



PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

for the project:

Implementing the strategic plan for Ecuador's Mainland Marine and Coastal Protected Areas Network

FY22

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Executing Partners

Ministerio del Ambiente, Agua
y Transición Ecológica



WILDAID



Project Information			
Project Title:	Implementing the strategic plan for Ecuador's Mainland Marine and Coastal Protected Areas Network.		
Country(ies):	Ecuador	GEF ID:	9369
GEF Agency(ies):	Conservation International	Duration In Months:	55
Executing Agency(ies):	Conservation International Ecuador	Actual Implementation Start Date:	05/12/2018
GEF Focal Area(s):	BD-1 Program 1 LD-2 Program 3	Expected Project Completion Date:	12/11/2022
GEF Grant Amount:	USD 5,813,303	Expected Financial Closure Date:	06/11/2023
Expected Co-financing:	USD 33,739,690	Date of Last Steering Committee Meeting:	11/29/2021
Co-financing Realized as of June 30, 2022:	USD 23,360,065	Mid-Term Review-Planned Date:	03/03/2021
Date of First Disbursement:	05/12/2018	Mid-Term Review-Actual Date:	03/26/2021
Cumulative disbursement as of June 30, 2022	USD 4,861,910	Terminal Evaluation-Planned Date:	09/01/2022
PIR Prepared by:	Marcela Wonsang /María Fernanda Cortez	Terminal Evaluation-Actual Date:	TBD
CI-GEF Project Manager:	Daniela Carrion	CI-GEF Finance Lead:	Susana Escudero

Minor Amendment Categories	Minor Amendment Justification
	Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5%. Please select the box that is most applicable for FY22 and include an explanation for the minor amendment request.
Results framework <input type="checkbox"/>	
Components and cost <input type="checkbox"/>	
Institutional and implementation arrangements <input type="checkbox"/>	
Financial management <input type="checkbox"/>	
Implementation schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Due to the pandemic which caused the delay of many activities across all three components that required extensive field work and engagement with stakeholders, the project requested a no cost time extension until November, 2022 for technical activities and until March 2023 for compiling, submitting and revising final reports and closing the project.
Executing Entity <input type="checkbox"/>	
Executing Entity Category <input type="checkbox"/>	
Minor project objective change <input type="checkbox"/>	
Safeguards <input type="checkbox"/>	
Risk analysis <input type="checkbox"/>	

Increase of GEF project financing up to 5% <input type="checkbox"/>	
Co-financing <input type="checkbox"/>	
Location of project activity <input type="checkbox"/>	
Other <input type="checkbox"/>	

MINOR AMENDMENT RESPONSE FROM CI-GEF

Given delays in project activities due to COVID 19 Pandemic and associated restrictions, a non-cost extension was approved to the project. The non-cost extension was approved for 10 months following discussions with the team. The programmatic end date is expected in November 2022 and Financial closing is expected in March 2023.

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

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

SECTION I: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS SUMMARY

PROJECT SUMMARY

This is a foundational project, focused on establishing the enabling conditions and initiating the implementation of a formal Marine Protected Area (MPA) network in Ecuador. The project will contribute to executing priority actions of the MPA network's ten-year strategic plan within the new framework established by the new General Code of the Environment (COA in Spanish) which mandates the development of a new management arrangement for the national system of protected areas (SNAP in Spanish). The project objective is "to substantially improve the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity through an effective coastal and marine protected areas network on mainland Ecuador". It is expected that, at the end of the project, the network will be fully operational. The project is organized into three components.

Component 1. Lay the groundwork for efficient MPA network operation.

This component focuses on establishing the foundations for MPA network operation and it has three outcomes: (i) MPA operation, (ii) surveillance, enforcement, and prosecution, and (iii) sustainable financing

Component 2. On-the-ground active learning.

This component will focus on practical learning generating lessons and experience on integrating MPAs into the coastal ecosystem and therefore to advance MPA network development. The pilots of this component will serve as governance examples for MPA management.

Component 3. Strengthening connectivity of mangroves with inland ecosystems within the MPA network.

This component will focus on laying the foundation for the MPA network's inland connectivity. It is expected that these actions will contribute to mainstreaming the concepts of ecological connectivity into coastal and marine conservation by raising key stakeholders' awareness and developing practical experience and guidelines.

PRIOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS FY21

In FY21 the project made important progress in two principal areas: 1. control and surveillance and 2. sustainable financing. It also faced important obstacles to establish institutional and administrative arrangements to consolidate the MPA Network within the SNAP, due to COVID-19 and the political situation of the country. Furthermore, COVID outbreaks posed restrictions in some of the places where the pilots are implemented. Consequently, approximately 40% of the budget planned for FY21 was not executed, especially those budget lines related to travels and meetings.

For **Component 1**, the *Ecuador Azul* subaccount was capitalized with additional USD 500.000 from the WFF funds, and it generated revenues for the 2020 period of USD 624,269. Regarding capacity-building efforts, the project certified 63 MPA officers as "Sea People", entitling them legally to perform control and surveillance tasks on board. Additionally, during FY21 the project donated 5 boats, 2 motors and 3 navigation kits to 9 MPAs and installed the first phase of the Radio Communication System, setting an important milestone for the project to strength control and surveillance operations.

For **Component 2**, developing local management tools jointly with the core working groups has been key to regulate integrally the actions of MPA and local authorities and to promote relationship improvement among stakeholders, reduce conflict, adopt a governance structure and obtain commitment of key actors. Two Management Plans of the beach and its adjacent zone were developed for Punta Carnero and Playas Villamil and they were delivered to the Municipality of Salinas and Playas, to be mainstreamed into the local management tools that seek to integrate actions from the central and local level to work together in specific issues such as solid residues, zoning, control and surveillance, buffer zones, etc.

For **Component 3**, the project made important progress in developing management and conservation tools to protect the Isla Seca Dry Forest and the mangrove forest from La Loma; it has also provided technical assistance to activate the existing management tools for the mangrove located next to Isla Seca Forest and evergreen forest from La Loma. Similarly, an inventory of priority sites to intervene in conservation/restoration of connectivity between mangroves and terrestrial habitats was prepared.

Regarding the **safeguard plans**, the stakeholder engagement plan has required the project to maintain a constant information flowing with authorities. The project has dealt with four new administrations and four changes of the National Project Director during the fiscal year. For gender mainstreaming, the project hired the consultant to train the staff, MPA officers, and organizational leaders from pilot 2. The grievance mechanism has been fully implemented and it is available through the CI Ecuador (CI-E) website.

CURRENT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS (FY22)

In FY22 the project has shown progress with regards to the Objective Indicators A and B, the OSPAR metrics have increased 10% for Indicator A and 16.14% for Indicator B, while the MPA network Biodiversity Tracking Tool METT GEF 6 has increase from 59% to 60,50%. From the 20 MPAs, 70% showed improvement as compared to the baseline. The assessment evaluated: Administration and Planning, Control and Surveillance, Environmental Education, Communication and Participation, Public Use, and Biodiversity Management.

Significant progress was made during FY22 to achieve the project objective *"to substantially improve the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity through an effective coastal and marine protected areas network on mainland Ecuador"*. The progress summarized by components below outlines how progress towards the objective has been accomplished.

In reference to **Component 1**, 3 outcomes are expected.

In relation to **Outcome 1**, *"improve legal and technical institutional capacity for the efficient management of MPAs"*, the project has fully completed the development of guidelines, regulations and documents required to integrate the MPA network into the SNAP; however, the approval of these documents is MAATE'S responsibility. Currently, two curricular programs for park rangers, prosecutors and judges are being implemented to strengthen capacities and the application of the chain of the Law for environmental crimes in the MPAs with the participation of 44 people.

For **Outcome 2**, *"Significant increase in the effectiveness of detecting and sanctioning infractions in the AMCPs"*, 90% of the acquisition and installation of equipment to detect and sanction infractions has been accomplished; this year, 3 radars for safe and night navigation for 3 vessels of the clusters were contracted, 2 have been installed so far. In addition, through the project delivery partner WildAid. A total of 12 control and surveillance plans have been developed, surpassing the required goal of 8. Three operational addenda have been signed to improve control and surveillance operations. Several proposals have been developed to strengthen the regulatory framework and procedures for detecting and sanctioning infractions. In addition, 2 proposals have been developed for the prohibition of fishing gear for the clusters.

Regarding **Outcome 3**, *"financial mechanism for long-term sustainability"*, the Ecuador Azul sub-account has achieved a capitalization of US\$ 6,158,811, which exceeds the \$4 million target. During FY22, revenues of US\$ 701,252.81 were generated, of which US\$ 605,269 will be distributed to the five MPAs supported by this financial sustainability mechanism. The financial gap of the 5 MPAs has been reduced significantly to 2% with the new revenues generated by the subaccount. The following table shows the reduction of the financial gap:

GAP	2017	2019	2020	2021
Galera	130.176	69.768	47.540	(26.419)
Pacocha	92.592	76.207	72.646	9.467
Machalilla	(40.925)	66.306	15.598	(34.985)
Santa Elena	86.829	(75.554)	(195.867)	(289.912)
El Morro	107.161	28.196	33.929	(16.906)
TOTAL GAP	416.759	240.477	169.713	9.467
Gap reduction	160.000	176.282	247.046	407.292
% Gap reduction	38%	42%	59%	98%

In relation to **Component 2**, which contemplates **Outcome 1**, *"lessons learned from pilots incorporated into regulations and guidelines"*, the Management Plans for the Sea Beach and Adjacent Strip of General Villamil Playas, Engabao and Punta Carnero have been incorporated into the Territorial Arrangement Management Plans of each pilot. In the case of Punta Carnero, it is also incorporated in the Cantonal Land Use and Management Plan. The service providers working on the Punta Carnero beach have been regularized through a registry list and identification cards delivered. In addition, commitment agreements between the REMACOPSE Administration and the service providers' associations have been developed and will be signed at an event that will take place in July. The analysis of the gender baseline and the evaluation of women's perception of their impact on decision-making in governance processes in REMACOPSE and the ANRPV was one of the important implementation actions taken this FY to integrate the gender perspective in the MPA Network and pilot areas.

In relation to **Component 3**, which contains **Outcome 1**, "improved connectivity between coastal mangroves and adjacent inland habitats within the AMCP Network", work has been done to strengthen tourism capacities of local service providers and mangrove custodian fishermen (59 beneficiaries), in order to promote the ACM Bosque y Conchal Isla Seca. Technical assistance is being provided to the Comuna Lucha y Progreso and REMACAM to ensure ecological connectivity between the mangrove forest and the adjacent forest. In addition, work is being performed to strengthen knowledge about the current conditions of the mangrove forest, rainforest, and dry forest zones of REMACAM and the canton of Huaquillas.

Regarding the **safeguards** plans, activities have been accomplished, the result of the mid-term evaluation rated the project's safeguards as highly satisfactory. The project made important progress in relation to gender awareness and is working toward integrating gender perspective in the pilots of Component 2, the National Recreation Area of Playas Villamil (ANRPV) and Coastal Marine Fauna Production Reserve Puntilla de Santa Elena (REMACOPSE). Constant communication with authorities continues being the main strategy to accomplish stakeholder engagement. During FY22 there has been a greater commitment from MAATE to support the project. The grievance mechanism has been fully implemented and is available through the project's website with 0 complains received.

The results of the Mid-Term Evaluation, which covered the period from the project inception until June 2021, were received in Q1. A summary of the results is shown below:

1. Project justification, design, and theory of change: Satisfactory.
2. Efficiency: Satisfactory. As of June 2021 the project has executed 73% of the budget.
3. Effectiveness: Moderately Satisfactory. This rating is specifically due to outcome 1. The lack of formalization of documents to incorporate the MPA network into the SNAP.
4. Safeguards: Highly Satisfactory
5. Governance: Unsatisfactory. This rating is due to the fact that the composition of the Steering Committee makes it difficult to make strategic decisions.
6. Sustainability: Probable. Given the efforts made at the financial and institutional levels and with stakeholder involvement, the project's efforts can be sustained over time; however, decision-making in outcome 1 is key to ensure sustainability.

Based on the recommendations, an action plan was developed and approved during the VII PSC. The action plan is being implemented by the PMU. Approximately 70% of the activities have been completed to date.

