PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

**for the project: Reducing Deforestation from
Palm Oil and Cocoa Value Chains**

FY23

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Executing Partners:

Conservation International - Liberia, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Fauna and Flora International (FFI), and Society for the Conservation of Nature Liberia

Project Information			
Project Title:	Reducing deforestation from palm oil and cocoa value chains		
Country(*ies*):	Liberia	**GEF ID**:	10232
GEF Agency(*ies*):	Conservation International	**Duration In Months**:	77 Months
Executing Agency(*ies*):	The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Fauna and Flora International (FFI); Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL); The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	**Actual Implementation Start Date**:	15th November 2021
GEF Focal Area(*s*):	**BD-1-1:** Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors. **BD 2-7:** Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species and improve financial sustainability, effective management, and ecosystem coverage of the global protected area estate. **LD-1-1:** Maintain or improve the flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustain food production and livelihoods through Sustainable Land Management (SLM) **LD-2-3:** Maintain or improve flows of ecosystem services, including sustaining livelihoods of forest-dependent people through Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) IP FOLUR	**Expected Project Completion Date:**	30th April, 2028
GEF Grant Amount:	7,139,450	**Expected Financial Closure Date:**	31 October, 2028
Expected Co-financing:	66,999,065	**Date of Last Steering Committee Meeting**:	June 29, 2023
Co-financing Realized as of June 30, 2023	9,928,149	**Mid-Term Review-Planned Date**:	May 2024
Date of First Disbursement:	August 14, 2023	**Mid-Term Review-Actual Date**:	TBD
Cumulative disbursement as of June 30, 2023	742,800	**Terminal Evaluation-Planned Date**:	March 2027
PIR Prepared by:	George Ilebo, Nelson Jallah; Solomon Carlon, and James Eisah	**Terminal Evaluation-Actual Date**:	TBD
CI-GEF Project Manager:	Charity Nalyanya	**CI-GEF Finance Lead:**	Elizabeth Mast

Minor Amendment Categories	Minor Amendment Justification Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5%. Please select the box that is most applicable for FY22 and include an explanation for the minor amendment request.
Results framework ☐	
Components and cost ☐	
Institutional and implementation arrangements ☐	
Financial management ☐	
Implementation schedule ☐	
Executing Entity ☐	
Executing Entity Category ☐	
Minor project objective change ☐	
Safeguards ☐	
Risk analysis ☐	
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5% ☐	
Co-financing ☐	
Location of project activity ☐	
Other ☐	

MINOR AMENDMENT RESPONSE FROM CI-GEF
N/A

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

Liberia is at crossroads to balance the urgent need for economic development with conservation and sustainable use of the country's natural resources. This is particularly evident in Northwest (NW) Liberia landscape that spans Grand Cape Mount, Lofa, Bomi, Gbarpolu and Bong counties. NW Liberia landscape houses one of the largest remaining blocks of the upper Guinean forests that have been identified as a conservation priority for carbon, biodiversity, and ecosystem services including climate regulation and soil maintenance, fresh water, food, and medicine.

Despite their importance, the forests in NW Liberia landscape are threatened by illegal logging, charcoal production, mining, agriculture (slash and burn, and unsustainable production of cocoa and palm oil), etc. The situation is exacerbated by poverty; lack of land use planning; lack of data, awareness, and knowledge among decision makers about the value of Liberia's natural capital; inadequate legislation and gaps in national policy; limited institutional capacity and coordination in government ministries; and limited sustainable financing.

To address these threats and barriers, the FOLUR project is being implemented with the objective, "to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable food systems for enhanced livelihood opportunities in NW Liberia Landscape through land use planning, restoration of degraded lands, and strengthening governance, policies, and market incentives for nationally replicable models of deforestation-free cocoa and palm oil value chains." The FOLUR project has four components including:
- Development, adoption, and implementation of National and NW Liberia Landscape land-use plans
- Promotion of sustainable production practices for food crops, palm oil and cocoa, supported by responsible value chains.
- Biodiversity loss reduction and restoration of natural habitats
- Coordination, collaboration and Monitoring and Evaluation

The FOLUR project will work with government, communities, smallholder farmers, CSOs, and the private sector to advance land use planning, sustainable commodity production, restoration of degraded lands, and forest conservation.

PRIOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

Not applicable as the first PIR was produced in FY23.

CURRENT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS (FY23)

During **project set up,** staff were recruited, on-boarded, and trained on CI-GEF prohibited practices, financial, procurement and reporting requirements; work plan and budget developed and approved by CI-GEF Agency; inception workshop held, and a report produced; and sub-grant agreements signed with sub-grantees.

Component 1: In FY23, 67% of this outcome's output indicators are completed and 33% are under implementation. On the development, adoption, and implementation of National and NW Liberia **Landscape land-use plans t**erms of Reference for a consultancy to conduct land-use planning were developed and advertised. A total of seven bids were received, evaluated and University of Liberia was selected as the preferred firm. Land cover change assessment was conducted on 10,500 ha of Mano Palm oil Plantation. A governance structure – Northwest Liberia Landscape Multi-Stakeholder Platform was established and a roadmap for its strengthening was developed.

Component 2: In FY23, 100% are under implementation. Promotion of sustainable production practices for food crops, palm oil and cocoa, supported by responsible value chains. Six local aggregators and cooperatives for strengthening in NW Liberia landscape were identified. Oil palm, Cocoa, cashew, rice, peanut, and pepper were identified as the main crops needed by big companies. US$ 6.95 million was secured by the Ministry of Agriculture to increase agricultural productivity and promote commercialization of smallholder farmers through productive linkages between the farmers and the private agribusiness firms in selected value chains of Liberia including cocoa and palm oil. ToRs were developed for a consultancy to (a) conduct a gender-sensitive value chain and market assessment of selected value chains including cocoa, palm oil, vegetables, cassava, ecotourism, apiculture, and non-timber forest products. Sustainable Finance Advisor has been recruited to lead on sustainable and innovative financing activities.

Component 3: In FY23, 50% of this outcome's output indicators are completed and 50% have not started. A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to identify areas for restoration. US$ 475,000 for forest monitoring was secured from the USAID WaBiLED project.

Component 4: In FY23, 100% are under implementation. Coordination, collaboration and Monitoring and Evaluation
1. The M&E system and MEAL plan have been developed, validated, and operationalized using the "Activity Info" platform.
2. One knowledge management system – Liberia Environmental Knowledge Management System (EKMS) will be used for sharing knowledge generated from the project.
3. Five resource centres to be equipped have been identified.
4. A total of 126 persons (98 men and 28 women) participated in various engagements at national (inception workshop, MEAL plan validation workshop and IFC workshop on liming) and international level (the annual global FOLUR summit held in Sao Paulo, Brazil)

Environmental and social safeguards
a) **Accountability and Grievance Redress Mechanism:** One complaint (MANO not paying the Land Development Fund (LDF) to the communities) was received and successfully resolved when MANO paid the Land Development Fund to affected communities within 60 days.
b) **Gender mainstreaming:** 1,072 (762 men and 310 women) participated in project activities, whereby 353 persons (276 men and 67 women) received benefits in form of trainings and workshops.
c) **Stakeholder engagement:** A total of 36 stakeholder engagements were held with 1,072 (762 men and 310 women) from 69 institutions representing nine stakeholder groups including government, private sector, CSOs, NGOs, media, local Communities, academia, and bilateral and multi-lateral agencies.
d) **ESS 3: Voluntary Resettlement Action Plan/Process Framework:** There was no voluntary resettlement and zero persons whose access to, and use of natural resources was voluntary restricted.
e) **ESS 6: Cultural Heritage Management Plan:** One sacred site for the "Poro Society" was identified in Jawajeh, Gbarpolu County, and Cultural Heritage Management Plan will be developed during land use planning in FY24.

Risks and challenges
- Inaccessibility of some of the project sites, untimely submission of reports from the partners, delays in nomination of project focal points by Government partners, and delays by Fauna and Flora International in signing the sub-grant agreement.

SUMMARY: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS

PROJECT PART	PRIOR (FY22) IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	CURRENT (FY23) IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING[1]	RATING TREND[2]
OBJECTIVE	N/A This is the first year of implementation therefore, there is no prior project implementation rating.	S	N/A This is the first year of implementation therefore, there is no prior project implementation rating.
COMPONENTS AND OUTCOMES	N/A	S	N/A
ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS	N/A	S	N/A

PROJECT RISK RATING[3]

RISKS	N/A This is the first year of implementation therefore, there is no prior project implementation rating.	L	N/A This is the first year of implementation therefore, there is no prior project implementation rating.

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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 project's objective.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:	To promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable food systems for enhanced livelihood opportunities in NW Liberia Landscape through land use planning, restoration of degraded lands, and strengthening governance, policies, and market incentives for nationally replicable models of deforestation-free cocoa and palm oil value chains.

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING[4]	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
a. Number of degraded hectares in the NW Liberia Landscape restored (Target: 15,000 ha)	Zero (0) ha	**IS**	The University of Liberia was selected as the preferred firm to conduct land use planning in NW Liberia landscape. They will: (a) conduct comprehensive desktop review of existing documents including relevant laws, policies, strategies, and initiatives to identify gaps in land use planning in Liberia, and review existing spatial and non-spatial data suitable for land use planning, identify the gaps, and offer alternative solutions to fill the data gaps using modeled, global, or other suitable proxy data; and (c) develop spatial layers across biophysical, social, and economic dimensions in NW Liberia Landscape to be used for land use planning for biodiversity conservation, food-security and for sustainable production of palm oil and cocoa. This should include the development of suitable land use/land cover and crop suitability maps, hydrological, and climate change modeling to assess impacts of climate change on land use, biodiversity, and ecosystem services in the Northwest Liberia landscape. In addition, the consultant will develop a set of scenarios of land-use plans/maps at the coarse national scale and comprehensive landscape scale for NW Liberia, that identify target areas for production, protection, restoration of degraded areas that are crucial for ensuring ecosystem connectivity and integrity in NW Liberia.

