukupu has enabled IFR's Kariña communities to access greater productive inclusion and a set of socio-economic benefits. Also, the forestry company Tukupu has allowed greater national and international visibility of their role as "forest guardians" for the conservation and sustainable use of the country's forest heritage.

In recognition of Tukupu's successful experience in the Sustainable Forest Co-management of IFR forests, the MINEC as the governing body of the country's environmental and forestry policy, decided to grant it a new concession for the sustainable forest co-management in 47,916 hectares located in Unit N5 of the IFR.

**In addition, action has been taken to ensure the active participation of indigenous communities, as reflected in the following results:**

- Indigenous communities have a representation with voice and vote in the project's Steering Committee.
- Indigenous communities participate in the work groups for the design of methodologies to be applied in the reserve area (Participatory Forest Monitoring, Forest Co-management, Environmental and Socio-Cultural Impact, Zoning of Production Units, Sustainable Forest Management, among others).
- Indigenous communities actively participate in the development of teaching materials on SFM topics in the Kariña-Spanish language designed for courses/workshops held in the communities.
- Two Letters of Agreement have been signed between EPSC Tukupu and FAO. These letters allow the strengthening of the technical, operational, administrative, and logistical capacities of this indigenous company under the continuous advice of the project.
- Creation of organized groups of Kariña women for seed collection, the establishment of nurseries, plant production, sustainable forest management, and participative forest monitoring.
- Establishment and maintenance of 12 family and community nurseries that have allowed the production of more than 80,000 forest and fruit plants.
- Restoration of 197 ha of forests in IFR, through strategies of analog forestry (86 ha), reforestation (56 ha), and agroforestry systems (55 ha).
- Production and use of bio-inputs, with emphasis on mycorrhizae, microorganisms, and rhizobacteria.
- Productive diversification of the traditional conucos and of the nutrition of families with the incorporation of other agricultural items in the agroforestry systems. This has strengthened the food supplies and nutrition of the communities.
- Preparation of Forest Censuses/Inventories for the preparation of Operational Forest Plans for the control areas assigned to it.
- Participatory forest monitoring.
- Development of community plans for the production and marketing of wood and non-timber forest products (artisanal carpentry, cassava, honey from honeybees, annatto, andiroba, and copaiba oils, etc.)
- Creation and strengthening of the first Kariña indigenous market in Tumeremo for the marketing of the products of the communities (cassava, honey from meliponas bees, fruits, vegetables, tubers, etc.)
- Development of a national consultancy aimed at the linguistic rescue and ancestral uses of the forest.
- Creation of a website where EPSDC Tukupu together with the technical staff of the project develop bilingual Kariña-Spanish virtual content.
- Implementation of a bilingual Kariña-Spanish radio program called "La voz Kariña" for the communication and dissemination of advances and results in a radio station in Tumeremo that has reach to the communities of the Tumeremo - Bochinche road at the IFR.
- Establish partnerships and mobilize resources with national and international organizations such as MINEC, ENAFOR, FILAC, IOM, UN Women, UK Embassy in Venezuela, among others.

### 13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing <sup>27</sup>	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized on 30 June 2022	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
GEF Agency	FAO	IN KIND	230.000,00	230.000,00	161.296,87	256.435,16
National Government	MINEC	IN KIND	3.000.000,00	2.623.348,26	1.679.928,23	3.267.321,00
National Government	ENAFOR	IN KIND	10.000.000,00	8.363.959,98	7.481.413,90	12.725.620,00
National Government	CONARE	IN KIND	8.000.000,00	7.265.690,96	3.501.863,82	9.526.733,12
National Government	MISIÓN ÁRBOL	IN KIND	3.000.000,00	2.612.985,97	1.720.178,26	3.387.615,26
National Government	IFLA	IN KIND	1.500.000,00	1.374.815,04	963.490,95	2.325.336,00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25.730.000,00</b>	<b>22.470.800,21</b>	<b>15.508.172,03</b>	<b>31.489.060,54</b>

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

In the 2021-2022 period, the field work that had been paralyzed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the difficulty of internal mobilization in the country was resumed. Regarding governmental co-financing, the following are highlighted:

-The concession of a new area of 47,916 ha of forest granted by MINEC and the ENAFOR Forestry Company to the TUKUPU Indigenous Forestry Company, which brings the total area under forest co-management to 54,403.12 ha, strengthening the sustainability and scaling up of the project's results, this could increase once MINEC and ENAFOR have this valuation.

<sup>27</sup> 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.

-Both CONARE and Misión Árbol are leading the implementation of the National Reforestation Plan promoted by the National Government, which has the goal of establishing at least 10 million trees in the period 2022-2023.

-MINEC is implementing a National Mangrove Forest Restoration Plan based on the Manual developed by the project and recently delivered a new cargo truck to EPSDC Tukupu to strengthen its logistical and productive capacities.

-IFLA has arranged for the permanent use of its facilities and equipment by the project's National Consultants who have Duty Station in the city of Merida.

-Important contributions have been identified from other implementing partners such as the National Parks Institute (INPARQUES) with the production of plants in institutional nurseries for restoration activities framed in the National Reforestation Plan and the EPSDC Tukupu that has provided its headquarters in the "Casa Kariña" of Tumeremo for training and administrative activities of the project in the IFR, as well as technical and logistical support for the implementation of different products, which are in the process of quantification.

## Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

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

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

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