SUMMARY: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS

PROJECT PART	PRIOR FY21 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	CURRENT FY22 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING ¹	RATING TREND ²
OBJECTIVE	S	S	Unchanged
COMPONENTS AND OUTCOMES	MS	S	Increasing
ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS	HS	HS	Unchanged

PROJECT RISK RATING³

RISKS	S	L	Decreasing
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¹ **Implementation Progress (IP) Rating:** Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Moderately Satisfactory (MS), Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). For more details about IP rating, please see the Appendix I of this report

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

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

SECTION II: PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS AND RATING

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

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

a. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective:

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

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:	To substantially improve the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity through an effective coastal and marine protected areas network in mainland Ecuador
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OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator a: MPA network self-assessment checklist. Unweighted Overall Score.	<p>23.33% (May 2017) (It is important that a mistake is shown in the ProDoc 21.7% and is now corrected in this version)</p> <p>The increase as compared with the baseline in 2017 is: 31.67% (June 2019) 35.00% (June 2020) 46.67% (June 2021) 56.67% (June 2022)</p>	IS	<p>The increase as compared with the baseline in 2017 is 68.82% for the FY22. An increase of 10% for Indicator A and 16.14% for Indicator B between 2021 and 2022 resulted from the MPA assessment, showing improvement in the MPA management.</p> <p>These variations are due to the continue used of tools such as Annual Operating Management Plan (PGOA) which are updated every year, making planning more efficient and effective for the MPAs; the proposal for Network Strategic Plan which established measurable and reachable indicators, that are being monitored and are aligned with the actions undertaken by the MPA Network Project, although it has not been formally adopted.</p> <p>The activities currently being carried out by the project or by other initiatives supported by the project are mechanisms that have allowed the horizontal and vertical integration of different types</p>
Indicator b: MPA network self-assessment checklist. Weighted Ecological Coherence Score	<p>25.81% (May 2017) 29.03% (June 2019) 36.55% (June 2020) 52.68% (June 2021) 68.82% (June 2022)</p>	IS	

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

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
			<p>of institutions, alliances and joint efforts to strengthen the MPA Network.</p> <p>Some initiatives by the Government of Ecuador, such as the creation of new protected areas and the expansion of others in the last year, are worth highlighting in this assessment.</p>
Indicator c: MPA network Biodiversity Tracking Tool METT GEF 6	55.90% (March 2017) 59.00% (June 2020) 60.50% (June 2022)	IS	<p>The measuring period took place between April and June 2022. The assessment evaluated: Administration and Planning, Control and Surveillance, Environmental Education, Communication and Participation, Public Use, and Biodiversity Management.</p> <p>From the 20 MPAs, 20% adequately address the factors and means that enable efficient management with good results. 50% fulfill the minimum operational requirements, but there are still deficiencies that don't allow to establish solid basis for effective management. 15% of the areas possess certain resources and methods that are indispensable for its management, but lack elements to reach a minimum acceptable level. 5% lack the minimum resources necessary for basic management, it is important to note that this refers to Puerto Cabuyal Punta de San Clemente Marine Reserve which was created in November, 2021 and therefore is incipiently managed.</p> <p>It should also be noted that the Cantagallo Machalilla and Bajo Copé Marine Reserves do not have specific personnel and are partially managed by Machalilla National Park and El Pelado Marine Reserve.</p>

OBJECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION
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A Satisfactory rating has been given to objective implementation. All indicators are under implementation and show progress compared to FY21. The project is on track to end by December 2022.

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

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

COMPONENT 1	Establishing the foundations for the efficient operation of the MPA network
Outcome 1:	Institutional, legal and technical capacity substantially improved to efficiently manage the MPA network
Outcome 2:	Effectiveness in detecting and sanctioning infractions in MPAs considerably increased
Outcome 3:	Financial mechanism significantly improved for long-term sustainable financing of the MPA network

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<p>Outcome 1.1: Institutional, legal, and technical capacity substantially improved to efficiently manage the MPA network</p> <p>Indicator 1.1: The MPA network has a formal normative and administrative framework that enables it to function as part of the SNAP.</p>	<p>The MPA network is embedded into SNAP's operation. There are at least three key elements:</p> <p>1. Institutional and administrative arrangements for network operation have been formally adopted by the national authority.</p> <p>2. The MPA network is embedded into the new management arrangements of the SNAP.</p> <p>3. The MPA network is</p>	<p>1. 1 Ministerial Agreement officializing the MPA Network.</p> <p>2. 1 Action Plan for the MPA Network Project – update in process updated in 2019.</p> <p>3. SNAP Management Model - not developed by MAATE so far. The new management model is a tool that the project will support, but MAATE has</p>	IS	<p>1. The MPA network is officialized under Ministerial Agreement No. 030 of 2017.</p> <p>2. The project has developed an Action Plan with administrative procedures for managing the MPA Network. It is important to highlight that the MPA Network Strategic Plan has been renamed as Action Plan for the MPA Network, per request of MAATE. During FY22 a working meeting was held with the focal group to establish actions to update the MPA Network Action Plan.</p> <p>3. The project has continued insisting on the expedition of the SNAP strategic Plan. CI and its managers have provided and observations on the PE-SNAP last proposal. The National Direction of Protected Areas made internal adjustments to the PE-SNAP, but this document has not been formalized as this is responsibility of MAATE.</p> <p>4. Two tourism regulations were officialized by MINTUR:</p> <p>a. Under Ministerial Agreement No. 2019-058: "Requirements for Certifications for Adventure Tourism".</p> <p>b. Under Ministerial Agreement No. 2020-05: "Regulations for Adventure Tourism".</p> <p>5. Completed. The special conservation areas (connectivity corridors) is officialized under Ministerial Agreement 2019 of 2020.</p> <p>6. Completed gender and climate change approach.</p> <p>7. Completed, the Network meeting took place in November 2022.</p>

^{5 5} O= Overdue; D= Delayed; NS= Not started on schedule; IS= Under implementation on schedule; and CA= Completed/Achieved

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
	<p>embedded into the updated SNAP's strategic plan.</p>	<p>not shared any progress on it.</p> <p>4. 2 tourism regulations approved by the authority.</p> <p>5. 1 Ministerial Agreement on special conservation areas (connectivity corridors) issued by MAATE.</p> <p>6. 2 inputs developed and mainstreamed in MPA Network Action Plan and SNAP Strategic Plan.</p> <p>7. 1 Network Meeting supported by the project.</p>		<p>Link to the documents: Indicator 1.1 Normatives and administrative framework for SNAP</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2.: There is a training program designed and implemented for enforcement and prosecution officers to facilitate coordinated action in the MPA network</p>	<p>MAATE has a long-term training program that offers concise specialized online training courses to improve control and law enforcement in the MPA network. There are:</p> <p>1. At least 10 online courses</p>	<p>1. 1 legal course designed and provided with 5 topics as established in the ProDoc</p> <p>2. 1 MPA management course designed and provided with 3 of the 4 topics</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>1. 90% of the legal course has been executed during the FY22. The legal course for enforcement and prosecution officers which includes 4 different target audiences and 4 modules on specific issues such as (i) MPA: technical and legal aspects, (ii) Normative framework: international instruments, (iii) Regulatory framework: national legislation, (iv) Administrative procedure, and (v) Environmental criminal law.</p> <p>2. The course for management of marine and coastal protected areas course, and it includes 5 management programs: (i) Administration and planning, (ii) Biodiversity management, (iii) Public use and tourism, (iv) Environmental communication, education and participation, and, (v) Control and surveillance</p>

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
	<p>that are offered to enforcement and prosecution officers.</p> <p>2. Permanent staff assigned to administer and manage the program.</p> <p>3. National Budget allocation to finance the program.</p> <p>4. A multi-year work plan with performance indicators for the program.</p>	<p>established in the ProDoc</p> <p>3. MAATE has an educational platform “MAATEduca virtual) which is currently being used to provide course for SNAP officers and external users.</p>		<p>These courses will be delivered in a hybrid way, virtual and face-to-face, and are expected to be completed in FY23.</p> <p>3. The course on managing protected areas will be implemented on the MAATEduca platform. 25 people will benefit from the course and it is expected to be executed during Q1 FY23.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.3.: MPA officers have and apply guidelines for stakeholder engagement and bonding in support of sound protected area governance</p>	<p>There are guidelines for:</p> <p>(i) Engaging and bonding with key stakeholders (mainly fisheries, tourism and coastal activities).</p> <p>(j) Evaluating and strengthen MPA governance.</p> <p>The guidelines must be easily accessible to MPA staff.</p> <p>Most MPA technical staff (>95%) have been introduced to the guidelines.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The lessons learned consultancy is being executed. The guidelines will be available for dissemination during FY23 after implementing the pilots from Component 2 and systematize the lessons learned from it.</p>

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<p>Outcome 1.2.: Effectiveness in detecting and sanctioning infractions in MPAs considerably increased</p> <p>Indicator 1.4.: MPA network prosecution effectiveness (PE)</p>	<p>MPA network Year 1 Baseline for prosecution effectiveness Year 2 - PE >30% Year 3 onwards PE >60% Individual MPAs Year 1 Baseline for prosecution effectiveness Year 2 PEa >30% Year 3 onwards VAI >60%</p>	<p>28.57% as per FY21 PIR. Updated number to be provided in FY23.</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>PE and PEa indicators are measured every two years, the previous report covered the period 2018-2020. The report for FY22 (2021-2022) is not yet ready, since there has been a delay in the formalization of the final contract with WildAid caused by additional activities requested by MAATE, and the difficulty that this produced to establish the terms of the contract. This indicator will be reported at the end of the technical activities of the project in the following PIR.</p> <p>During FY22, a workshop to analyze the infraction registration processes was held with all MPAs in November, 2021.</p> <p>The basis for calculating Indicator PE is the data from the matrix for the implementation of the system for recording infractions and sanctions in the MPAs. This information will be available by October 2022, therefore the indicators for the sanctions area are not included in this report. In the previous period (2018-2020), the PE was 28.57%.</p> <p>PEa for the period 2018-2020: 158 technical reports were registered from the MPAs of possible infractions, of which 14 processes were initiated, and, there would have been 4 enforceable sanctioning sentences.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.5.: individual MPA prosecution effectiveness (PEa)</p>		<p>El Morro – 0% Arenillas – 0% Santa Clara – 100% PNM - 0% REMACOPSE – 100% El Salado – 0% (Only six MPA that show processes initiated)</p>		
<p>Indicator 1.6.: Vessel availability index (VAI)</p>		<p>Refer to ANNEX 1</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>The target of this indicator are MPAs and their vessel availability. As mentioned previously the report for FY22 (2021-2022) hadn't been presented, due to delays with the fourth contract with WildAid. The information presented in Annex-1 refers to the last measured which took place between June 2020 and May 2021. This indicator will be reported at the end of the technical activities of the project in the following PIR.</p>
<p>Outcome 1.3.: Financial mechanism significantly improved for long-term sustainable financing of the MPA network</p> <p>Indicator 1.7.: Financial gap of MPA network (USD)</p>	<p>Financial gap reduced to 38%</p>	<p>The financial gap reduced to 2%.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>Ecuador Azul's capitalization target (\$6 million dollars) has been surpassed. The capitalization of the subaccount has achieved by 2021 USD 6.158.811, of which USD 2 million was financed by the project, USD 4 million were obtained from the Walton Family Fund (WFF) as co-financing, USD 94.500 was capitalized from the emergency fund donated by the Walton Family (WFF), and USD 64.311 balance capitalized from 2020.</p> <p>During the third year of earnings generation for the year 2021, Ecuador Azul Subaccount generated USD 605.269 in revenues. The revenues haven't</p>