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[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
b. Number of hectares in the NW Liberia Landscape under sustainable land management in production systems (Target: 200,000 h	10,500 ha	IS	• Currently MANO has 10,500 ha of land under sustainable palm oil production. Additional areas for sustainable production of cocoa and palm oil will be identified during the land use planning exercise slated for FY24. To That end, a consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning after the evaluation of the seven bids that were received in respect of a request for proposals. The consultant will identify areas for production. • Conducted assessment to identify local aggregators and cooperatives in NW Liberia landscape where a total of 314 persons (182 men and 132 women) participated and six aggregators identified including Eastern Tewor Agriculture Development Association (ETADA), Hard work multipurpose agriculture cooperative, Konia cocoa farmer cooperative, Darbodakii farmer cooperative society, Guma mende farmer cooperative, and Voinjama District farmer cooperative society. Also, through these assessments, Oil palm, Cocoa, cashew, rice, peanut, and pepper were identified as the main crops needed by big companies. • US$ 6.95 million was secured by Ministry of Agriculture through the STAR-P project to increase agricultural productivity and promote commercialization of smallholder farmers through productive linkages between the farmers and the private agribusiness firms in selected value chains of Liberia including cocoa and palm oil. • ToRs were developed for a consultancy to conduct a gender-sensitive value and market assessment of selected value chains including cocoa, palm oil, vegetables, cassava, ecotourism, apiculture, and non-timber forest products as well as market assessments for selected value chains and an analysis of current market trends in terms of market demand and supply, market saturation, price-scheduling mechanisms, market determinant factors, supply chains, macro and external factors affecting value chain operation and government regulatory and control mechanisms. Also, the consultant will assess and review the supply chain management standards and certification systems/schemes for responsible palm oil and cocoa production and make recommendations for the most suitable for Liberia and identify potential incentives for responsible/sustainable palm oil and cocoa production. • A Sustainable Finance Advisor has been recruited to lead on the sustainable and innovative financing activities.
c. Number of hectares in the NW Liberia Landscape under improved management to benefit biodiversity (Target: 100,000 ha)	Zero (0 ha	IS	• A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to identify areas for restoration. • US$ 475,000 was secured from the USAID WaBiLED project.
d. Greenhouse gas emission mitigated (Target: 36,134,316 tCO2e)	Zero (0) tCO2e	NS	This is the first year of project implementation. Usually, the first year is considered as the baseline year in GHG emissions accounting.

	OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING[4]	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
e.	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (Target: 50,000 (25,500 men and 24,500 women)	A total of 1,072 (762 men and 310 women)	IS	A total of 1,072 (762 men and 310 women) have benefited from the project directly in the form of trainings, workshops, meetings etc.

OBJECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION
S	This section's rating is **Satisfactory (S)** because 75% of the indicators **are under implementation/on schedule** and **25% have not started**. In FY23, procurement of consultants to undertake to conduct land use planning activities and identify areas for production of cocoa. These activities are progressing well. Notably, the project managed to secure a total of US$ 6.95 million to increase agricultural productivity and promote commercialization of smallholder farmers through productive linkages between the farmers and the private agribusiness firms in selected value chains of Liberia including cocoa and palm oil. This amount will materialize as the project progresses.

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	Development, adoption, and implementation of National and NW Liberia Landscape land-use plans

Outcome 1.1:	Information base available to develop a coarse national land-use plan and comprehensive NW Liberia landscape land-use plan to improve land allocation and use by men and women.
Outcome 1.2:	Improved land allocation by communities (men and women), government, private sector, and civil society in NW Liberia landscape.
Outcome 1.3:	Governance of NW Liberia Landscape by men and women strengthened.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING[5]	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator 1.1: Number of comprehensive information and data sets	**Target 1.1**: One comprehensive information and data set, that incorporates gender considerations, available to stakeholders and decision-makers	Zero (0 information and data sets.	IS	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning. This was after the evaluation of seven bids that were received following a request for proposals. The Consultant will start developing a comprehensive information and data set for developing a coarse national land-use plan and comprehensive NW Liberia landscape land-use plan in FY24 Q1. In addition, MANO has already conducted a land cover change assessment on the 10,500 ha of its concession in the Bomi and Grand Cape Mount Counties. This information and data will be shared with the Land use planning consultancy firm (University of Liberia) when they commence work in FY24 Q1.
Indicator 1.2a: Number of land-use plans adopted by clans	**Target 1.2.1a:** Nine clan land-use land use plans and one coarse national land-use plan developed.	Zero (0) clan land use plans and Zero (0) coarse national land use plans.	IS	No clan land use plans have been developed. However, a consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning. This was after the evaluation of seven bids that were received following a request for proposals. The Consultant will start developing clan land use plans in FY24 Q1.
Indicator 1.2b: Ha of forest loss avoided.	**Target 1.2.1b**: 15,000 ha	Zero (0) ha	IS	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning. The Consultant will identify areas for protection and conservation through which 15,000 ha of forest loss will be avoided. In addition, CI Liberia and MANO have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for forest conservation and sustainable palm oil production using a no-deforestation policy and High-Carbon Stock (HCS) approach.
Indicator 1.2c: Number of gazettement packages developed for proposed protected areas	**Target 1.2.1c:** Gazettement package developed for one Proposed Protected Area	Zero (0) gazettement packages	NS	The development of a gazettement package for Wologizi Proposed Protected Area will start in FY24 Q1
Indicator 1.3a: Number of multistakeholder and inclusive governance mechanisms in place	**Target 1.3a**: One governance mechanism in place.	One (1) multi-stakeholder governance structure established.	IS	Anchored on the landscape forum (Northwest Liberia Landscape Oil Palm Forum) established during the Good Growth Partnership Project (GGP) funded by GEF, a multi-stakeholder governance structure – Northwest Liberia Landscape Multi-Stakeholder Platform was established. The newly established Multi-Stakeholder Platform is composed of cocoa and palm oil value chain actors in Northwest Liberia landscape. Also, a constitution for Northwest Liberia Landscape Multi-Stakeholder Platform was developed.

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[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
Indicator 1.3b: Number of supporting land-use planning, and management regulations considered by cabinet	**Target 1.3b:** Two new gender-sensitive regulations supporting sustainable land-use planning and management considered by the cabinet	Zero (0) gender sensitive regulations	**NS**	This activity will start in FY24 Q2.

COMPONENT 1 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	This section's rating is **Satisfactory (S)** because 67% of the indicators **are under implementation/on schedule** and **33% have not started**. In FY23, procurement of consultants to undertake to conduct land use planning activities. These activities will pick in the next financial year after implementation of work by consultants begin.	N/A This is the first year of implementation therefore, there is no prior project implementation rating.

COMPONENT 2:	Promotion of sustainable production practices for food crops, palm oil, and cocoa, supported by responsible value chains

Outcome 2.1:	Improved sustainable production of food and commodity crops to enhance ecological resilience of NW Liberia Landscape.
Outcome 2.2:	Strengthened policy framework for sustainable agricultural production by men and women.
Outcome 2.3:	Resources for sustainable production by men and women secured.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING[6]	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator 2.1a: Zero hectares (ha) under sustainable land management.	**Target 2.1a:** 200,000 hectares under sustainable land management.	10,500 ha	**IS**	Currently MANO has 10,500 ha of land under sustainable palm oil production. Additional areas for sustainable production of cocoa and palm oil will be identified during the land use planning exercise slated for FY24.
Indicator 2.1b: Zero hectares (ha) under improved management to benefit biodiversity.	**Target 2.1b**:100,000 ha under improved management to benefit biodiversity.	Zero (0) ha	**IS**	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning. This was after the evaluation of seven bids that were received following a request for proposals. The Consultant will identify areas for protection, conservation, and production. Besides, the development of a gazettement package for Wologizi Proposed protected Area will commence in FY24 Q1.

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[6] [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
Indicator 2.2: No regulations supporting sustainable agriculture by men and women considered by cabinet.	**Target 2.2:** Two new regulations supporting sustainable agriculture by men and women considered by cabinet.	Zero (0) regulations	**IS**	The ToRs for a consultancy to assess the existing fiscal, financial, and trade policies and other relevant legislative frameworks on sustainable agriculture have been developed. The request for proposals will be advertised in FY24 Q1.
Indicator 2.3: US$ 500,000 directed to sustainable production	**Target 2.3:** US$ 10 million directed to sustainable production	US$ 6.95 million directed to sustainable production.	**IS**	US$ 6.95 million by Ministry of Agriculture through the STAR-P project to increase agricultural productivity and promote commercialization of smallholder farmers through productive linkages between the farmers and the private agribusiness firms in selected value chains of Liberia including cocoa and palm oil.

COMPONENT 2 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	This section is rated **Highly Satisfactory** because 100% of the indicators are **under implementation/on track**. The project has developed terms of reference for consultancies to conduct assessments on existing policies on sustainable agriculture. The total land area dedicated to sustainable palm oil production in the MANO area remains at 10,500 hectares.	N/A This is the first year of implementation therefore, there is no prior project implementation rating.