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION																																													
				<p>been distributed to the 5 MPAs yet. CI-E sent a distribution proposal to MAATE, however, this proposal is currently under review by the Ministry. The distribution will be reported once it is approved. An extraordinary FAP meeting is being coordinated to address this matter.</p> <p>The financial gap of the 5 MPAs has been reduced significantly to 2% with the new revenues generated by the subaccount Ecuador Azul.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1291 472 1942 695"> <thead> <tr> <th>GAP</th> <th>2017</th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> <th>2021</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Galera</td> <td>130.176</td> <td>69.768</td> <td>47.540</td> <td>(26.419)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pacocha</td> <td>92.592</td> <td>76.207</td> <td>72.646</td> <td>9.467</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Machalilla</td> <td>(40.925)</td> <td>66.306</td> <td>15.598</td> <td>(34.985)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Santa Elena</td> <td>86.829</td> <td>(75.554)</td> <td>(195.867)</td> <td>(289.912)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>El Morro</td> <td>107.161</td> <td>28.196</td> <td>33.929</td> <td>(16.906)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total GAP</td> <td>416.759</td> <td>240.477</td> <td>169.713</td> <td>9.467</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gap reduction</td> <td>160.000</td> <td>176.282</td> <td>247.046</td> <td>407.292</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% Gap reduction</td> <td>38%</td> <td>42%</td> <td>59%</td> <td>98%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The average rate of return of FIAS through the years has been 7%. It is expected to have a lower rate of return in 2022, given that the economy in general is in a downward trend in the markets where these resources are invested. The new distribution will have to contemplate this decrease in percentage of returns.</p> <p>4 out of the 5 areas have closed their gaps, these are Galera San Francisco, Machalilla, Santa Elena and El Morro. Nevertheless, Machalilla has presented problems in terms of planning and financial management, the project is supporting the area directly in order to strengthen the execution of its resources. Furthermore, with the extension of El Morro, the financial calculation will have to be adjusted.</p> <p>MAATE is interested in adding two areas to Ecuador Azul (El Pelado and ANRPV), this request was made during the board meeting held in June, once the formal request is presented the board will determine this inclusion.</p> <p>During FY22, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition appointed a focal point to continue the implementation of the spending and resource diversification strategy.</p>	GAP	2017	2019	2020	2021	Galera	130.176	69.768	47.540	(26.419)	Pacocha	92.592	76.207	72.646	9.467	Machalilla	(40.925)	66.306	15.598	(34.985)	Santa Elena	86.829	(75.554)	(195.867)	(289.912)	El Morro	107.161	28.196	33.929	(16.906)	Total GAP	416.759	240.477	169.713	9.467	Gap reduction	160.000	176.282	247.046	407.292	% Gap reduction	38%	42%	59%	98%
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COMPONENT 1 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	A Satisfactory Rating is given to Component 1 implementation progress. For Outcome 1.1 the project responsibility is completed and they now need to follow up with the Ministry of Environment and Water to ensure the approval of the regulations. However, it is noted that this is not direct responsibility of the project as it does not depend on project team. For Outcome 1.2, a delay in the delivery partner contract caused a delay in measuring the progress on two indicators. However, it is expected to have updated information by October and for the final PIR before project closes.	Increasing

COMPONENT 2	On-the-ground active learning
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Outcome 1:	Lessons learned from pilots are fully incorporated into new/updated regulations and guidelines for MPA management
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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<p>Outcome 2.1.: Lessons learned from pilots are fully incorporated into new/updated regulations and guidelines for MPA Management</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.: Number of guidelines that consider lessons learned from MPA conservation in buffer zones</p>	At least two guidelines that complement MPA conservation in coastal buffer zones.	<p>1 Guideline for the validation of the Management Plan for Sea Beach and Adjacent Strip of General Villamil Playas has been submitted and formally adopted by the Protected Area Directorate.</p> <p>1 Guideline for the validation of the Sea Beach and Adjacent Strip Management Plan for Punta Carnero has been submitted and formally adopted by the Protected Area Directorate.</p>	CA	<p>When the Sea Beach and Adjacent Strip Management Plans for General Villamil Playas and Punta Carnero were delivered to the municipalities, concerns arose regarding their formal delivery by the DAPOFC despite the fact that it is a mandatory instrument for the municipality, since the beaches are located within Protected Areas. It is for this reason that these guidelines were developed to be formally adopted and that this process is considered for the different Management Plans that are carried out within protected beaches. The Management Plans for Sea Beach and Adjacent Strip of General Villamil Playas and Punta Carnero have been submitted and formally adopted by the Protected Area Directorate.</p> <p>Pending: The CODA and its regulations require guidelines for the construction of Sea Beach and Adjacent Strip Management Plans. These must be submitted by MAATE to Planifica Ecuador and incorporated into the toolbox that establishes the guidelines for the construction of PDOTs, PUGs and their complementary plans. The incorporation of these guidelines in the toolbox aren't expected to be achieved during the life of the project.</p> <p>The project provided technical advice for the development of beach management tools.</p>

⁶ O= Overdue; D= Delayed; NS= Not started on schedule; IS= Under implementation on schedule; and CA= Completed/Achieved

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
		<p>1 guideline for the construction of the Sea Beach and Adjacent Strip Management Plan that considers the governance schemes proposed for beaches that are within the Protected Areas, in process of approval.</p>		

COMPONENT 2 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
HS	<p>A Highly Satisfactory rating has been given to Component 2 implementation progress. The targets under Outcome 2.1 have been met. The project has successfully completed this component and is currently wrapping up actions with the government and local counterparts.</p>	Increasing

COMPONENT 3	Strengthening connectivity of mangroves with inland ecosystems within the MPA network
Outcome 1:	Connectivity improved between coastal mangroves and adjacent inland habitats within the MPA network.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁷	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<p>Outcome 3.1.: Connectivity between coastal mangroves and adjacent inland habitats within the MPA network improved</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.: Land area under sustainable management and/or restoration practices</p>	<p>1,121.8 ha under sustainable management and / restoration practices that conserve or restore connectivity between mangroves and inland vegetation</p> <p>REMACAM pilot 840 ha - Equatorial Choco evergreen lowland forest 177 ha - Equatorial Choco mangrove El Conchal pilot 7.4 ha - Jama-Zapotillo low forest and deciduos shrubs 97.4 ha – Jama. Zapotillo mangrove</p>	<p>5,330.16 ha under sustainable management and / restoration practices that conserve or restore connectivity between mangroves and inland vegetation (end of project target)</p> <p>REMACAM pilot 1,566.94 ha - Equatorial Choco evergreen lowland forest is already under management practices</p> <p>425.88 ha instead of 320 ha Equatorial Choco mangrove are in process of going under the status of management practices in charge of the commune “Lucha y Progreso”</p> <p>El Conchal pilot 10.81 ha instead of 7.4 ha - Jama-</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The project developed an inventory of priority sites to intervene in conservation and restoration of connectivity between mangroves and terrestrial habitats. 10 prioritized sites adjacent to the mangrove ecosystem were identified and validated in territory: 2 in Esmeraldas, 2 in Manabí, 5 in Guayas and 1 in El Oro. The inventory has been disseminated to local municipalities, related communities, and is published on the project's web page, with public access.</p> <p>The number of hectares that are under management or restoration practices have increased from 1,121.80 ha to 4,904.28 ha.</p> <p>REMACAM pilot - Equatorial Choco evergreen lowland forest – 1,566.94 ha:</p> <p>The project has developed the following products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dendrological report of the Inventory of native seedling parent trees and other key species for reforestation of the forest. - Practical guide to native seed parent tree species (seed collection, propagation by farmers, technical data sheets by species). - Report on the training process in seed collection, management, and propagation techniques. - Report on the current situation of the agricultural areas of the Lucha y Progreso commune, including a map with the boundaries of the land indicating the forest cover and agricultural frontier of each piece of land. - 4 agroforestry plans. - This will be completed in October 2023. <p>For the Equatorial Choco Mangrove, a validation report of the requirements, to grant the AUSCEM, has been approved by the Zonal Environmental Directorate of Esmeraldas and is awaiting the signature of the Director for delivery to MAATE Central Plant (Quito). Pending approval of the AUSCEM.</p> <p>El Conchal pilot 10.81 ha – The Project is developing the Management Plan for the Municipal Conservation Area Bosque y Conchal Isla Seca. The Management Plan will be ready in FY23.</p>

⁷ **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁷	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
		<p>Zapotillo low forest and deciduous shrubs approved under the scheme of Municipal Conservation Area</p> <p>3,326.53 ha – Jama Zapotillo mangrove are under management practices within the concession Hualtaco-Huaquillas.</p>		<p>3,326.53 ha – Jama Zapotillo mangrove (Hualtaco Huaquillas) - The project is currently working with the beneficiaries of the Hualtaco-Huaquillas concession in the control and surveillance plan for the area. The project has provided advice to the fishermen custodians of the mangrove to develop the semi-annual reports, which are required for those who have been granted an AUSCEM. Semiannual reports and Control and Surveillance Plan will be presented during FY23.</p>

COMPONENT 3 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	A Satisfactory rating has been given to Component 3 implementation progress. The project has surpassed the initial targets for Outcome 3.1 and is on track to complete all actions by November 2022 when programmatic work is expected to end.	Unchanged

c. Overall Project Results Rating

OVERALL PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION RATING

OVERALL RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND ⁸
S	A Satisfactory rating has been given to overall project progress. For Component 1, after several delays due to the changes in MAATE, the project team has managed to progress in outcome 1.1 with the collaboration of MAATE. Follow up with	Increasing

⁸ Rating trend: Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

	<p>government counterpart is still needed to complete successfully the target. For Component 2, the outcome target was completed and the project team is wrapping up the work in Q1 FY23. For Component 3, the project team surpassed the initial targets in terms of area and the outcome is progressing well after a slow start in the first two years of project implementation. Despite COVID-19 impacts, the project team has managed to keep track of activities and advanced towards outcomes and objective targets positively. The project is entering the last year of implementation and is ready to finalize successfully with all targets being met by December 2022.</p>	
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d. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Ensure FY23 workplan timeline is follow to complete all project activities and meet project outcomes before Q2 FY23.	PMU	December 2022
A review of progress with CI-GEF is recommended at the end of September.	PMU – CI-GEF	September 2022
Follow up closely with MAATE team to ensure completion of Outcome 1.1 with regards to the approvals that are not direct responsibility of project team but the national authority.	PMU	October 2022

SECTION III: PROJECT RISKS STATUS AND RATING

a. Progress towards Implementing the Project Risk Mitigation Plan

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

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

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

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
Risk 1: Internal opposition, within MAATE, to consolidate the MPA network	Maintain smooth communication and information flow to the Minister, Vice Minister, Undersecretary of Natural Patrimony, General Legal Coordination Office, and General Administrative and Financial Coordination Office through round table meetings. Implement a communication strategy through key messages about the importance and effectiveness of the MPA network. Provide	<p>The project steering (1) and management committees (2) and informative meetings have been spaces to share information with authorities.</p> <p>A communication strategy has been designed for the project including its pilots.</p> <p>MAATE's Information requests have been answered on time, including executive summaries about the progress of the project.</p>	IS	<p>The Undersecretary of Natural Heritage appointed a new National Project Director on May 20th 2021, giving the Protected Areas Directorate (DAPOFC) the responsibility of monitoring the progress of the project. MAATE has appointed focal points for all activities. The project is currently working together with the focal group to execute the activities on the work plan.</p> <p>Project activities, as well as its progress and budget execution, have properly been informed through the Management Committees (2), the Steering Committee (1), and reports requested by MAATE (3).</p> <p>Within the framework of outcome 1.1, normative tools have been developed by the project in conjunction with MAATE staff. The formal adoption of the normative tools has been progressing slowly.</p>	S	S	Unchanged