COMPONENT 3	Biodiversity loss reduction and restoration of natural habitats

Outcome 3.1:	Degraded areas that are crucial for ensuring ecosystem connectivity and integrity restored in NW Liberia.
Outcome 3.2:	Improved gender-sensitive policies and incentives for innovation and scale-up of restoration of natural habitats in NW Liberia landscape and across Liberia.
Outcome 3.3:	Innovative finance promotes innovation, replication and scale-up of restoration activities by men and women.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING[7]	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator 3.1a: Zero hectares (ha) restored	**Target 3.1a**: 15,000 ha restored directly by project.	Zero (0) ha	**IS**	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning. This was after the evaluation of seven bids that were received following a request for proposals. The Consultant will commence work in FY24 Q1 where areas (15,00 ha) for restoration will be identified.

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[7] [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
Indicator 3.1b: No men and women implementing restoration.	**Target 3.1b**: 20,000 (14,000 men and 6,000 women) beneficiaries implementing restoration activities	Zero (0) beneficiaries	NS	Not started. Restoration activities are expected to start in FY24 Q4 after restoration plan has been developed by the land use planning consultant
Indicator 3.2: No draft policy documents supporting restoration by men and women considered by cabinet.	**Target 3.2:** One draft policy document supporting restoration by men and women considered by cabinet	Zero (0) draft policy documents	NS	Not started. This activity will start in FY25 Q1.
Indicator 3.3: US$ 500,000 directed to support restoration by men and women.	**Target 3.3:** US$ 5 million directed to support restoration.	US$ 475,000 US$	IS	US$ 475,000 was secured by partners including SCNL and RSPB from USAID West Africa Biodiversity and Low Emissions Development (WABiLED) Program

COMPONENT 3 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	This section's rating is **Satisfactory (S)** because 50% of the indicators **are under implementation/on schedule** and **50% have not started**. In FY23, procurement of consultants to undertake to conduct land use planning activities. These activities will pick in the next financial year after the implementation of work by consultants begins. $475,000 was secured from partners to support restoration, achieving the fiscal year target.	N/A This is the first year of implementation therefore, there is no prior project implementation rating.

COMPONENT 4	Coordination, collaboration and Monitoring and Evaluation

Outcome 4.1:	**Outcome 4.1:** Improved project delivery and monitoring and evaluation.
Outcome 4.2:	**Outcome 4.2:** Enhanced strategic knowledge management of the project by men and women.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING[8]	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator 4.1: No satisfactory Project progress reports	**Target 4.1:** 15 satisfactory quarterly	Four (04) quarterly reports	IS	Four (4) technical and financial quarterly progress reports were developed and shared with key stakeholders, and CI-GEF.

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[8] [8] **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[8]	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
	Project progress reports produced.			
Indicator 4.2a: No integrated and gender-sensitive knowledge management system in place.	**Target 4.2a:** Five community resource centers are equipped, and one online knowledge management system established.	• Zero (0) community resource centers equipped • One (01) knowledge management system established.	IS	Ten (10) community resource centers in the NW Liberia Landscape were assessed including Lofa County Community College, Lofa County Resource Hub, and Soil Science Lab in Lofa County; Bopolu Community High School, and Gbarpolu Resource Hub in Gbarpolu County: Bomi County Community College, and Forest Training Institute (FTI) in Bomi County; and Sinje Technical and Vocational College, St. John Episcopal High School, and Robertsport High School in Cape Mount County. As a result, five resource centers were selected and will be equipped including Bomi Community College in Bomi County; Lofa Community college in Lofa County, Bopolu Community College in Gbarpolu County; and Straz-Sinje Technical and Vocational College in Grand Cape Mount County.
Indicator 4.2b: No knowledge-sharing events attended	**Target 4.2b:** 15 Knowledge-sharing events attended by men and women.	Four (04) events	IS	One international and three national engagements were held. At the national level, the three engagements included: the project inception workshop, MEAL plan validation workshop, and IFC webinar on agricultural liming. While one international engagement – the annual global FOLUR summit was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil

c. Overall Project Results Rating

OVERALL PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION RATING

OVERALL RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND[9]
S	This section is rated **Satisfactory** because 100% of the indicators are **under implementation/on track**. In FY23, ten community resource centers were assessed for integrated and gender-sensitive knowledge management system. One international and three national engagements were held.	N/A.

d. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
None	N/A	N/A

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[9] **Rating trend**: Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

SECTION III: PROJECT RISKS STATUS AND RATING

a. Progress towards Implementing the Project Risk Mitigation Plan

This section describes the activities implemented to manage and reduce high, substantial, modest, and low risks of the project. This section has three parts:
a. Ratings for the progress towards implementing measures to mitigate project risks and a project risk 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[10]	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND[11]
Risk 1: Climate change may negatively impact agricultural productivity, particularly through changes in local rainfall patterns.	Explicitly include climate change considerations in land-use planning processes and deploy climate smart agriculture practices designed to enhance resilience against climate change.	Include climate change considerations in land use planning processes and deploy climate-smart agriculture practices designed to enhance resilience against climate change.	IS	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning. This was after the evaluation of seven bids that were received following a request for proposals. The Consultant will conduct climate scenario modelling which will inform the identification of suitable sites for conservation, protection, restoration, and production.	H	H	Unchanged
		Careful selection of the project sites and conduct vulnerability assessment of project sites.					
Risk 2: Effects of the Corona Virus (COVID-19)	Regularly revisit workplan to apply adaptive management, including anticipation of different COVID-19 scenarios and appropriate sequencing of activities to permit continued progress.	Realign the Budget and workplan as needed (regularly revisit workplan to apply adaptive management, including anticipation of different COVID-19 scenarios and appropriate sequencing of activities to permit continued progress)	IS	Liberia has been declared COVID-19 free. Nonetheless the project team still emphasizes hand sanitizing and/hand washing and good hygiene in all engagements.	M	L	Decreased

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

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

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING[10]	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND[11]
	Comply with Ministry of Health and World Health Organization guidelines.	Comply with Ministry of Health and World Health Organization guidelines.					
Risk 3: Social conflict: Pressing needs and high expectations result in social conflict that undermines collaborative, participatory approaches.	Rights-based Approach and best practices in community engagement, building on wealth of experience of local and international NGO partners active in the project area	Rights-based Approach and best practices in community engagement, building on the wealth of experience of local and international NGO partners active in the project area	IS	• Rights-based approach training was conducted where 100 people (75 men and 25 women) attended. • 36 engagements were held where, a total of 1,072 (762 men and 310 women) participated. Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) principles were adhered to. As such, the project team ensured that prior information (two weeks' notice) was provided to participants, and views of all participants including the youth, women and elderly were respected. • The project is executing the project with organization such as RSPB, and SCNL that have brought on the table their experience of engaging local communities and partners in the landscape	L	L	Unchanged
Risk 4: Information base unavailable to develop a coarse national land use plan and comprehensive NW Liberia landscape land use plan to improve land allocation and use because: (a) agencies and other organizations	Multi-stakeholder, collaborative approach to project planning and execution Invest in critical data collection, and prioritize planning techniques that are robust against data deficiencies	Multi-stakeholder, collaborative approach to project planning and execution	IS	The project collaborated with a total of 1,072 (762 men and 310 women) stakeholders from 87 institutions including government, private sector, CSO/NGOs, media, local Communities, bilateral and multi-lateral agencies as indicated below. • Government: 13	L	L	Unchanged

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reluctant to share data and information; and (b) available data is of inadequate quality for land use planning.				• Private Sector: 16 • CSO: 18 • Media 7 • NGO: 6 • Academia: 8 • Local Communities: 18 • Bilateral and Multi-lateral Agencies: 1			
	Invest in critical data collection and prioritize planning techniques that are robust against data deficiencies.	Invest in critical data collection and prioritize planning techniques that are robust against data deficiencies.	NS	Not started. This activity will start in FY24 Q1. However, some assessments on identifying local aggregators, a governance structures, and resource centers were conducted.	L	L	Unchanged
Risk 5: Key stakeholders uninterested in participating in land-use planning/there may not be interest from local communities to engage in Conservation Agreements	Stakeholder engagement to emphasize benefits from voluntary participation.	Stakeholder engagement to emphasize benefits from voluntary participation/Regular community engagements (meeting and workshop) with local people in NW Liberia landscape.	IS	A total of 36 stakeholder engagements were held conducted where a total 1,072 (762 men and 310 women) participated.	M	L	Changed
Risk 6: Stakeholders do not abide by the land-use management plan	Policy works to mandate land use planning and formalize the status of land use plans; link livelihood investments and incentives to LUP compliance	Policy works to mandate land use planning and formalize the status of land use plans; link livelihood investments and incentives to LUP compliance	IS	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning. This was after the evaluation of seven bids that were received following a request for proposals. The Consultant will review all the existing relevant laws, policies and strategies on land use planning and come up with recommendations. Government institutions like the EPA and the	M	M	Unchanged

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				Liberia Land Authority participated in the review of the Landuse Planning Consultancy RfP and the Evaluation of the proposal.			
Risk 7: Key agencies do not participate in the governance structure.	Policy work to mandate land-use planning and formalize status of land use plans	Constitute the project steering committee to include key government stakeholders in the sector.	CA	A total of 13 government institutions constitutes the Project Steering Committee PSC which include the EPA, MOA, FDA, LISGIS, LLA, LACRA, MoFDP, MME, MIA, NBC, LACRA, MoGCSP, and the University of Liberia 10 government institutions are part of the PSC. These include EPA, MoA, FDA, LLA, LISGIS, LACRA, MoFDP, MME, MoGCSP, and the University of Liberia.	L	L	**Unchanged**
		Constitute the technical steering committee to include key government stakeholders in the sector	CA	The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC was established and operationalized. The TAC comprises of 14 members (11 men and 2 women) from the EPA, MoA, FDA, LLA, LISGIS, CI, Mano, FFI, SCNL and RSPB.			
		Regular engagement with the NW Liberia landscape oil palm forum.	IS	NW Multi-Stakeholder Platform was established where the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and Forestry Development Authority (FDA) serve as chair and co-chair respectively.			
Risk 8: Governance structure languishes after the project concludes**.**	Incorporate landscape governance into EPA and county administration responsibilities	Incorporate landscape governance into EPA and county administration responsibilities.	IS	The ToRs and constitution of the multi-stakeholder governance structure is currently being reviewed to ensure that all requisite government entities and County authorities are included.	M	M	**Unchanged**

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				The EPA has been participating in the constitution review for the establishment of the NW Liberia Landscape multistakeholder platform.			
Risk 9: Enterprise development might have limited success and adoption from local communities	New risk (this was not initially included in the ProDoc)	Establish and/or strengthen cooperatives in the NW landscape	IS	Six cooperatives were identified and assessed – two Oil palm cooperatives and four cocoa cooperatives. These cooperatives will be strengthened based on the gaps that were identified.	M	M	Unchanged
Risk 10: Risk of Conflict in Liberia due to the elections process	New risk (this was not initially included in the ProDoc)	Keep track of activities leading to general and presidential elections in Liberia	IS	The registration process has ended successfully in all the counties. In addition, the National Elections Commission of Liberia and other development partners in the country have created more awareness of election violence. Candidate nomination is ongoing and will end on the 14th of July 2023.	M	M	Unchanged
Risk 11: Farmers do not adopt sustainable practices.	Project activities relating to training and awareness and to incentives for sustainable production	Conduct project activities related to training and awareness, and to incentives for sustainable production.	IS	The project team has conducted assessment of aggregators in the landscape for sustainable production. Identification of six cooperatives, local aggregators, and smallholder farmers in NW Liberia Landscape was conducted in the cocoa and oil palm sectors in the NW Liberia Landscape. Training of the cooperatives of climate-smart agriculture will start in FY24Q1.	L	L	Unchanged
Risk 12. GOL does not take up proposed regulations.	Stakeholder engagement to include key decision-makers,	Stakeholder engagement to include key decision-makers,	IS	The project team engaged key decision makers in 13 strategic government institutions including:	L	L	Unchanged

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	dissemination of positive project impacts	dissemination of positive project impacts.		Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME); Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Liberia Institute of Geo-Information Services (LISGIS); Ministry of Agriculture (MoA); Forestry Development Agency (FDA); Liberia Land Authority (LLA); Ministry of Internal Affair (MIA), Cooperative Development Agency (CDA); National Bureau of Concessions (NBC); Liberia Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority (LACRA); Ministry of Gender, Children & Social Protection (MoGCSP); and Ministry of Justice			
Risk 13: Limited donor/investor appetite	Develop a strong business case for sustainable production in NW Liberia Landscape.	Develop a strong business case for sustainable production in NW Liberia Landscape	IS	Developed RfP for assessing the potential incentives for responsible palm oil and cocoa supply chains. The RfP for the Value Chain was advertised, and nine proposals were received. Evaluation of the proposal is ongoing.	L	L	Unchanged
Risk 14: No or insufficient price premium for sustainable production	Bundle sustainability premium with other performance-based incentives (i.e., PES)	Bundle sustainability premium with other performance-based incentives (i.e., PES).	IS	Sustainable Finance Advisor has been recruited to lead this activity	L	L	Unchanged
Risk 15: Communities do not see restoration as a priority.	Training, awareness, and incentives built into project design.	Training, awareness, and incentives built into project design.	IS	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning. This was after the evaluation of seven bids that were received following a request for proposals. The Consultant will commence work in FY24 Q1 where areas (15,00 ha)	L	L	Unchanged

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				for restoration will be identified together with the local communities.			
Risk 16: Implementation capacity is inadequate. The project requires a range of skills and capacities on the part of the government and other implementing partners, such as: • Technical expertise • Data collection - Sustainable finance design • Community engagement	Build in extensive training opportunities and design implementation processes such that they contribute to capacity building.	Build in extensive training opportunities and design implementation processes such that they contribute to capacity building.	**IS**	Capacity and needs assessments for cooperatives, local aggregators, smallholder farmers, and resource centers were conducted. Also, a draft capacity-building training manual on sustainable production has been developed and is undergoing review.	**L**	**L**	Unchanged
	Design implementation processes such that they contribute to capacity-building	Design implementation processes such that they contribute to capacity-building	**IS**	The draft capacity building plan on Climate- Smart agriculture has been developed	**M**	**L**	Changed
	Rely on local partners to ensure cost-effectiveness.	Rely on local partners to ensure cost-effectiveness.	**IS**	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between CI and MANO to support community adoption of sustainable palm oil production in areas identified through land-use planning at community and landscape levels	**M**	**L**	Changed
Risk 17: Potential capacity gaps plus project budget constraints result in a medium level of risk with respect to project delivery**.**	Align with complementary programs to design mutually reinforcing investments (e.g., LFSP, WA-BiCC)	Align with complementary programs to design mutually reinforcing investments (e.g., LFSP, WA-BiCC	**IS**	US$ 6.95 million by Ministry of Agriculture through the STAR-P project to increase agricultural productivity and promote commercialization of smallholder farmers through productive linkages between the farmers and the private agribusiness firms in selected value chains of Liberia including cocoa and palm oil. Also, US$ 475,000 was secured from USAID WaBiLED project by SCNL and RSPB for forest monitoring.	**M**	**L**	Changed

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Risk 18: Demands of field implementation prevent consistent documentation of lessons learned for dissemination.	Assign clear roles and responsibilities within a documentation plan	Assign clear roles and responsibilities within a documentation plan.	IS	The MEAL plan has highlighted responsible parties for the data collection on the implementation of key activities. Also, the MEAL plan will capture challenges and lessons learned from implementation of project activities.	M	M	Unchanged

OVERALL RATING OF PROJECT RISKS	JUSTIFICATION	RISK RATING TREND[12]
Low	The Risk Rating for FY23 is **Low.** At CEO-Endorsement, 48% of the risks were rated Low, 48% were rated moderate and 5% were rated high in FY23, whereas in FY23, 71% of the risks are Low, 24% were rated moderate and 5% are rated High. In comparison to CEO-Endorsement, FY23 has registered a 23% increase in the number of risks rated Low which is good progress. In addition, 5% of the risks were rated High which has not changed since CEO-Endorsement. The overall risk rating in FY23 is Low, although climate change variability is a risk with a high rating, especially the possible negative impact on agricultural productivity, the project has made progress in recruiting a consultant to conduct climate scenario modelling which will inform the identification of suitable sites for conservation, protection, restoration, and production. Therefore, the risk remains low.	**Decreasing**

Recommendations

MITIGATION AND CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
1. While the recruitment of a consultant for climate scenario modelling is a positive step, the project could benefit from exploring additional adaptation strategies. This might involve collaborating with experts in sustainable agriculture practices, water resource management, and other relevant fields to develop comprehensive plans that address the multi-faceted challenges posed by climate change. This approach can further strengthen the project's resilience against climate-related risks and ensure sustained success in the face of changing environmental conditions.	CI-Liberia/CI-GEF	**3Oth June 2024**

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

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

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

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

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

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

d. Lessons learned and Knowledge Management products developed and disseminated.

e. Overall Project ESMF Implementation Rating

f. Recommendations

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

MINIMUM ESMF INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR STATUS	CUMULATIVE STATUS	PROGRESS RATING[13]	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
ACCOUNTABILITY AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM					
1. Number of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	*50*	One (01)	One (01)	**IS**	One complaint from Garwula District was received about MANO not paying the Land Development Fund (LDF) to the communities since 2019.
2. Percentage of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism that have been resolved.	*100%*	100%	100%	**IS**	The one (100%) complaint that was forwarded to the landscape forum that reached out to MANO. As a result, , MANO paid the Land Development Fund to affected communities in Lower Garwula District in Grand Cape Mount County.
3. Number of grievances not resolved within the mandatory timeframe of 60 days (and reasons as to why they grievance was not resolved in time)	*10*	Zero (0)	Zero (0)	**IS**	The only complaint received was resolved within 60 days.
GENDER MAINSTREAMING					
1. Number of men and women that participated in project activities (e.g.,	*Target: 120,000 (Women: 40,000 (33%) & Men: 80,000 (67%)*	Men Women 762 310	Men Women 762 310	**IS**	These participants were from the local communities, CSOs/NGOs, government, private sector, academia, academia,

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	meetings, workshops, consultation)					media, and bilateral and multi-lateral agencies
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.	*Target: 50,000 (Women: 24,500 (49%) & Men: 25,500 (51%)*	Men Women 276 67	Men Women 276 67	**IS**	The benefits received were in the form of trainings and workshops.
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)	*Target: 19 (breakdown given below)* • *1 MEAL plan* • *1 coarse national land use plan* • *1 detailed NW Liberia Landscape use plan* • *9 clan land use plans* • *2 regulations for improving the integrated landscape. Management* • *1 policy for sustainable agricultural production* • *1 policy for performance payments/payment for ecosystem services* • *3 Conservation Agreements signed with the clans.* • *Communication strategy and action plan*	One (01) – MEAL plan	One (01) – MEAL plan	**IS**	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) plan has been developed which contains Draft M&E plan and documents including the M&E plan structure, Performance Management Plan (PMP), Indicator Performance Tracking Table (IPTT), Communication Plan, and Summary Evaluation Table have been finalized
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.	**Target:** *9 stakeholder groups (local communities, government, NGOs, CSO, Academia, private sector, NGOs, media, and bilateral/multi-lateral organizations*	Nine (09) stakeholder groups	Nine (09) stakeholder groups.	**IS**	To date, a total of nine stakeholder groups have been involved in the project, including government, private sector, CSOs, NGOs, media, local Communities, academia, and bilateral and multi-lateral agencies. As such, a total of 87 institutions were involved in implementation of activities as indicated below. • Government: 13 • Private Sector: 16 • CSO: 18 • Media 7 • NGO: 6 • Academia: 8 • Local Communities: 18 • Bilateral and Multi-lateral Agencies: 1
2. Number persons (sex disaggregated) that have been involved in project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	**Target:** *120,000 (Women: 40,000 (33%) & Men: 80,000 (67%)*	Men Women 762 310	Men Women 762 310	**IS**	Sex-disaggregated data was collected for all people who participated in project activities.
3. Number of engagement (e.g., meeting, workshops, consultations) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	**Target:** *179 meetings and workshops*	36 engagements	36 engagements.	**IS**	A total of 36 stakeholder engagements were held including meetings, workshops, trainings, assessments, surveys, etc.
ESS 3: Resettlement and Physical and Economic Displacement					
1. Number of persons involved in voluntary resettlement.	**Target:** *No target at CEO Endorsement*	Zero (0) persons	Zero (0) persons	**IS**	There was no voluntary resettlement.
2. Number of persons compensated for voluntary resettlement.	**Target:** *No target at CEO Endorsement.*	Zero (0) persons	Zero (0) persons	**IS**	There was no voluntary resettlement.

3. Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been voluntary restricted.	*Target*: *No target at CEO Endorsement*	Zero (0) persons	Zero (0) persons	**IS**	No persons whose access to and use of natural resources was voluntary restricted.
4. Percentage of persons who gave their consent for voluntary restrictions	*Target: No target at CEO Endorsement*	0%	0%	**IS**	No persons whose access to and use of natural resources was voluntary restricted.
5. Percentage of persons who have received compensation for voluntary restrictions.	*Target: No target at CEO Endorsement*	0%	0%	**IS**	There were no voluntary restrictions
ESS 6: Cultural Heritage					
1. Number of physical cultural resources found in the project area	*No target at CEO Endorsement*	One (01) sacred site was identified in	One (01) sacred site was identified in	**IS**	One (01) sacred site for the "Poro Society" was identified in Jawajeh, Gbarpolu County. The Cultural Heritage Management Plan will be developed during land use planning activities when all cultural sites will be identified in FY24

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

A total of 36 engagements were held with a total 1,072 persons (762 men and 310 women) from 87 institutions drawn from nine stakeholder groups including government, private sector, CSOs, NGOs, media, academia, local communities, bilateral and multi-lateral agencies as indicated below.

 i. **13 Government institutions** including Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME); Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Liberia Institute of Geo-Information Services (LISGIS); Ministry of Agriculture (MoA); Forestry Development Agency (FDA); Liberia Land Authority (LLA); Ministry of Internal Affair (MIA), Cooperative Development Agency (CDA); National Bureau of Concessions (NBC); Liberia Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority (LACRA); Ministry of Gender, Children & Social Protection (MoGCSP), and Ministry of Justice.

 Engagement of government institutions was via 10 focus group discussions on socializing the project with the relevant government entities, review of work plans and budgets, consultancy terms of reference and bid evaluations; one project steering committee meeting; five workshops – four project inception workshops (one at the national level and three at the County level) and MEAL plan validation; Four surveys on assessment of local aggregators, identification and assessment of resource centers in the landscape, assessment of existing governance structures, and M&E survey on the first year performance of the FOLUR project; one webinar by IFC on agriculture liming; one training on CI-GEF prohibited practices ; and 82 emails for invitations to meetings, consultations, project updates, and co-financing.

 ii. **18 Local Communities** including Passawe, Fahnbulleh, Zuie, Normor, Jawajeh, Zayeama, Bondi, Lower Gumah, Tewor Fahnbulleh, Tienni, Senje, Tubmanburg, and Bopolu, Seimavulla, Sokpo and Zodua.

 In engaging local communities, 16 focus group discussions were held on identifying local aggregators, resource centers, oil palm and cocoa farmers, and existing governance structures; 8 face-face meetings to raise awareness about the project and develop a constitution for the multi-stakeholder platform; 25 emails were sent

to the leadership of the stakeholder platform; one survey conducted to assess the performance of FOLUR project; one training on safeguards was conducted in the landscape; and four project inception workshops (one at the national level and three at the County level).

iii. **Six (06) NGOs** including Fauna and Flora International (FFI); Society for the Conservation of Nature Liberia (SCNL); International Trade Initiative (IDH); Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB); Conservation International, and Mano River Transboundary

The NGOs were engaged through five workshops – four project inception workshops (one at the national level and three at the County level) and MEAL plan validation; one webinar on agricultural liming by IFC; M&E survey on the first-year performance of the FOLUR project; one training on CI-GEF prohibited practices; assessment of existing governance structures; and 63 emails for invitations to meetings, consultations, follow-ups, project updates, and co-financing..

iv. **18 CSOs** including Zodua Land Management Committee (ZLMC) (Liberia National Student Union (LINSU) Federation of Liberia Youth (FLY), Cape Mount CSO, Youth Climate Change Initiative- Liberia (YCCI-Liberia), Liberia Forest Media Watch (LFMW), Skills and Agricultural Advisory Services (SADS), Golden Waste Solutions Enterprise Incorporated (GWSEI), Green Gold Liberia (GGL), Northwest Oil Palm Forum (NWOPLF) and Consortium of Environmental and Climate Change Agents (CECCA), Gbarpolu CSO; Bomi CSO; Western Region Women Network Association (WRWNA); Senjah Action for Peace Advocacy and Development (SAPAD); and Garwula District Land Dispute Committee (GDLDC), Zorzor Civil Society Association and Voinjama CSO.

The CSOs were engaged via five workshops – four project inception workshops (one at the national level and three at the County level) and MEAL plan validation; one webinar on agricultural liming by IFC; M&E survey on the first-year performance of the FOLUR project; one training on CI-GEF prohibited practices; 10 face-face meetings to raise awareness about the project and develop a constitution for the multi-stakeholder platform; and one survey on identifying local aggregators and oil palm and cocoa farmers in the landscape.

v. **Eight (08) academic institutions** including African Episcopal Methodist University (AMEU); University of Liberia (UL); Stella Maris Polytechnic University; and United Methodist University (UMU) Bomi County Community College, Lofa County University College, Forest Training Institute (FTI), Sinje Technical and Vocational College.

The academia was engaged through nine face-to-face meetings on the assessment of the resource centers in the project landscape; three focus group discussions on the MEAL plan; two workshops – project inception and MEAL plan validation; one M&E survey on the first-year performance of the FOLUR project; one webinar on agricultural liming by IFC; 25 emails for invitations to meetings, consultations, and project updates.

vi. **Seven (07) media organizations** including Voice of Liberia, Capital FM, Freedom FM, Independent FM, Red Power FM, Germeni TV, and Frontpage Africa. These were engaged five workshops – four project inception workshops (one at the national level and three at the County level); two talk shows on raising awareness about the FOLUR project; advertisement for two requests for proposals for consultants to conduct land use planning, and gender sensitive assessment of value chains and market dynamics; and 10 phone calls for invitations to meetings and consultations.

vii. **16 private sector entities** including The Association of Liberia Oil Palm Farmers' Incorporated (TALOPFI), Mano Palm Oil Plantations (MPOP), Liberia Rural Women for Climate Action (LRWOFCA); Liberia Investment Trust (LIT); Gehn- Ecoservices; Liberia Vegetable Sellers Association (LVSA), and Women Entrepreneur and Environmental Link (WEEL), Vainga Agriculture Development and Management Consultancy (VADEMCO), Young Men Christian Association (YMCA), Lady of Faith, Diompiccor farmer Association, Konia Cocoa Farmer, Darbodakii Farmer Cooperative Society, Guma Mende Farmer Cooperative, Voinjama District Farmer and Ecofarm.

The private sector was engaged through eight face-to-face meetings on the role of the private sector in the project, development and signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between CI Liberia and Mano Oil Palm Plantations, raise awareness about the project, and develop a constitution for the multi-stakeholder platform; one survey on identifying local aggregators and oil palm and cocoa farmers in the landscape; one M&E survey on the first-year performance of the FOLUR project; two workshops – inception workshop, and MEAL plan validation; 21 emails for invitations to meetings, consultations, follow-ups, project updates, and co-financing.

viii. **One (01) bilateral and multi-lateral agency –** European Union. This was engaged via inception workshop, and five emails on for invitations to meetings, consultations, and project updates.

ix. **One (01) multi-lateral agency** – European Union. This was engaged via inception workshop, and five emails on for invitations to meetings, consultations, and project updates.

The following were the challenges faced in engaging stakeholders.

i. The low participation of women in project activities due to cultural norms where women are not allowed to talk to strangers during initial engagements. However, the team discussed the importance of women participation in the project and the cultural leaders agreed to include women in the subsequent engagements.

ii. Big expectations placed on the project by local communities made the team devote much time and effort to managing these expectations and providing clarity on the focus of the project.

iii. Inaccessibility of some project sites such as Laar and Jawajeh due to poor road conditions. The team replaced these sites with Zodua and Bondi Madingo

iv. Delays by stakeholders in responding to emails. To address this, the team made follow-up calls with the stakeholders to confirm receipt of the email and get any feedback needed.

v. Delays in the nomination of project focal point persons by government partners. To address this, the team raised this issue at the PSC meeting where an action point was made to ensure that all affected government institutions nominate focal point persons by the first week of FY24 Q1.

vi. Delay by FFI in signing the sub-grant agreement. To address this, several email exchanges were made and FFI indicated that they will sign the sub-grant agreement during the first week of FY24 Q1.

vii. Untimely submission of reports by partners despite clear timelines set. This is being addressed by having frequent follow-ups and reminders to the contact persons of the partner institutions.