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

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	information and facts to address concerns.						
Risk 2: Limited political support to develop and implement SNAP's new management arrangements	Maintain smooth communication with the Minister and Vice Minister. Prepare information briefs to present to the Office of the President and other entities.	Requests by email and virtual or face-to-face meetings have been held to obtain support for their formal adoption.	IS	The project held several meetings with authorities to highlight the importance of continuing with the process of formal adoption of the norms developed by the project and the need of issuing the SNAP strategic plan. Still the project does not have a direct line with the president office.	S	S	Decreasing
Risk 3: Vandalism of surveillance and communication equipment	Implement protective measures and secure prompt restoration of surveillance and communication facilities	Donation agreements includes a clause that requires to insure and protect the equipment.	IS	Within the framework of outcome 1.2, the project has delivered 2 safe and night navigation radars to MPAs in the clusters, REMACOPSE and Pacoche. The PMU has agreed with MPA and MAATE zone directorates the need of protecting the equipment considering the levels of insecurity they may face. Additionally, the Ecuadorian law requires that any good that belongs to the State needs to be protected. Donation agreements have already been signed, and they include clauses indicating MAATE is responsible for the insurance of the equipment.	S	S	Unchanged
Risk 4: Reluctance of enforcement authorities to collaborate and coordinate surveillance of MPAs and prosecution of offenders	Maintain smooth communication with central and local authorities. Provide information and facts to address concerns.	As the risk is not activated, a mitigation action has not been applied.	IS	Within the framework of outcome 1.2, MPAs haven't requested from the Project any type of intervention for these cases. Through our strategic partner WildAid, the project has subscribed three operational addenda for the MPAs and the local maritime authority: Santa Clara, REMACOPSE and Pacoche.	M	M	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
Risk 5: Internal opposition, within MAATE, to establish individual budgets to MPAs	See above in Risk 1.	Provide technical assistance to ensure that the resources are being distributed correctly and within the framework of the agreement.	IS	Within the framework of outcome 1.3, “Ecuador Azul” has generated revenues from the USD 6.158.811 capitalization. The revenues haven’t been allocated yet to the 5 MPAs beneficiaries. However, CI-E has presented a proposal allocation of resources, which is being reviewed by MAATE. The project has provided technical advice for distributing the resources based on the needs of the areas, their budget execution, the results from the management effectiveness evaluation and the conditions of the agreement.	S	S	Unchanged
Risk 6: Low importance in the presidential agenda to sign the Presidential Decree	Monthly meetings with the Minister of MAATE to inform him or her about advances related to the MPA network project.	Organize meetings with appointed authorities as necessary as possible to inform them about the progress of the project.	IS	The project has worked with DAPOFC to define the focal points needed to solve the critical knots faced. Monthly meetings have not been possible, however, the PMU has organized meetings and answered requests from MAATE to inform about the advances related to the MPA Network Project.	S	S	Unchanged
Risk 7: Change of local governments in Ecuador. New authorities will take office in 2019	Encourage local stakeholders to present the project to new municipal authorities.	Organize the necessary meetings to socialize the project with new authorities in conjunction with stakeholders.	IS	There haven’t been major changes affecting the project’s execution in the municipalities. The Environmental Director of GAD Playas, who was part of the core group, was replaced in June 2022. However, he was replaced by a specialist from the Environmental Management Unit who is familiar with the work of the Project.	S	M	Decreasing
Risk 8: Reluctance of municipalities and user groups to accept	Prepare a concise communication plan to address concerns of local groups. Provide clear messages,	Promote the inclusion of user groups into discussion spaces.	IS	Within the framework of Outcome 2.1, there has been no resistance from Municipalities and user groups to the inclusion of buffer zones in the Management Plans of Beach Strip and Adjacent zone developed for Punta Carnero and Playas Villamil beaches.	S	L	Decreasing

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
MPA buffer zones	information and facts			The project continues working with the core group and Cantonal Councils.			
Risk 9: Impact of illegal activities on managing mangrove and forest areas in REMACAM	Encourage increased presence of Coast Guard and police in the area.	As the risk is not activated, a mitigation action has not been applied.	IS	As the risk is not activated, a mitigation action has not been applied.	S	S	Unchanged
Risk 10: Effects of El Niño / La Niña on agroforestry production in REMACAM pilot site	Monitor information and alerts in national meteorological entities, NOAA, and World Meteorological Organization	Risk has not activated; El Niño and La Niña have not shown up during the last years.	IS	Within the framework of Outcome 3.1, the project continues monitoring the information from meteorological entities. During FY22, there was no evidence about the presence of the el Nino or la Nina in the Ecuadorian Coasts.	M	L	Decreasing
Risk 11: Execution problems caused by complex administrative system and frequent changes of authorities and public policies	Maintain smooth communication and information to the Minister, Vice Minister, Undersecretary of Natural Heritage, General Legal Coordination Office, and General Administrative and Financial Coordination Office. Implement a change communications strategy. Provide information and facts to address concerns. Ensure that the project	Maintain the authorities informed about the project advances.	IS	Authorities have been informed about the project progress. The project was able to organize two management committees and one steering committee during this FY22, which was used as a space to socialize the progress of the project and decide on specific processes.	S	S	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	team is stable and protected from political decisions.						
Risk 12: Climate change	Mainstream climate change considerations into SNAP's strategic plan.	A study is taking place to obtain inputs that will be put into consideration for the SNAP strategic Plan.	IS	The project and CI managers have provided comments and they have mainstreamed the inputs developed by the project within the proposal of the SNAP Strategic Plan. However, strategic plans and action plans (AP-RED and PE-SNAP) are pending of formal issuance.	S	S	Unchanged
Risk 13: COVID-19 – project staff Baseline risk rating: Substantial risk (S)	NA	Design and apply office protocols in accordance with the restrictions established for the sites intervened. Ensure the compliance of established protocols at meeting sites and field visits. Responsible party(ies): PMU	IS	The project has purchased the necessary biosecurity supplies to implement the protocols prepared by CI and retake the work in pilot sites from protected areas.	NA	S	Unchanged
Risk 14: COVID-19 – MPA officers Baseline risk rating: Substantial risk (S)	NA	Provide technical assistance to MPA's to conclude the protocols to reopen the MPA. Provide biosecurity equipment to support MPA protocols implementation. Hold virtual meetings with officials from the protected areas as COVID restrictions continue. Responsible party(ies): MAATE-PMU	IS	The Walton Family Foundation donated an emergency fund of USD \$350.000 to support Ecuador Azul MPAs due to the health emergency caused by Covid-19. The emergency fund was distributed among the 5 MPAs, however, it has not been fully spent because a purchase process carried out by FIAS was not completed. There are bottlenecks between MAATE and FIAS that have delayed the expenditure of this fund completed. The emergency fund is expected to be executed until November 2022.		S	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
		Purchase biosecurity equipment for the MPA, with project funds		All components have held virtual meetings to advance in several processes, those related to the development of technical documents, but also related to procurement and hiring processes.			

OVERALL RATING OF PROJECT RISKS	JUSTIFICATION	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
L	A low rating has been given to project risks. The project has done a good work in executing mitigation measures of each risk. Now that the relationships with MAATE are flowing, no major changes are expected until the end of the project in December 2022.	Decreasing

Recommendations

MITIGATION AND CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Continue implementing mitigation measures to ensure the risks are properly managed until the end of the project.	PMU	December 2022

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

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

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

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

¹¹ **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

MINIMUM ESMF INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR STATUS	CUMULATIVE STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹²	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<p>ACCOUNTABILITY AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>1. Number of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism</p> <p>2. Percentage of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism that have been resolved</p>	N/A	0	0	IS	<p>The accountability and grievance mechanism continues being socialized at every presentation made by the project. So far, the project has printed banners and posters to be placed at every MPA office, particularly those where pilots are being carried out. Banners are being used for meetings and events so it can be widely known among the different stakeholders. The mechanism is also displayed on the web page of the project. The project has not received any verbal or written complaint</p>
	N/A	0	0	IS	
<p>GENDER MAINSTREAMING</p> <p>1. Number of men and women that participated in project activities (e.g. meetings, workshops, consultations)</p>	N/A	<p>Men 478 Women 356</p>	<p>Men 1821 Women 1408</p>	IS	<p>In FY22, 57 encounters among meetings, workshops and events have been organized by the project. During these meetings the project socialized advances with main stakeholders, workplans progress were presented, workshops to strengthen capacity were provided; the PMU also held meetings to follow-up on</p>

¹² **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

<p>2. Number of men and women that received benefits (e.g. employment, income generating activities, training, access to natural resources, land tenure or resource rights, equipment, leadership roles) from the project</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Men 263 Women 211</p>	<p>Men 603 Women 274</p>	<p>instruments that must be reviewed and approved.</p> <p>The workshops were attended by MPA staff, public servants, local governments, and local service providers working in the protected areas, local communities, and fishermen’s associations. During workshops held with local communities from Components 2 and 3, to ensure women participation, the classes were held in two schedules, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, both with the same content. Despite these efforts, the number of participants were mostly men.</p> <p>During FY22, 11 workshops to strengthen knowledge were provided through the PMU and externals consultants. In addition, 2 MPAs Network meeting were held, one virtually and the other one on-site in Guayaquil.</p> <p>It is important to remark that through a consultancy process, strategies/actions to include gender perspective were delivered. Based on these recommendations the PMU implemented certain strategies to increase women's participation in the</p>
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<p>3. Number of strategies, plans (e.g. management plans and land use plans) and policies derived from the project that include gender considerations (this indicator applies to relevant projects)</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>workshops and meetings, such as the use of two time slots during workshops, in the morning and afternoon, conversations with community leaders about the importance of gender inclusion, and the revision of guest lists to ensure gender equity.</p> <p>The project has signed minutes of commitments between REMACOPSE and 2 service providers that work at Punta Carnero Beach, where it is established that men and women must participate equally in decision-making spaces in order to maintain gender equity.</p> <p>Within the Sea Beach and adjacent strip Management Plans, a governance scheme has been established where evaluation indicators determined to comply with the principle of gender equity in order to obtain good governance within protected areas.</p> <p>The Capacity Building Plan from Component 3 contains a chapter on guidance for promoting gender equality. The following product was submitted To the Undersecretary of Marine and Coastal Management: DEVELOPING A SERIES OF MANAGEMENT TOOLS TO</p>
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					INTEGRATE THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN THE NETWORK OF AMCPs AND SNAP, in 2019, so that the gender perspective could integrate it into the SNAP strategic plan, the strategic plan has not been formalized to date by the Environmental authority.
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT					
1. Number of government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, indigenous peoples and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in the project implementation phase on an annual basis	9	66	216	CA	<p>C1: WildAid, FIAS, MAATE, Biogennia, Electronautica, Frank Volker, Sedefa, Ecolap, Alexandra Vásquez, Fernando Bajaña.</p> <p>C2: GAD Salinas, GAD Huaquill, Gobernación Santa Elena, MINTUR, MAATE, REMACOPSE, ANRPV, UTP, Biogennia, Playas Limpas Association, Sirenita de Mar Association, Cantonal Council of Salinas, Cantonal Council of Playas, Julio Ocaña, Hugo Echeverría, Tourist companies of Canton Salinas, Artesans Association of Canton Salinas, Service providers associations of the ANRPV beaches, Reten Naval Posorja, Manthra, Richard Sánchez, Playas National Police, Playas Transit Comission.</p> <p>C3: GAD Municipal Huaquillas, GAD Provincial El Oro, MINTUR, Commune Lucha y Progreso, REMACAM, José Luis</p>

<p>2. Number persons (sex disaggregated) that have been involved in project implementation phase (on an annual basis)</p> <p>3. Number of engagement (e.g. meeting, workshops, consultations) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase (on an annual basis)</p>	<p>120</p> <p>8</p>	<p>Men 478 Women 356</p> <p>57</p>	<p>Men 1821 Women 1408</p> <p>197</p>	<p>CA</p> <p>CA</p>	<p>Mendoza, Arcoiris Foundation, Alexandra Endara, 19 El Oro local service providers, 5 associations of fishermen, shellfish farmers and crab farmers.</p> <p>834 stakeholders have participated in socialization events, workshops, trainings, and meetings. It is important to remark that in some meetings there is reiterative participation of some actors.</p> <p>During FY22, the project held around 57 engagement events between workshops, meeting, socializations and trainings.</p>
<p>PHYSICAL CULTURAL RESOURCES</p> <p>1. Number of physical cultural resources found in the project area that have been negatively impacted as a result of the project</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>There have been no negative impacts resulting from the project.</p>

b. Information on Progress, challenges and outcomes on stakeholder engagement

Regarding **Component 1**, the project has maintain constant communication with authorities to keep them informed about progress, outcomes and challenges, to ensure the support of stakeholders to the project. The project is actively working to integrate the MPA network into the SNAP, as a strategy to move forward on this issue, a meeting was held with the focal group to establish actions to update the MPA network Action Plan, however, there is little progress on this topic. It is important to remark that the MPA Network scheme has served as an example to create the Amazon Protected Area Network in Ecuador.