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

Throughout implementation of project activities in FY23, sex-disaggregated data was collected. To that end, 1,072 persons (762 or 71% men and 310 or 29% women) participated in various project activities, out of which 353 persons (276 men and 67 women) directly benefitted from the project in form of trainings and workshops. In the Multi-stakeholder landscape platform, women occupy 2 (40%) out of 5 leadership positions, while at the Project Steering Committee (PSC) level, only 3 (20%) out of the 15 positions, are held by women.

From above, the main challenges in the implementation of gender mainstreaming activities included low number of women participating and holding leadership positions due to cultural norms. To address this, the team raised awareness and made deliberate efforts for women to participate in all local community meetings by ensuring that Chair ladies in all communities participated in project activities and holding separate meetings for men and women. In addition,) change agents/champions in the local communities were identified and trained on safeguards including on gender equality, sexual and gender-based violence, accountability, and grievance redress mechanism.

For FY24, the following **recommendations** are proposed.

i. Conducting routine awareness campaigns on importance of gender mainstreaming in all project activities.

ii. Conducting quarterly refresher trainings for the community change agents/champions

iii. Conduct bi-annual refresher training for all FOLUR project staff.

iv. Making deliberate efforts for women to participate in project activities including holding separate meetings with men and women in a culturally sensitive manner.

v. Establishing partnerships with organizations focused on women empowerment.

vi. Printing and distributing in the local communities, the flyers for SGBV referral pathways.

vii. Developing gender-sensitive ToRs for all consultancies.

viii. Follow up with the PSC to ensure that female alternates are nominated to the PSC.

ix.	Hold bespoke meetings and training of cultural leaders on safeguards.

d. Lessons learned and Knowledge Management products[14] developed and disseminated.

The key lesson learned in implementing safeguards is that in a culturally sensitive local communities, gender mainstreaming is not something that can be planned once and for all, but rather, it is dependent on the context and addressing many other factors that mutually influence the empowerment, which requires time and commitment. While on stakeholder engagement, it is crucial to incorporate management of expectations in all engagement meetings with local communities to ensure the focus of the project. Due to poverty, local communities see NGOs as solutions to all their problems, thus, they will want all their problems to be solved at once. Therefore, to maintain the focus of the project, constant engagement, and reminder on the focus of the project is critical. In addition, when engaging stakeholders via emails, it is crucial to always make follow-up calls to confirm receipt of the emails and get feedback from stakeholders.

The following safeguard knowledge products were produced.
- Draft training manual for GBV
- SGBV referral pathways flyers distributed to 26 (20 women and 6 men community change agents/champions
- Accountability and grievance redress mechanism leaflets that were distributed to all participants in meetings.
- Three gender sensitive ToRs were published online and print media.

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 FY23 IMPLEMENTATION RATING	RATING TREND
Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	HS	Not applicable
Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP)	S	Not applicable
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	S	Not applicable
ESS 3: Voluntary Resettlement Action Plan/Process Framework	S	Not applicable
ESS 6: Cultural Heritage Management Plan	S	Not applicable

OVERALL PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING

RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	On the AGM the project received one ineligible grievance during this FY and redirected it to one of the project's co-financing institutions, even when it was out of the project's scope. This resulted in the resolution of the grievance by the co-financing institution. The project has invested efforts in disseminating the AGM among all stakeholders. On the GMP, the project is close	Not applicable

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[14] 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.

| | to achieve the sex-disaggregated percentage target, but women's participation is still lower than the target. The project is investing its efforts in working to sensitize men who are religious and traditional leaders, on the importance of women participating in the project. On the third indicator of the GMP, the project reported 1 plan incorporating gender considerations. On the SEP, the project already achieved one of the targets in its first year of implementation. The project will need to accelerate the current pace to be able to achieve the other two SEP targets. For ESS3, during the first year it is more focused on assessing the biological and socioeconomic conditions, therefore, no restrictions on the use of natural resources have taken place this FY. A cultural heritage site was identified in one of the areas prioritized by the project. After the identification, the project is preparing an assessment and will include cultural heritage planning in its land use planning activities. | |

f. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
The project team needs to continue socializing and disseminating their AGM among all stakeholders, as the number of persons and communities which the project engages continues to increase in the coming year.	PMU	June 2024
The project's safeguards lead to monitor that the identified cultural heritage site is assessed and that the management plan that will be part of the land use planning activity, guarantees that there are no restrictions in the use of the site for traditional communities.	PMU	June 2024
Now that the first round of capacity building on GBV took place, it is important that the project continues to support and keep communication channels open with community GBV change agents, so that momentum is not lost.	PMU	June 2024

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

REQUIRED TOPICS

1. **KNOWLEDGE ACTIVITIES/PRODUCTS:**
The following five knowledge products were developed.

a) **Accountability Grievance Redress Mechanism (AGRM) brochures:** The team produced accountability and grievance redress mechanism brochures/leaflets of the to address the concerns of the FOLUR project affected communities and fostering good cooperation with project stakeholders as well as ensure effective delivery of FOLUR project. The accountability and grievance redress mechanism was disclosed in all engagements held including through two local radio stations, Radio Bomi, and Radio Cape Mount. The AGRM leaflet/brochure is attached below.

FOLUR project
Grievance Redress Me

b) **FOLUR project brochures and fact sheet:** The team produced brochures and fact sheets about the FOLUR project to create awareness about the project. To that end, these brochures and leaflets were shared with stakeholders during the inception workshops and meetings.

FOLUR Factsheet   Copy of FOLUR
pdf.pdf   Project Brochure_.pdf

c) **Agricultural liming manual:** In collaboration with IFC, a manual for liming was produced. See attached below the manual.

Liming manual.pdf

d) **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).** The MoU was signed between CI Liberia and Mano to promote sustainable palm oil production.

MoU_CI_
MANO.pdf

e) **Draft constitution for the Multi-stakeholder Platform**

Draft Constitution
of the Landscape Fo

Additional topics

2. **Implementation of safeguard policies, including gender mainstreaming, accountability and grievance mechanisms, stakeholder consultations**

Implementation of safeguard policies, including gender mainstreaming, accountability and grievance mechanisms, and stakeholder consultations are critical to project implementation and delivery. To that end, the project implemented safeguards on gender mainstreaming, accountability and grievance redress mechanism and stakeholder consultations. As such, the project held 36 engagements with stakeholders from government, private sector, CSO/NGOs, media, local communities, bilateral and multi-lateral agencies, and academia, successfully resolved one complain that was received, and a total of 1,072 (762 or 72% men and 310 or 28% women) participated in various project activities. The low female participation is due to cultural norms where women are not allowed to talk to strangers during initial engagements. However, the team discussed the importance of women participation in the project and the cultural leaders agreed to include women in the subsequent engagements.

Against that background, the key lesson learned in implementing safeguards specifically gender mainstreaming is that in a culturally and socially sensitive landscape, gender mainstreaming is not something that can be planned once and for all, but rather, it is dependent on the context and addressing many other factors that mutually influence the empowerment, which requires time and commitment.

On engaging local communities, it is crucial to incorporate management of expectations in all engagement meetings to ensure the focus of the project. Due to poverty, local communities see NGOs as solutions to all their problems, thus, they will want all their problems to be solved at once. Therefore, to maintain the focus of the project, constant engagement, and Reminders on the focus of the project are critical.

3. **Engagement of the Private Sector**

The project engaged 14 private sector entities in the landscape including:

i. Mano Palm Oil Plantations (MPOP)
ii. The Association of Liberia Oil Palm Farmers' Incorporated (TALOPFI)
iii. Liberia Rural Women for Climate Action (LRWOFCA)
iv. Liberia Investment Trust (LIT)
v. Gehn- Ecoservices, Liberia Vegetable Sellers Association (LVSA)
vi. Women Entrepreneur and Environmental Link (WEEL).
vii. Vainga Agriculture Development and Management Consultancy (VADEMCO),
viii. Young Man Christian Association (YMCA),
ix. Lady of Faith
x. Diompiccor farmer Association
xi. Konia Cocoa Farmer
xii. Darbodakii Farmer Cooperative Society
xiii. Guma Mende Farmer Cooperative
xiv. Voinjama District Farmer

Key lessons learned in engaging these private sector entities are:

- Having a focal person in the private sector entity makes it easy to engage the private sector. The project team established a contact person in each of the private sector entities that eased communication.
- Also, co-creation processes help build trust with partners and engage more openly and freely. For instance, the MoU between Mano Palm Oil Plantations (MPOP) and CI Liberia was co-created by the two entities.

- Engaging privates sector requires time and commitment. This is because building trust usually takes time which requires frequent engagement. As such, engaging private sector partners should be seen as a relationship and not a contract.