Component 2 has improved conflicts in the use of beaches and buffer zones between Protected Areas and local GADs through the participatory construction of planning and governance instruments such as Sea Beach and Adjacent Strips Management Plans, inter-institutional cooperation agreements and ordinances. The challenge rests in the approval of these instruments by MAATE and Cantonal Councils of the local governments. The project has followed up directly with the Protected Area Directorate and the Cantonal Councils.

Component 3 has achieved a strong relation and active participation from the Afro-Ecuadorian Commune Lucha y Progreso, and is currently working with the aim that the Commune learns and implements agroforestry systems in the lowland evergreen forest of the Equatorial Chocó. This commune has been trained in techniques for the collection, management and propagation of seeds from the seed parent trees, with which it is expected that they will enrich the forest in degraded areas. The main challenge has been the approval of Lucha y Progreso's AUSCEM (Sustainable Use and Stewardship Agreements for the Mangrove Ecosystem) from MAATE, a delay due to the fact that the Zonal Director of Environment of Esmeraldas has requested additional revisions to the documents presented by the Commune, which are not part of the regular approval process. The project is constantly monitoring the process directly with Central Plant MAATE.

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

The Prodoc establishes actions to integrate the gender perspective into the project. Activities described in the Prodoc have been accomplished. During FY21, the project hired a consultant team to execute the contract, "Implementation of actions to integrate the gender perspective in the MPA Network and in the pilot areas of component 2: Punta Carnero beach of REMACOPSE and the ANRPV beach".

During FY22, the consultant presented the baseline gender analysis of women's perception over its impact on decision-making in governance and the strategies to integrate the gender perspective in the pilots of Component 2.

At REMACOPSE, 6 sensitization and awareness-raising events were held: 3 in the morning for government institutions and key stakeholders and 3 in the afternoon for park rangers. At ANRPVA, 5 sensitization and awareness-raising events were held: 2 in the morning and 3 in the afternoon for government institutions and key stakeholders. The events addressed topics on gender focus and equality, becoming spaces for dialogues with highly participatory and reflective dynamics. The objective of these events was to

- To raise awareness of key definitions and the importance of the gender approach.
- Identify barriers to achieving equality in the territories and propose actions.
- To teach methodological tools for gender analysis to their members or fellow leaders so that they can replicate the events.

Through the formation of focus groups and surveys, it was identified that within the ANRPV women do not have equal participation in decision-making in governance spaces, on the other hand, in REMACOPSE it was identified that women have equal participation with respect to men. In both cases, despite the responses generated by the focus groups, there is no clear knowledge of the concept of gender perspective in both pilots, MPA staff view gender as being outside of the scope of their work. The results were presented to the institutional focus groups for each of the pilots on the findings of the baseline gender analysis and the evaluation of the perception of women in decision-making on governance issues in order to prioritize the actions proposed to integrate the gender perspective in both pilots.

As a strategy to integrate the gender perspective, work was done locally in the pilots of Component 2 to incorporate the results of the consultancy into the MPA network. Meetings were held with institutional focal groups to review the 15 strategies/actions presented by the consultant. Of these 15 actions, 7 actions to promote the gender perspective were accepted by the focus group of REMACOPSE, and one by ANRPV. During the meetings responsible for each strategy/action were assigned. However, it was not possible to include the actions/strategies in the Operative Annual Work plan and assign budget to execute them. This because the institutions do not have the necessary expertise to carry out these activities. The project team held the workshops in 2 schedules, one in the morning and one in the afternoon in order to achieve gender parity. In addition, the meetings were held from Tuesday to Thursday because the female service providers work from Friday to Sunday, and rest on Mondays. Public servants are more interested in executing the gender actions proposed by the consulting team, but the challenge is the allocation of budget and hiring specialized people to motivate participation in these actions.

In the short-run, as recommended by the consultant team, the project will allocate resources to hire a facilitator to deliver workshops in FY23 for both pilots, and continue advancing toward gender sensitization. The following topics will be addressed:

1. Gender equality
2. Empowerment
3. Leadership
4. Women's rights
5. Gender violence
6. Approval of the law on abortion for rape.
7. Girls are not mothers

In the long-run, the recommendations of the PMU are to follow the strategies/actions presented by the consulting team to promote gender awareness and perspective in the pilot areas be executed and integrate these in the institutional Operation Work plan:

No.	Scope/Strategy - proposed actions
Sexual division of labor	
1	Spaces for reflection and awareness with women on the negotiation of the sexual division of labor in their family environment.
2	Workshops on gender equality, women's rights, and self-esteem to strengthen autonomy and empowerment.
3	Communication and awareness strategy at the community level on the contribution of unpaid work in the family economy and the importance of distributing it among family members, presenting testimonies of transformation of gender roles.
Use, access and control of resources and benefits	
1	Generation of seed funds to encourage economic ventures of women of different ages that at the same time contribute to the post-pandemic economic reactivation
2	Training and technical support for economic ventures.
3	Political advocacy in local GADs based on the results of the diagnosis to generate actions to overcome the gender gaps identified in the Baseline
Participation in decision-making spaces and management positions	
1	Promote the work of women who are in managerial spaces through a communication campaign that allows to value the contribution of women in non-traditional roles of participation in spaces of power.

d. Lessons learned and Knowledge Management products¹³ developed and disseminated

Gender

Regarding gender a challenge faced is the lack of expertise and knowledge on gender perspective and issues from the team's project, consequently, it was necessary to hire experts that helped to develop activities outlined in the Prodoc and to train the personnel so that they can continue implementing the actions established within the Prodoc. The products developed by the project were:

- Baseline gender analysis of Punta Carnero and ANRPV beaches.
- Assessment of women's perception of their impact on decision-making in the governance of Punta Carnero and ANRPV beaches.
- Methodology of training courses and gender sensitization and awareness events for key organizations and leaders of organizations of both pilot areas.
- Final report on lessons learned and recommendations for the sustainability of this process.
- Progress Report on Gender Mainstreaming in the Playas Villamil National Recreation Area pilot.
- Progress Report on the Integration of the Gender Perspective in the Punta Carnero pilot project Puntilla de Santa Elena Coastal Marine Wildlife Production Reserve.

Other actions implemented:

- For Women's Day, a tribute was made to female park rangers on CI-E social networks.
- In the videos produced for responsible tourism, gender equality was made visible.
- Communication on the activities carried out to integrate the gender perspective in the Component 2 were published on the web page (bulletin 8).

A lesson learned from the activities carried out on gender issues is that these actions should have assigned their own budget from the beginning of the project.

Stakeholder engagement

Regarding stakeholder engagement, in **Component 1**, the main challenge faced throughout the life of the project has been the constant change of authorities. Considering that the governance structure of the project is tied to the predisposition of the environmental authorities this resulted in the delay of many activities and most importantly the non-compliance of indicator 1 "the MPA network has a formal normative and administrative framework that allows its functioning as part of the SNAP".

In **Component 2**, despite the fact that the project is executed with MAATE, the results are achieved thanks to the involvement of key actors, once they become empowered in the processes. The formation of the core groups and the spaces for dialogue that have been maintained throughout the project have been key to the results achieved in the pilots. The importance of the actors in the construction of planning and ordinance instruments generated compliance with the principles of good governance.

For **Component 3**, from the beginning of the project, the Lucha y Progreso Commune had problems with the formation of its board of directors and accountability to the commune members and the Socio Bosque Program, which caused problems scheduling project meetings because many beneficiaries did not respond to the president's requests. As a result, the specialist had to contact the commune members directly and create spaces of trust to guarantee their effective participation and interest in the project. This led to delays at the beginning of the project. A lesson learned is in the proper analysis and selection of the beneficiaries, focusing on their organization and governance structure. This component also worked on strengthening the joint effort of the 5 mangrove custodian associations in Hualtaco Huaquillas that were enmities and now work together to deliver the inputs to prepare the semiannual reports to conserve the AUSCEM. To accomplish this, the project held workshops to train all the partners in the 3 programs of the Management Plans and the responsibilities that they must fulfill, to form the control and surveillance committee, and to show the format that must be filled out for the delivery of the reports.

All quarterly bulletins, which communicate the progress and activities generated by the project, are distributed to key stakeholders through WhatsApp groups, posted on the website, and are accessible from the web page as a mechanism to maintain stakeholders informed on the progress.

¹³ Knowledge Products are those that are both intended to transmit knowledge but at the same time enable action by their audiences. For example, a lessons learned report, compilation of good practices and recommendations, etc.

Grievance mechanism

The grievance mechanism has been fully implemented and it is available through the project’s website. Furthermore, the grievance mechanism has been socialized with key stakeholders and continues to be communicated during all events, workshops and presentations made by the project, banners and fliers are used during events. In some administrative MPA offices and City Halls, fliers were allocated in public transit areas. So far, the project hasn’t received any complaints.

e. Overall Project ESMF Implementation Rating

SUMMARY: PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING BY TYPE OF PLAN

ESMF PLAN REQUIRED BY THE PROJECT (delete those not applicable)	CURRENT FY22 IMPLEMENTATION RATING	RATING TREND
Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	HS	Unchanged
Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP)	HS	Increasing
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	HS	Unchanged
ESS 6: Cultural Heritage Management Plan	S	Decreasing

OVERALL PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING

RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
HS	During this period the project team continued to actively socialize the AGM with local communities and other stakeholders. Regarding the GMP, the participation of women significantly increased to 43% and women beneficiaries to 45%, when compared to FY23. Also, the project advanced in the development of strategies/plans/policies that included gender considerations and reached 10. It has also implemented sensitization workshops to tackle the identified weak technical capacity of the local authorities in this topic, and their difficulty to link gender to their work and scope. The SEP indicators continue to increase, and there is evidence the project has made an effort to actively engage with all key stakeholders, despite the difficulty of dealing with constant changes in decision-makers and focal points. Finally, different to FY21 the team did not continue to develop any activities associated to cultural heritage, as it could have been monitoring the implementation of the ordinance for “Bosque y Conchal Isla Seca” that seek to protect its ecological and archeological value”.	Unchanged.

f. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
To continue tackling the perception among staff of the MPA network that gender issues are out of scope, it is recommended that the trainings programmed for FY23 include contents that link gender issues with conservation and management of protected areas. Also it is important that good practices and examples from other protected areas are included in the trainings. The project team should honor the agreements in terms of topics, but at the	Project Management Unit	November 2022

same time guarantee that workshops contribute to fill the gap in perceiving that gender issues are disconnected from MPA network work and scope.		
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SECTION V: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCES, KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND LESSONS LEARNED

Required topics

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

The web page of the project has been designed and programmed during FY22: <https://proyectorredamcp.com/>. It contains informative material about the project, and communication materials such as the quarterly bulletins and the inventory of prioritized sites generated in Component 3. The design of the web page is friendly and easy to comprehend using simple language, with gender-sensitive and graphic tools. It is important to mention that, although the communication products have been developed, activities during the implementation of the communication strategies throughout the project were delayed. The lesson learned is that this could have been avoided if a communication specialist working 100% in the unit had been considered during the project design.

The project also has repository available on SharePoint which compiles all the products developed during these 4 years of implementation. In addition, the PMU has a Google Drive folder, which contains all the information generated to mainstream the MPA network into the SNAP, this folder has been shared with MAATE and the focus group.

During FY22, the most significant products generated by the project were: Baseline gender analysis of Punta Carnero and ANRPV beaches; Assessment of women's perception of their impact on decision-making in the governance of Punta Carnero and ANRPV beaches; Methodology of training courses on gender sensitization for pilots of component 2; Validation of the initial proposal of the Conceptual and Methodological Guidelines of the CEPA Program and Methodological Guide for the preparation of CEPA Technical Plans; CEPA Technical Plans for ANRPV and REMACOPSE; Proposal of the ordinance for the environmental management and control of Playas GAD; dendrological report of the Inventory of native seed parent trees and other key species for reforestation; proposal Ordinance approving the Management Plans for the Sea Beaches and Adjacent Strip of Punta Carnero, high use sector of the ANRPV and Engabao Beach; Feasibility evaluation of the application of Punto Verde and TourCert certification or other certifications in the ANRPV; 4 agroforestry plans for farms located in San Lorenzo – REMACAM.