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										
CLASSIFICATION	CEO endorsement	CEO endorsement	CEO endorsement	New site	CEO endorsement	New site	CEO endorsement	CEO endorsement	CEO endorsement	CEO endorsement
Note: Provide justification if the location is a new site in this line										
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.	9891028	9891029	9891140	9891033	9891187	9891150	9891186		9891152	9891022
LOCATION NAME *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*	**Passawe**	**Fahnbulleh**	**Zuie**	**Zodua**	**Zeayeama**	**Bondi Mandingo**	**Bondi**	**Mano concession**	**Lower Guma**	**Sokpo**

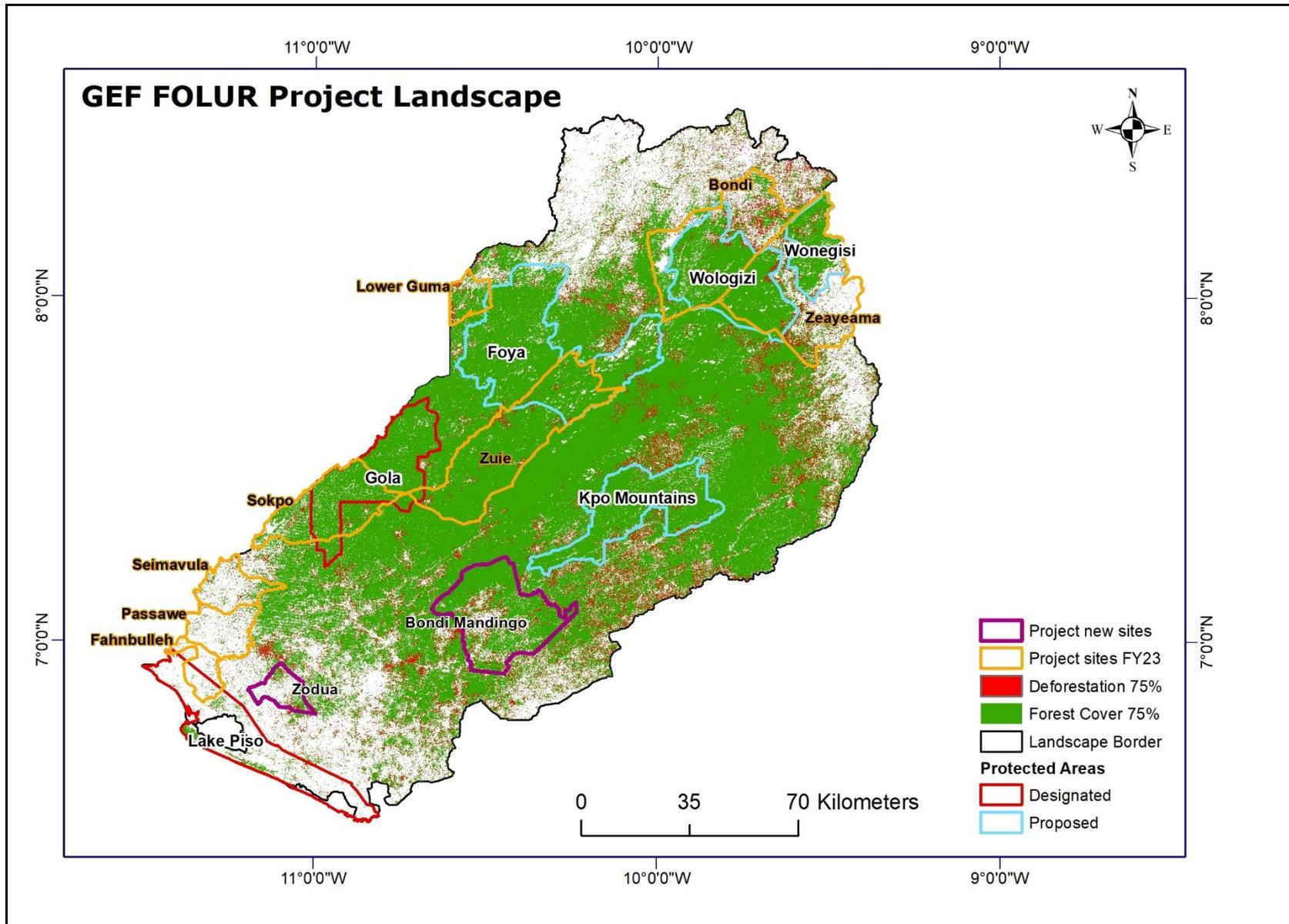|										
will be considered as an exact location.										
LATITUDE *Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.*	7.03222	6.92023	7.59819	6.85802	8.05312	7.08406	8.17544	6°40' 0''N 7°20' 0''N	8.00995	7.39483
LONGITUDE *Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.*	-11.27405	-11.32204	-10.42087	-11.09215	-9.59637	-10.46339	-9.82465	9°90' 0''W 11°10' 0''W	-10.5481	-10.95469
LOCATION DESCRIPTION *(Optional field)*										
ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION *(Optional field)*										

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.

Due to accessibility difficulties, Jawajeh clan was replaced with Bondi Mandingo Clan. Currently, there are two ways to access Jawajeh clan including travelling by road via Sierra Leone or crossing Mano River in Liberia for over five hours, thus posing a serious safety and security risk.

Similarly, Laar clan was replaced by Zodua clan due to poor road conditions that made it inaccessible for the project team. Zodua clan was selected because it was accessible and was one of the pilot sites for the prior GEF-funded Good Growth Partnership (GGP) project focused on sustainable palm oil production. Therefore, the FOLUR project will leverage the achievements of the GGP project in Zodua Clan.

Project Map and Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and image map where the project interventions took place.

GEF FOLUR Project Landscape

Legend:
- Project new sites
- Project sites FY23
- Deforestation 75%
- Forest Cover 75%
- Landscape Border
- **Protected Areas**
  - Designated
  - Proposed

Labels on map: Bondi, Wonegisi, Wologizi, Lower Guma, Zeayeama, Foya, Zuie, Gola, Sokpo, Kpo Mountains, Seimavula, Passawe, Fahnbulleh, Bondi Mandingo, Zodua, Lake Piso

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[15]	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome 1.1.: Information base available to develop a coarse national land-use plan and comprehensive NW Liberia landscape land-use plan to improve land allocation and use by men and women.				
Output 1.1.1: Information and data for developing a coarse national land-use plan generated from secondary/desktop research**.**				
Output Indicator 1.1.1: Number of comprehensive reviews of relevant policies, laws, strategies, and initiatives.	**Target 1.1.1:** One comprehensive review of relevant policies, laws, strategies, and initiatives	Zero (0) reviews	IS	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning after the evaluation of the seven bids that were received in respect of a request for proposals. One of the tasks that this consultant will undertake is a comprehensive review of relevant policies, laws, strategies, and initiatives in FY24 Q1.
Output 1.1.2: Biophysical, social, and economic assessments and mapping in NW Liberia Landscape conducted to inform land-use planning for food-security and for sustainable production of palm oil and cocoa by men and women				
Output Indicator 1.1.2: Number of complete sets of baseline information for land-use planning	**Target 1.1.2**: One complete set of baseline information	Zero (0) complete sets	IS	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning after the evaluation of the seven bids that were received in respect of a request for proposals. The consultant will establish a biophysical and socioeconomic baseline.
Outcome 1.2: Improved land allocation by communities (men and women), government, private sector, and civil society in NW Liberia landscape				
Output 1.2.1: Coarse National and comprehensive NW Liberia land-use plans/maps, identifying target areas for production, protection and restoration developed in a participatory and inclusive manner				
Output Indicator 1.2.1 a: Number of land-use plans	**Target 1.2.1a**: Ten land-use plans (nine at clan land use plans and one coarse national land use plan)	Zero (0) land use plans	IS	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning after the evaluation of the seven bids that were received in respect of a request for proposals. The Consultant will start work in FY24 Q1
Indicator 1.2.1b: No of hectares conserved using Conservation agreements	**Target 1.2.1b**: 15,000 ha conserved through conservation agreements with nine clans	Zero (0) ha	NS	Not started. This activity will start in FY24 Q4
Output 1.2.2: NW Liberia landscape land use plans adopted and jointly implemented by communities (men and women), government, the private sector and civil society				
Output Indicator 1.2.2: Number of signature sheets indicating adoption of land-use plan	**Target 1.2.2:** Nine signature sheets (one per clan) indicating adoption of land-use plans	Zero (0) signature sheets	IS	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning after the evaluation of the seven bids that were received in respect of a request for proposals. Nine signature sheets will be obtained after the development of nine clan land use plans.

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

Output 1.2.3: Land-Use Planning results inform the development of a gazettement package for Wologizi Proposed Protected Area				
Output Indicator 1.2.3: Number of proposed protected areas with gazettement packages	**Target 1.2.3:** A gazettement package for one Proposed Protected Area (Wologizi) developed	Zero (0) gazettement packages	**NS**	Not started. The process of developing the gazettement package for Wologizi Proposed Protected Area will start in FY24 Q1.
Outcome 1.3: Governance of NW Liberia Landscape by men and women strengthened				
Output 1.3.1: Multi-Stakeholder and inclusive Landscape Governance Structure for NW Liberia Landscape established				
Output Indicator 1.3.1: Number of multi-stakeholder and inclusive governance mechanisms	**Target 1.3.1:** One mechanism	One (01) multi-stakeholder governance structure has been established	**IS**	Anchored on the landscape forum (Northwest Liberia Landscape Oil Palm Forum) established during the Good Growth Partnership Project (GGP) funded by GEF, a multi-stakeholder governance structure – Northwest Liberia Landscape Multi-Stakeholder Platform was established, and its constitution developed. The newly established Multi-Stakeholder Platform is composed of cocoa and palm oil value chain actors in Northwest Liberia landscape.
Output 1.3.2: A gender-sensitive system for management, monitoring and evaluation developed to ensure compliance with NW Liberia Landscape land-use plan				
Output Indicator 1.3.2: Number of M&E systems	**Target 1.3.2**: One M&E system	One (01) M&E system established	**CA**	M&E system based on 'ActivityInfo' platform has been established for the entire project. In addition, the MEAL plan including the Performance Management Plan (PMP), Indicator Performance Tracking Table (IPTT), Communication Plan, and Summary Evaluation Table were developed and validated. This M&E system will be used for data collection, management, analysis, reporting, and tracking of project implementation including the compliance with with NW Liberia Landscape land-use plan
Output 1.3.3: Two gender-sensitive regulations to improve integrated landuse planning and management in NW Liberia landscape and across Liberia developed and implemented				
Output Indicator 1.3.3: Number of gender-sensitive draft regulation documents presented to cabinet	**Target 1.3.3:** Two gender-sensitive draft regulation documents presented to cabinet	Zero (0) gender sensitive regulations	**NS**	Not started. This activity will start in FY24 Q2.
Outcome 2.1: Improved sustainable production of food and commodity crops to enhance ecological resilience of NW Liberia Landscape				
Output 2.1.1: Capacity of male and female farmers, small-medium enterprise service providers, government, universities, and civil society, and organizational staff built on climate-smart agricultural practices and nontimber forest products (NTFP) practices with a focus on palm oil and cocoa value chains				