The management and steering committees as well as the progress meetings held with authorities have been useful spaces to update them about the achievements and the obstacles the project is facing. Several meeting with the focal groups have taken place within Components 2 and 3, in which the fiscal year working plan were shared and the progress toward the activities implemented. Regarding the implementation of gender perspective, pilots are carrying out specific actions to raise gender awareness among the stakeholders and to collect information that establishes the next steps to promote greater engagement of women in decision-making process and benefit sharing.

The project has been very vulnerable to the effects of COVID, causing a delay on planned activities, especially those related to travel, which mostly affected component 2 and 3, were in some areas internet connection is limited.

The lesson learned is that working remotely has influenced heavily on the partial progress of the project and the lack of physical presence has slowed down the execution of some activities. This shows that in some cases knowledge managements have been adapted to the new situation, but still interaction is needed when results need to be obtained in a shorter time. Improvements around pandemic conditions improved in Q3, therefore in-person interaction was resumed by the project staff and continues, taking into account biosafety protocols.

It is important to remark that the project team has demonstrated resilience to adversity during the 4 years of implementation and has adapted efficiently to the changes that have occurred. Over the last few years, the project has had 5 different project national directors, 6 different undersecretaries, and 2 project managers, in addition to being challenged by the pandemic and consequently having to move to virtual and hybrid work. Finally, it is worth mentioning the changes in the governance structure of the project and the political crisis in which several national strikes have taken place. The lesson learned is that internal changes in the project governance should be considered as a risk. Additionally, the operations manual should consider guidelines to be followed during the transition phases.

2. Project institutional arrangements, including project governance

During FY22, the main obstacle has been the time MAATE takes to approve consulting and procurement processes, which caused delays in the project execution. This is because new authorities needed time to adapt to their positions and roles and to understand the governance structure of the project and its operation manual. The project held meetings and presentations on project progress and bottlenecks regularly with authorities. In addition, the project encountered a delay of almost 2 months in the approval of the project extension due to the late formalization of the steering committee minutes. This caused roughly 60% of the contractual processes to begin in Q3; these late processes will continue to be executed during FY23. The current project structure and the operating manual are rigid, the lesson learned is that allowing a more flexible structure empowering the project manager to make decisions and continue with procedures could have alleviated the delays and improve the flow of the work.

The Prodoc provides the guidelines for the roles of the PSC stating that *“the project steering committee (PSC) is responsible for making management decisions by consensus, provide strategic guidance, approve major changes to plan, promote collaboration with key stakeholders, evaluate project performance, arbitrate conflicts, among others”*. However, the PSC performs its technical approval function, but provides little support for governance function. The deletion of the Undersecretariat of coastal and marine management (SGMC in Spanish) back in FY21 negatively affected the implementation of the project. In this sense, the Midterm Evaluation Report recommended to *“expand the PSC and PMC to include strategic partners from a wider stakeholder universe”*. In response, during the last PSC it was resolved to include the Director of International Cooperation, with voice and vote, as a member of the PSC.

It is important to mention that the National Project Director, as well as the members of the management and steering committees have their own responsibilities within their institutional positions, therefore the percentage of time they can provide to the project represents a challenge. This directly affects the execution of the project because of their limited time availability to monitor, analyze, support and manage the project.

On the other hand, the project successfully established the focal working groups and attained high collaboration with local authorities of Component 2 and 3, these actions have been key to accomplish final results. The relationship with the GADs, Protected Areas, and Associations and Communes is strong. These key stakeholders are interested and follow-up on the activities implemented by the project. The project has made important advances on the construction of institutional arrangements, which helped the consolidation of governance arrangements between local governments, MPAs, and other stakeholders, and in the development of technical tools. The lesson learned is that working with core groups, local governments, and MPAs in raising awareness, maintaining constant communication, and developing practical experience and guidelines have been very effective to accomplish objectives and reduce conflict.

3. Capacity building

During FY22, the project worked hard to improve the skills and knowledge of key stakeholders and direct beneficiaries of the project throughout all 3 components:

- The project evaluated the current status of the CEPA Program at the National Protected Areas (SNAP) level. This involved defining the conceptual framework and scope of the CEPA program and each of its components: communication, education and environmental participation within the framework of the integrated management of Ecuador's protected areas. The conceptual and methodological guidelines of the CEPA program of the SNAP and the methodological guide for the elaboration of CEPA Technical Plans were also generated. The project also socialized and validated the conceptual and methodological guidelines of the CEPA program in ANRPV and REMACOPSE. The XV Network Meeting held virtually addressed the subject *“Guidelines for CEPA Technical Plans.”* Approximately 35 people participated among officials from the MPA Network, DAPOFC, and CI-Ecuador.
- The project Strengthened the knowledge of 20 persons among coastal GADs staff and MPA officials through 2 workshops:
 - Methodologies applied on Ecuador's beaches for visitors management in order to use them to build the Sea Beach and Adjacent Strip Management Plans. During the workshop, diverse visitor management methodologies applied to beaches from SNAP were presented; data on the impact of tourism due to the effects of the pandemic at a global and national level were shown in order to understand its reality and new market trends. The main actions carried out due to the

pandemic for visitor management in coastal marine areas were also discussed. The workshop addressed 3 topics (i) methodologies to help manage visitors, (ii) impacts of the pandemic on tourism and market trends and (iii) actions implemented for the reactivation of tourism and visitor management.

- Application of a Beach Certification Scheme as strategies to improve management within the Sea Beach and Adjacent Strip. The content covered 4 topics: (i) beach certification schemes applied internationally and nationally, (ii) INEN Standard (NTE INEN 2631:2012) established to certify beaches in Ecuador, (iii) Blue Flag Beach Certification Scheme, and (iv) actions carried out by the ProPlayas Network Consortium in the ProPlayas – Beach Landscape Certification.
- 50 Persons between staff and officials of the MPA network were trained on gender mainstreaming (24 men and 36 women). Four training modules were implemented virtually in a participative manner. The objectives of the workshop were to raise awareness on the importance of the gender approach in the actions of the Protected Areas, and to appropriately apply key concepts on the gender approach at an individual and institutional level. There was a positive evaluation of the training process in terms of content, methodology, and participation, as well as the validity of the process for professional practice. The individual work of the participants allowed reinforcing the practical application of the contents taught, however it was not a resource used to the fullest extent, the virtual modality and the lack of experience in processes of this type was a limitation for the individual work presented by the participants.
- In order to promote the conservation of the ecological connectivity between the Hualtaco mangrove swamp and the Isla Seca Municipal Conservation Area Bosque y Conchal Isla Seca, to strengthen the managerial knowledge of tourism operators and local service providers of the pilot area, a training workshop was held in territory, which benefited 19 local service providers: 1 tour operator, 1 taxi cooperative, 3 restaurants, 1 national guide, 7 GADM Huaquillas tourist police and 4 hotels, 1 cab cooperative, 3 restaurants, 1 national guide, 7 GAD Huaquillas tourist police officers and 40 fishermen, shell fishermen and crabbers with AUSCEM in Hualtaco Huaquillas. 10 topics related to the protection of natural and cultural heritage and its sustainable use were taught, certificates and credentials were awarded to all participants.
- As part of the agroforestry intervention that the project is implementing in San Lorenzo – REMACAM, a conversation meeting was held with 7 members of the Afro-Ecuadorian community Lucha y Progreso on environmental awareness of the problems arising from overexploitation or misuse of forest resources with a view to reversing these negative trends. In addition, they were encouraged to participate in the construction of management plans for their farms, demonstrating their importance as a tool for the proper management of their plots.
- Lucha y Progreso Commune members were also trained in techniques for the collection, management and propagation of native seeds, parent trees and key species for repopulation processes. The training was carried out for 23 locals, 60% men and 40% women.
- To strengthen the control and surveillance activities of the MPAs, through the strategic partner WildAid, 26 people including administrators, technicians and park rangers from 7 MPAs were trained in the use and maintenance of the communication system installed.
- The course for MPA actors who intervene in the administrative and criminal law enforcement chain to enforce the law and sanction offenders started in FY22. This training is being developed in a hybrid manner, virtually and in person. The training includes 5 virtual modules with the following topics: (i) Technical and Legal Aspects of Marine Coastal Protected Areas; (ii) International Instruments; (iii) National Legislation; (iv) Administrative Procedures; (v) Environmental Criminal Procedures. So far 41 participants have benefited from this training, among officials from the protected areas, personnel from the legal departments of the central and regional directorates, judicial officials, environmental police officers and the army. The virtual part of the training course took place in June, the second part will be completed on FY23.

- The consultancy to strengthen and update the knowledge of officials in the management of marine and coastal protected areas of Continental Ecuador through specialized training courses on protected area management programs was contracted during FY22 and will be implemented in FY23.

A lesson learned from the workshops and trainings held by the project is that despite the existence of virtual platforms, there are some capacities strengthening processes that are better managed and obtain better results when done presently. Some pilot areas have limited connection to the internet, which makes virtuality difficult. In these cases, despite the pandemic, the trainings were held in territory.

Another lesson learned is that efforts should be coordinated with governmental and municipal organizations so that there is continuity in the periodic training processes to achieve long term support and results regarding gender issues, environmental care, law enforcement, importance of conservation, etc.

In terms of gender training, a lesson learned is that despite the motivation provided to incorporate the gender approach in the environmental management of protected areas, it is necessary to promote a gender policy from the Ministry of Environment to guide the processes of human resources management, as well as the incorporation of the approach in the environmental management of protected areas.

SECTION VI: PROJECT GEOCODING

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

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

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

Geo Location Information	Location No. 1	Location No. 2	Location No. 3	Location No. 4	Location No. 5	Location No. 6	Location No. 7	Location No. 8	Location No. 9	Location No. 10	Location No. 11	Location No. 12
CLASSIFICATION <i>Indicate whether the site is new or already existing in the previous PIR or indicate whether the site is included at CEO Endorsement/Approval or not. Please add more columns for projects with more than 3 locations.</i>	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing
Note: Provide justification if the												

location is a new site in this line												
GEO NAME ID <i>Provide the location's Geo Name ID in a numerical format. IDs are available in the GeoNames' geographical database covering all countries and containing millions of placenames with free access at: http://www.geonames.org.</i>	10227183	3658180	3653015	3651438	3653643	3653964	10792971	10174458	11395383	10793020	10793648	3651455
LOCATION NAME <i>Name of the geographic locations in which the activity is taking place. In instance when a GeoNames ID is provided above, the name of the said ID should be reflected. Otherwise, the location name provided will be considered as an exact location.</i>	Machalilla National Park	Islote El Pelado	Playas	Santa Elena	Pacoche	Río Muisne	San Francisco	Cayapas Mataje Ecological Reserve	Churute Mangroves Ecological Reserve	s Morro	Arenillas	Isla Santa Clara
LATITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at</i>	-1.5625	-1.91944	-2.63199	-2.22622	-1.03333	0.62749	0.69278	1.28427	- 2.509	- 2.5657	- 3.5602	-3.17245

<i>least four decimal points.</i>												
LONGITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	-80.83	-80.81656	-80.38808	-80.85873	-80.83333	-80.03957	79.99812	78.90626	-79.744	80.31702	80.0429	-80.43629
LOCATION DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the location in which an activity is taking place, such as for example "mini-grid energy system" or "park ranger site".</i>	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area
ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the activity taking place at the location, for example, "Installing a mini-grid energy system".</i>												

Geo Location Information	Location No. 13	Location No. 14	Location No. 15	Location No. 16	Location No. 17	Location No. 18	Location No. 19	Location No. 20
CLASSIFICATION	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	New

<p>Indicate whether the site is new or already existing in the previous PIR or indicate whether the site is included at CEO Endorsement/Approval or not. Please add more columns for projects with more than 3 locations.</p>								
<p>Note: Provide justification if the location is a new site in this line</p>								<p>New marine reserve area declared protected area during FY22</p>
<p>GEO NAME ID Provide the location's Geo Name ID in a numerical format. IDs are available in the GeoNames' geographical database covering all countries and containing millions of placenames with free access at: http://www.geonames.org.</p>	3660401	3651321	3659133	3660452	3696796	3657985	3659791	3652754
<p>LOCATION NAME Name of the geographic locations in which the activity is taking place. In instance when a GeoNames ID is provided above, the</p>	Bahía de Caraquez	Isla Santay	Río Chongón	Ayangue	Gulf of Guayaquil	Río Esmeraldas	Cantagallo	Puerto Cabuyal

<i>name of the said ID should be reflected. Otherwise, the location name provided will be considered as an exact location.</i>								
LATITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	-0.59792	- 2.22225	-2.33292	-1.98333	-3	0.99628	-1.29133	-0.18333
LONGITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>	-80.42367	-79.85086	-79.96586	-80.73333	-80.5	-79.63647	-80.74372	-80.33333
LOCATION DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the location in which an activity is taking place, such as for example “mini-grid energy system” or “park ranger site”.</i>	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area	Protected Area

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the activity taking place at the location, for example, "Installing a mini-grid energy system".</i>								
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Please provide a justification regarding changes in location during implementation. Justifications should also be provided in the event the geographic location of key project activities cannot be provided at CEO Endorsement/Approval stage.

Puerto Cabuyal: Marine Reserve Puerto Cabuyal – Punta San Clemente

Justification:

During FY22, MAATE created a new protected area, Marine Reserve Puerto Cabuyal – Punta San Clemente. This reserve covers an area of 130.427 hectares in the province of Manabi. The area comprises a diversity of ecosystems, including coral formations, rocky shallows, and sea turtle nesting.

Project Map and Coordinates

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

Map:



APPENDIX I: PROJECT ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING

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

- Highly Satisfactory:** 100% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project. The project can be presented as an example of “good practice” project,

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

APPENDIX II: RISK RATINGS

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

- **Low Risk (L):** There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
- **Moderate Risk (M):** There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
- **Substantial Risk (S):** There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
- **High Risk:** There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.

APPENDIX III: PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING PROJECT EXPECTED OUTPUTS

INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome 1.1 Institutional, legal and technical capacity substantially improved to efficiently manage the MPA network				
<p>Output Indicator 1.1.1: <i>Indicator 1.1.1.a: During year 1, the Institutional, legal and administrative arrangement for MPA network operation has been formally adopted by the national authority.</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 1.1.1.b: Until year 3, the MPA network has been embedded into the new management arrangement for the SNAP.</i></p>	<p>Existence of legal instruments (e.g., administrative resolutions) that establish institutional and administrative arrangements for MPA network</p> <p>Updated SNAP plan New management categories of MPAs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPA Network Action Plan – need adjustments • Technical norm for fishing and aquaculture developed. • Guidelines and technical criteria to design, establish, and manage connectivity corridors formally adopted by MAATE. • Support meetings to obtain inputs for the updating process of the SNAP-EP • Two inputs in terms of climate change and gender mainstreamed in the SNAP strategic Plan (comments requested by the MAATE) 	<p>IS</p> <p>D</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MPA Network formally exists according to Ministerial Agreement 030 of 2017. • The PMU has continued insisting through emails, virtual meetings and during the PSC the need of adopting the tools developed by the project. A working meeting with the focal group established actions to update the Action Plan, however, slow progress is presented. MAATE submitted two proposals to CI-E under official letter MAATE-DAPOFC-2022-0645-O: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Technical standards for the management and administration of voluntary and obligatory ecological easements. b. Technical standards for the establishment and management of the environmental buffer zones of protected areas. <p>These proposals will enable the functionality of MPA network as a mechanism to fulfill the COA requirements. The validation process is expected to be completed on FY23 by MAATE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SNAP Strategic Plan continues without showing any significant advance during this period. Despite the technical advice provided by the project and CI managers, which includes the mainstreaming of the MPA Network and the inputs developed, the formal issuance of the SNAP strategic Plan is still a pending issue. The National Direction of Protected Areas made internal adjustments to the PE-SNAP, but this document has not been formalized.

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

<p>Output Indicator 1.1.2: <i>Indicator 1.1.2.a.: Number of MPA rangers per year (segregated by gender) that have completed the training courses.</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 1.1.2.b.: Number of enforcement and prosecution officers per year (segregated by organization and gender)</i></p>	<p>0</p> <p>0</p>	<p>Men 61 Women 39</p> <p>Men 25 Women 16</p>	<p>IS</p> <p>IS</p>	<p>The XV Meeting of the Network was held virtually on September 9th. With the subject “Guidelines for CEPA Technical Plans.” 24 people participated among officials from the AMCP Network, DAPOFC and CI-Ecuador. 16 men and 8 women.</p> <p>50 people between staff and official of the MPA network were trained on gender mainstreaming. 24 men and 26 women.</p> <p>26 persons form the MPAs were trained in the performance analysis of the radio communication system. 21 men and 5 women</p> <p>During FY22, began the implementation of the legal course for enforcement and prosecution officers which includes 4 different target audiences and 4 modules on specific issues. 41 people have participated among officials from the protected areas, personnel form the legal departments of the central and regional directorates, judicial officials, environmental police officers and the army. The course will be completed on FY23.</p>
<p>Output Indicator 1.1.3: <i>Indicator 1.1.3.a.: Number of updated or new regulations for tourism in MPAs.</i></p>	<p>End of project target 4 updated or new regulations</p>	<p>2 tourism regulations approved the National Authority.</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>Two tourism regulations were oficialized:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Requirements for Certificacions for Adventure Tourism”. 2. “Regulations for Adventure Tourism”.

<p>Output Indicator 1.1.4: <i>Indicator 1.1.4.a: Number of guidelines to efficiently incorporate MPAs into coastal zone management and number of MPA officers (disaggregated by MPA and gender) introduced to the guidelines.</i></p>	<p>End of project target - 3 guidelines to efficiently incorporate MPAs into coastal zone management designed and disseminated and at least 10 MPA officers trained in the guidelines use.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>Guidelines will be generated after obtaining results from C2 pilots. The consultancy was hired on FY22, the guidelines will be ready on FY23.</p>
<p>Output Indicator 1.1.5: <i>Indicator 1.1.5.a: Number of guidelines for moving from conflict to collaboration and number of MPA officers (disaggregated by MPA and gender) trained in the guidelines use.</i></p>	<p>End of project target - 3 guidelines for moving from conflict to collaboration with key stakeholders in MPAs designed and disseminated through training courses</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>The consultancy was hired on FY22, the guidelines will be ready on FY23.</p>
<p>Outcome 1.2 Effectiveness in detecting and sanctioning infractions in MPAs considerably increased</p>				

<p>Output Indicator 1.2.1:</p> <p><i>Indicator 1.2.1.a: During year 2 a regulatory framework and procedures for detecting and sanctioning infractions has been adopted by the MoE.</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 1.2.1.b: Number of inter-institutional agreements for analysis and apply of the regulatory framework and procedures have been signed.</i></p>	<p>A regulatory framework and procedures for detecting and sanctioning infractions implemented</p> <p>End of project target – 5 agreements and 5 addendas</p>	<p>2 signed specific agreement within the framework of the reversal note with the Ministry of Defense.</p> <p>5 agreement proposals developed by the project</p> <p>1 signed agreement to carry out joint control and surveillance operations in the Marine Reserve Santa Clara</p> <p>2 operational addendas</p> <p>1 signed commitment agreement</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>Within the framework of the MPA Network Project and the contract signed with WildAid, 5 agreements proposals have been developed, whose formalization is responsibility of the relevant authorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proposal – Agreement between Dirnea and MAATE to carry out control and surveillance operations in Bajo Copé, El Pelado, Cantagallo Machalilla, and Santa Clara Marine Reserves; Wildlife Refuge Pacoche and Puntilla Santa Elena Coastal Marine Fauna Production Reserve. 2. Proposal – Cooperation Framework Agreement between the Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investment and Fisheries; and MAATE. 3. Proposal – Agreement between the National Police and MAATE to support the control operations against the crime in the Ecological Reserve Manglares-Churute, Arenillas and Manglares Cayapas-Mataje. 4. Proposal – Agreement between MAATE and the Prosecutor’s General Office to fight effectively gainst the environmental crime. 5. Proposal – Agreement between the Ministry of Tourism, MAATE and Playas Municipality for touristic service provision in beaches included in the SNAP. <p>Moreover, within the framework of the project, WildAid signed two specific Agreement and two specific operational addendas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Agreement to carry out joint control and surveillance operations in the Marine Reserve Santa Clara between the Loja Coordination Zone and the South Guardcoast Subcomand.</i> 2. <i>Commitment Agreement to contribute and establish the operational ways to</i>
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				<p><i>effective protection of the living resources between Pacoche and Port of Manta Captaincy.</i></p> <p><i>3. Operational Adenda between Santa Clara MPA and the South Subcomand of Coastguards.</i></p> <p><i>4. Adenda to operationalize the control and surveillance operations in REMACOPSE, between Port Salinas Captaincy and REMACOPSE.</i></p>
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<p>Output Indicator 1.2.2:</p> <p><i>Indicator 1.2.2.a.: Vessel availability index (VAI) for each boat and vehicle purchased by the project.</i></p>	<p>End of project target VAI >60%</p>	<p>Refer to ANNEX- 1</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>Within the framework of the project, WildAid delivered 1 vessel to Santa Clara and renewed 2 vessels for REMACOPSE and REMACAM. The project donated 5 vessels to REMACAM, Rio Muisne, Playas, El Salado and Churute. Through Ecuador Azul REMACOPSE received a new vessel during FY22.</p> <p>As mentioned previously the report for FY22 (2021-2022) hasn't been presented, due to delays with the fourth contract with WildAid. The information presented in Annex-1 refers to the last measured which took place between June 2020 and May 2021. This indicator will be reported at the end of the technical activities of the project in the following PIR.</p>
<p><i>Indicator 1.2.2.b.: Repeater Tower Uptime (installed and operative)</i></p>	<p>End of project target Target RTU>99%</p>	<p>Refer to ANNEX- 2</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>Within this context, the RTU indicator, the first phase of the Radio communication System proposal was implemented by the project, the antenna within Machalilla National Park located at Bola de Oro was repaired and updated. Additionally, the one located in Cerro Salinas, which belongs to the Navy, was updated improving the quality of the communications for REMACOPSE. Currently, the marine part of Manabi and Santa Elena Clusters have quality communication. As a counterpart, WildAid, built and installed a radio communication repeater tower to cover PACOCHE which was connected to Machalilla National Park Bola de Oro antenna.</p> <p>Annex 2 refers to the last measure provided until May, 2021.</p> <p>The MPA Network Project has repowered the communication systems and converted them</p>

<p><i>Indicator 1.2.2.c.: Radio availability index.</i></p>	<p>End of project target Target RAI>95%</p>	<p>Refer to ANNEX- 3</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>to digital systems, full coverage is maintained in REMACOPSE, EL PELADO, BAJO COPÉ, PNM, CANTAGALLO MACHALILLA, and the marine part of PACOCHE. This system replaced the analogical systems that worked before, strongly strengthening the control and surveillance operations. In addition, 2 safe navigation and night radars were installed in REMACOPSE and Pacoche vessels.</p>
<p>Output Indicator 1.2.3: <i>Indicator 1.2.3.a: Number of MPAs with specific monitoring, control and surveillance plans.</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 1.2.3.b: Number of infractions leading to prosecution and penalties</i></p>	<p>End of project target 5 Specific monitoring, control and surveillance plans</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>12 monitoring, control and surveillance plans updated or developed</p> <p>14 executed sentences</p>	<p>CA</p> <p>CA</p>	<p>The MPA Network Project started with a baseline of 4 Control and Surveillance Plans that were developed by the strategic partner WildAid and were updated with support from the Project. This constituted the baseline as of June 2018. For year 2, this increased to 8 MPAs with C&V plans. During FY22, 4 C&V plans were developed. The MPAs that have C&V plans are: REMACAM, GALERA SAN FRANCISCO, PACOCHE, MACHALILLA NATIONAL PARK, EL PELADO, REMACOPSE, EL MORRO, ISLA SANTA CLARA, ANRPV, RIO ESMERALDAS, CHURUTE and EL SALADO.</p> <p>As of May 2021, 121 technical reports of possible infractions issued by the MPAs were recorded, of which there are 11 initiations of proceedings, with only 14 enforceable sentences.</p>