Output Indicator 2.1.1: Number of beneficiaries trained	Target 2.1.1: 10,000 beneficiaries (5,100 men and 4,900 women) trained	Zero (0) beneficiaries	NS	Not started. This activity will start in FY24 Q1
Output 2.1.2: Climate-smart agricultural practices demonstrated by men and women				
Output Indicator 2.1.2a: Number of men and women involved in demonstration of climate smart agricultural practices	Target 2.1.2a: 10,000 (5,100 men and 4,900 women involved in climate smart agricultural practices	Zero (0) people involved in climate smart agricultural practices.	NS	Not started. This activity will start in FY24 Q1. However, literature review on the current climate-smart agriculture strategies and capacity requirements was conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperative Development Authority and MANO.
Output Indicator 2.1.2b: Number of climate smart agricultural demonstration sites	Target 2.1.2b: 20 demonstration sites	Zero (0) demonstration sites.	NS	Not started. This activity will start in FY24 Q1
Output 2.1.3: Incentives for responsible palm oil and cocoa, and food crops provided for men and women				
Output Indicator 2.1.3: Number of male and female beneficiaries receiving incentives	Target 2.1.3: 20,000 beneficiaries (10,200 men and 9,800 women)	Zero (0) beneficiaries	NS	Not started. This activity will start in FY24 Q1. However, a total of 1,072 persons (762 men and 310 women) participated in various project activities, out of which 353 persons (276 men and 67 women) received direct benefitsin the form of trainings and workshops.
Output 2.1.4: Community producers (men and women) of key commodities empowered and organized in a locally appropriate manner (cooperatives and other associations)				
Output Indicator 2.1.4: Number of new producer cooperatives or associations established and/or strengthened	Target 2.1.4: 4 cooperatives/associations (one in each project County)	Zero (0) cooperatives	IS	Assessment of aggregators has been conducted in the landscape and a total of six (6) aggregators were identified
Outcome 2.2: Strengthened policy framework for sustainable agricultural production by men and women				
Output 2.2.1: Policy recommendations to support sustainable agriculture by men and women developed and provided to government				
Output Indicator 2.2.1: Number of draft policy documents presented to cabinet	Target 2.2.1: Two draft regulation documents presented to cabinet	Zero (0) draft regulation documents	IS	The ToRs for assessing existing fiscal, financial, and trade policies and other relevant legislative frameworks on sustainable agriculture have been developed. The RfPs will be advertised in FY24 Q1.
Outcome 2.3: Resources for sustainable production by men and women secured				
Output 2.3.1: Long-term gender-sensitive financial plan				

Output Indicator 2.3.1: Number of gender sensitive financial plans	**Target 2.3.1:** One gender sensitive financial plan	Zero (0) gender sensitive financial plans	**IS**	The ToRs for a consultant to conduct a gender-sensitive assessment of value chain and market dynamics in the NW Liberia landscape were developed and will be advertised in FY24 Q1.
Output 2.3.2: Innovative and blended financing for sustainable production by men and women leveraged including supply chain systems, Liberia Conservation Fund, and REDD+				
Output Indicator 2.3.2: Aggregate funding flows secured in support of sustainable production by men and women	**Target 2.3.2:** US$ 10 million secured in support of sustainable production by men and women	US$ US$ 6.95 million	**IS**	US$ 6.95 million by Ministry of Agriculture through the STAR-P project to increase agricultural productivity and promote commercialization of smallholder farmers through productive linkages between the farmers and the private agribusiness firms in selected value chains of Liberia including cocoa and palm oil.
Outcome 3.1: Degraded areas that are crucial for ensuring ecosystem connectivity and integrity restored in NW Liberia				
Output 3.1.1: NW Liberia Landscape restoration plan developed by men and women				
Output Indicator 3.1.1: Number of restoration plans developed by men and women	**Target 3.1.1:** One restoration plan developed by men and women	Zero (0) restoration plans developed0	**IS**	A consultancy firm (University of Liberia) has been selected to conduct land use planning after the evaluation of the seven bids that were received in respect of a request for proposals Restoration plans will be developed after areas for protection, conservation, restoration, and production have been identified.
Output 3.1.2: Enhanced restoration capacity of communities (men and women), land-users and local county authorities				
Output Indicator 3.1.2: Number of men and women trained on restoration	**Target 3.1.2:** 10,000 beneficiaries (5,100 men and 4,900 women)	Zero (0) beneficiaries.	**NS**	The training of men and women on restoration in the landscape will start in FY 24 after the restoration is developed.
Output 3.1.3: Restoration initiatives including agroforestry, land management and natural regeneration				
Output Indicator 3.1.3: Number of restoration pilot sites	**Target 3.1.3:** 4 pilot sites	Zero (0) pilot sites	**NS**	The development of pilot sites will start in FY 24 in the landscape.
Outcome 3.2: Improved gender-sensitive policies and incentives for innovation and scale up of restoration of natural habitats in NW Liberia landscape and across Liberia				
Output 3.2.1: Gender-sensitive policies on performance payments and Payment for Ecosystems Services schemes developed and/or adopted by men and women for restoration activities in NW Liberia landscape				
Output Indicator 3.2.1.: Number of draft policy documents presented to cabinet.	**Target 3.2.1**: One draft policy document presented to cabinet	Zero (0) draft policy documents0	**NS**	The development of the draft policy to be presented to cabinet for Northwest Liberia landscape will be start in FY 24.
Outcome 3.3: Innovative finance promotes innovation, replication and scale up of restoration activities by men and women				
Output 3.3.1: Innovative and blended financing for NW Liberia restoration leveraged, based on promising approaches from within Liberia and elsewhere to provide incentives for restoration to individuals (men and women) and communities				

Indicator 3.3.1: Aggregate funding flows in support of restoration by men and women	**Target 3.3.1**: US$ 5 million in support of restoration by men and women	US$ 475,000	**IS**	US$ 475,000 was secured from USAID WaBiLED project by SCNL and RSPB for forest monitoring. In addition, Sustainable Financing Advisor has been recruited by RSPB to lead on sustainable and innovative finance activities.
Outcome 4.1: Improved project delivery, and monitoring and evaluation				
Output 4.1.1: A gender-sensitive M&E system developed to collect, analyze, and synthesize data and information generated during project implementation				
Output Indicator 4.1.1: Number of Project M&E systems operational	**Target 4.1.1:** One Project M&E system	One (01)	**IS**	The M&E system and plan have been developed, validated, and operationalized. In addition, the MEAL plan including the Performance Management Plan (PMP), Indicator Performance Tracking Table (IPTT), Communication Plan, and Summary Evaluation Table were developed and validated.
Outcome 4.2: Enhanced strategic knowledge management of the project by men and women				
Output 4.2.1: An integrated and gender sensitive knowledge management system developed				
Output Indicator 4.2.1: Number of integrated and gender-sensitive knowledge management systems developed, and number of community resource centers equipped.	**Target 4.2.1:** One integrated and gender-sensitive knowledge management system developed, and five community resource centers equipped	One (01) knowledge management system in place Zero (0) community resource centers equipped.	**IS**	Liberia Environmental Knowledge Management System (EKMS) is being used as the system for sharing knowledge generated from the project. Ten (10) community resource centers in the NW Liberia Landscape were assessed including: Lofa County Community College, Lofa County Resource Hub, and Soil Science Lab in Lofa County; Bopolu Community High School, and Gbarpolu Resource Hub in Gbarpolu County; Bomi County Community College, and Forest Training Institute (FTI) in Bomi County; Sinje Technical and Vocational College, St. John Episcopal High School, and Robertsport High School in Cape Mount County: Out of these ten resource centers that were assessed, the following five will be equipped including Bomi Community College in Bomi County, Lofa Community college in Lofa County, Straz-Sinje Technical and Vocational College in Grand Cape Mount County, and Bopolu Community College in Gbarpolu County
Output 4.2.2: National, regional, and international engagement by men and women representatives to share knowledge generated in the Project				

Output Indicator 4.2.2.a: Number of engagements in various forums/platforms	Target 4.2.2.a: 5 annual lessons sharing, and 5 global engagements held	• One global engagement • Three national engagements including inception workshop, MEAL plan validation workshop and IFC workshop on liming	IS	One international and three national engagements were held. At the national level, the three engagements included: the project inception workshop, MEAL plan validation workshop, and IFC webinar on agricultural liming. While one international engagement – the annual global FOLUR summit was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil
Output Indicator 4.2.2b: % of men and women participating in various engagement forums/platforms at national, regional, and international levels	Target 4.2.2b: At least 40% women and 60% men participate in various engagement forums/platforms at national, regional, and international levels	A total of 124 persons (96 men and 28 women) participated in various engagements at national, regional, and international levels, which is 77% and 23% for men and women respectively.	IS	There were three national and one international engagements held. At the national level, the three engagements included: • An inception workshop where a total of workshop 71 persons (54 men and 17 women) participated. • MEAL plan validation workshop where 28 persons (22 men and 6 women) attended. • IFC Webinar on agricultural liming where 25 persons (20 men and 5 women) attended. One international engagement – the annual global FOLUR summit held in Sao Paulo, Brazil where two persons (all male) attended.