Outcome 1.3 Financial mechanism significantly improved for long-term sustainable financing of the MPA network				
Output Indicator 1.3.1: FAP dedicated sub-account created before the end of year 2	Date of creation of FAP's dedicated account	March 21 st , 2019	CA	The subaccount Ecuador Azul was created in March, 2019. Ecuador Azul has generated revenues for the year 2021 of US\$ 605,269.
Output Indicator 1.3.2: Expenditure management strategy under implementation before the end of year 1.	Date starts of implementation	N/A	IS	A cost reduction strategy will not be implemented; instead, a report is being prepared that brings together experiences on cost efficiency in the management of expenditures in MPAs, both in the country and in other countries. This compilation of initiatives and best practices that may be useful to other marine and coastal areas will be systematized in a workshop that will be held during FY23.
Output Indicator 1.3.3: Strategy to increase funding under implementation before the end of year 1.	Date starts of implementation	N/A	IS	MAATE requested, as a strategy to generate resources, to update the entrance fees for the MPAs. The pilot MPA selected for the project is REMACOPSE. During FY22, the ToRs were constructed and invitations were sent to potential consultants. Only one proposal was received, this proposal didn't meet the required experience. Another call for direct invitation is expected in July.
Outcome 2.1 Lessons learned from pilots are fully incorporated into new/updated regulations and guidelines for MPA management				

<p>Output Indicator 2.1.1: <i>Indicator 2.1.1.a: Number of governance processes and organizational structures functioning in coastal buffer zones that applied lesson learned, new and updated regulations and guidelines.</i></p>	<p>Midterm target: 2</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>CA</p>	<p>During FY22, two agreements were signed between the service providers working at Punta Carnero Beach: Sirenita de Mar and Playas Limpias and the REMACOPSE Administration to obtain effective management for Punta Carnero Beach and its buffer zone. This process includes the regularization of 100 service providers through a record list, identification cards and delivery of identifying t-shirts, in order to recognize and formalize the associations.</p> <p>The Sea Beach and Adjacent Strip Management Plans for General Villamil Playas, Engabao and Punta Carnero were incorporated into the Development and Land Use Plans of each pilot. In the case of Punta Carnero, it is also incorporated into the Land Use and Management Plan.</p> <p>Within the framework of this indicator, the Cantonal Councils and the local GADs of each pilot were provided with a proposed Ordinance formally issuing the Sea Beach and Adjacent Strip Management Plans of Punta Carnero and General Villamil Playas, which includes the proposed governance schemes for coordinated and effective management of the beaches within the Protected Areas.</p> <p>The proposed inter-institutional cooperative agreements between the Protected Areas and local governments are under review by MAATE's Legal Department.</p> <p>The ordinance regulating productive activities within the ANRPV beach is in socialization phase of the Playas Cantonal Council for approval.</p> <p>The environmental management and control ordinance submitted to GAD Playas is currently being reviewed by the GAD's Legal Department.</p> <p>The feasibility of types of certification for beaches and/or destinations to be implemented within the ANRPV was evaluated.</p>
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<p><i>Indicator 2.1.1.b: Perception of women about their decision-making impact in governance processes.</i></p>	<p>Level of impact (high, medium, low, negligible) on decision-making governance processes</p>	<p>ANRPV: Medium REMACOPSE: High / medium</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>REMACOPSE is being advised so that it can comply with the requirements necessary to obtain Punto Verde - Tourcert certification.</p> <p>During FY22, the contracted consultancy generated the gender analysis baseline and strategies to integrate the gender perspective in both pilots. In addition, the ANRPV focus group identified that women do not have equal participation with men in decision making in governance spaces and that the level of participation is medium. With the REMACOPSE focus group, it was identified that women have 50% participation in governance spaces and that the level of participation is high and medium.</p> <p>Reports from each focus group were generated and submitted during FY22. The last report will be submitted in FY23.</p>
<p>Output Indicator 2.1.2:</p> <p><i>Indicator 2.1.2.a: Number of people that participate in lessons learned and good practices dissemination events.</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 2.1.2.b: Number of people that apply lessons learned and good practices experiences.</i></p>	<p>End of project target: > 1000 people ≥ 50% women</p> <p>End of project target: > 300 people ≥ 30% women</p>	<p>203 people 52% Women</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>IS</p> <p>NS</p>	<p>Although the lessons learned consultancy is currently underway and will be completed by Q2 of FY23, during FY22 several events have been held to disseminate the processes that the project has carried out to achieve the results. These events have had a total participation of 203 people: 105 women and 98 men.</p> <p>The project will not be able to measure the application of lessons learned and good practices experiences.</p>
<p>Outcome 3.1 Connectivity between coastal mangroves and adjacent inland habitats within the MPA network improved</p>				

<p><i>Indicator 3.1.1.c.: Number of stakeholder agreements</i></p>	<p>Area of ha under agroforestry management – San Lorenzo REMACAM <i>Note: this indicator is new in response to the mid-term evaluation recommendation</i></p> <p>End of project target ≥ 2</p>	<p>41.65 ha Farm of Máximo Vivero. 15.22 ha Farm of Beatriz Hurtado. 43.65 ha Farm of Epidio Rodríguez. 51 ha Farm of Luis Crespo.</p> <p>2</p>	<p>IS</p> <p>CA</p>	<p>The project is working to develop forestry studies and to delimit the plots within the 1,566.94 ha of Equatorial Chocó Evergreen lowland forest. Within this area, 12 agroforestry plans are planned to be developed in parallel to improve the farmers' agricultural practices and encourage them to use agroforestry systems, pest management and control, and crop diversification. During FY22, 4 pilot agroforestry plans were developed, representing a total of 151.52 hectares.</p> <p>As previously reported a “Memorandum of Understanding” with the core working group of Huaquillas and a “Commitment Act” with the working group from La Loma were the mechanisms used to work on the products agreed already in the workplan.</p>
<p>Output Indicator 3.1.2: <i>Indicator 3.1.2.a.: Formal instruments that adopt the habitat connectivity guidelines.</i></p>	<p>End of project target ≥ 1</p>	<p>1 Ordinance GAD Huaquillas approved.</p>	<p>CA</p>	<p>The Municipal Ordinance from GAD Huaquillas was prepared jointly with the core working group and it will put 10.81 ha from Jama-Zapotillo low forest and deciduous shrubs into a municipal conservation area that seeks to protect its natural and cultural value. The ordinance was approved by the Municipality on 25 June, 2021.</p>
<p>Output Indicator 3.1.3: <i>Indicator 3.1.3.a.: Number of downloads of lessons learned document.</i></p>	<p>End of project target ≥ 5000</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>NS</p>	<p>Lessons learned to be downloaded during FY23.</p>

<p>Output Indicator 3.1.4: <i>Indicator 3.1.4.a.: Number of people that participate in dissemination events.</i></p>	<p>End of project target: > 1000 people ≥ 50% women</p>	<p>211 people 47% Women</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>Although the lessons learned consultancy is currently underway and will be completed in FY23, during FY22 several events have been held to disseminate processes and lessons learned. These events have had a total participation of 211 people: 99 women and 112 men.</p>
<p><i>Indicator 3.1.4.b.: Number of downloads of guidelines document.</i></p>	<p>End of project target ≥ 5000</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>NS</p>	<p>Lessons learned to be downloaded during FY23</p>

ANNEX- 1 VAI (%) MPA to May 2021

AMCP	EMBARCACIÓN	junio/2020	julio/2020	agosto/2020	septiembre/2020	octubre/2020	noviembre/2020	diciembre/2020	enero/2021	febrero/2021	marzo/2021	abril/2021	mayo/2021
REMACAM	REMACAM1	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	13,33%	12,90%	13,33%	12,90%	16,13%	14,29%	12,90%	13,33%	12,90%
REMACAM	REMACAM2	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	16,67%	16,13%	16,67%	16,13%	16,13%	17,86%	16,13%	16,67%	16,13%
REMACAM	REMACAM3	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	16,67%	16,13%	16,67%	16,13%	12,90%	17,86%	16,13%	16,67%	16,13%
RIO ESMERALDAS	RIOESMERALDAS	0,00%	0,00%	6,45%	6,67%	6,45%	6,67%	6,45%	6,45%	7,14%	6,45%	6,67%	6,45%
GALERA SAN FRANCISCO	LA CORCOVADA	0,00%	16,13%	25,81%	23,33%	32,26%	30,00%	29,03%	19,35%	32,14%	25,81%	30,00%	32,26%
RIO MUISNE	RIOMUISNE1	6,67%	6,45%	6,45%	6,67%	6,45%	6,67%	6,45%	6,45%	7,14%	6,45%	6,67%	6,45%
ISLA CORAZÓN	ZARAPITO	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	6,45%	9,68%	10,71%	9,68%	10,00%	9,68%

AMCP	EMBARCACIÓN	junio/2020	julio/2020	agosto/2020	septiembre/2020	octubre/2020	noviembre/2020	diciembre/2020	enero/2021	febrero/2021	marzo/2021	abril/2021	mayo/2021
ISLA CORAZÓN	COCOI	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	3,33%	3,23%	20,00%	19,35%	29,03%	32,14%	29,03%	30,00%	29,03%
PACOCHE	GOLFINA I	13,33%	3,23%	12,90%	10,00%	6,45%	20,00%	3,23%	3,23%	21,43%	29,03%	23,33%	25,81%
CANTAGALLO MACHALILLA	NO HAY EMBARCACIÓN												
PNM	BALSAMO I	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%
PNM	MEGAPTERA	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%
EL PELADO	SPHYRNA	6,67%	32,26%	16,13%	26,67%	22,58%	23,33%	25,81%	0,00%	14,29%	9,68%	16,67%	12,90%
BAJO COPÉ	NO HAY EMBARCACIÓN												
REMACOPSE	GIGIMA	40,00%	35,48%	19,35%	23,33%	32,26%	46,67%	25,81%	0,00%	3,57%	22,58%	0,00%	16,13%
PLAYAS	CAREY	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%
EL MORRO	BUFEO	60,00%	64,52%	90,32%	30,00%	64,52%	60,00%	41,94%	61,29%	92,86%	77,42%	66,67%	64,52%
PARQUE LAGO	PARQUELAGO	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%
EL SALADO	ELSALADO	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	3,33%	3,23%	6,45%	7,14%	6,45%	6,67%	6,45%
SANTAY	SPONDYLUS	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%
CHURUTE	AHNIMA	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%
SANTA CLARA	SPONDYLUS II	3,33%	0,00%	3,23%	30,00%	29,03%	43,33%	38,71%	29,03%	42,86%	38,71%	40,00%	45,16%
ARENILLAS	NO HAY EMBARCACIÓN												

ANNEX- 2 RTU (%) MPA to May 2021

Repetidora	junio/2020	julio/2020	agosto/2020	septiembre/2020	octubre/2020	noviembre/2020	diciembre/2020	enero/2021	febrero/2021	marzo/2021	abril/2021	mayo/2021
REMACAM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

♦ Empiezan a utilizar otra embarcación: OTARIA

RIO ESMERALDAS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GALERA SAN FRANCISCO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RIO MUISNE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ISLA CORAZÓN	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
PACOCHE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CANTAGALLO MACHALILLA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PNM (Repetidora Cerro Bola de Oro)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
EL PELADO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BAJO COPÉ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
REMACOPSE (Repetidora Cerro Salinas)	-	-	-	-	-	-	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
PLAYAS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EL MORRO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PARQUE LAGO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EL SALADO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SANTAY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHURUTE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SANTA CLARA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ARENILLAS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**ANNEX- 3 RAI
(%) MPA to May 2021**

AMCP	junio/2020	julio/2020	agosto/2020	septiembre/2020	octubre/2020	noviembre/2020	diciembre/2020	enero/2021	febrero/2021	marzo/2021	abril/2021	mayo/2021
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REMACAM	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
RIO ESMERALDAS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
GALERA SAN FRANCISCO	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%
RIO MUISNE	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
ISLA CORAZÓN	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%
PACOCHE	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
CANTAGALLO MACHALILLA	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
PNM	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
EL PELADO	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
BAJO COPÉ	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
REMACOPSE	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
PLAYAS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
EL MORRO	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
PARQUE LAGO	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
EL SALADO	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
SANTAY	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%
CHURUTE	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
SANTA CLARA	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
ARENILLAS	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%