

# GEF-8 REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

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## General Project Information

Project Title

Ecosystem restoration in seven national protected areas of Argentina

Region

Latin America and the Caribbean

GEF Project ID

11490

Country(ies)

Argentina

Type of Project

FSP

GEF Agency(ies):

CAF

GEF Agency Project ID

CAF-GEF 041

Project Executing Entity(s)

Administration of National Parks of Argentina (APN).

Project Executing Type

Government

GEF Focal Area (s)

Biodiversity

Submission Date

11/21/2025

Type of Trust Fund

GET

Project Duration (Months)

48

GEF Project Grant: (a)

6,268,011.00

GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)

0.00

Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)

564,121.00

Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)

0.00

Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)

6,832,132.00

Total Co-financing

44,176,074.00

PPG Amount: (e)

150,000.00

PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)

13,500.00

Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)

6,995,632.00

Project Tags

CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No Competitive Window: No

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Taxonomy

Forest, Focal Areas, Drylands, Sustainable Fire Management, Sustainable Land Management, Land Degradation, Ecosystem Approach, Biodiversity, Biomes, Temperate Forests, Wetlands, Grasslands, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Climate Change Adaptation, Climate Change, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Demonstrate innovative approaches, Influencing models, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Local Communities, Non-Governmental Organization, Civil Society, SMEs, Private Sector, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Gender results areas, Gender Equality, Gender-sensitive indicators, Gender Mainstreaming, Theory of change, Learning, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Enabling Activities, Knowledge Generation, Training, South-South, Knowledge Exchange, Capacity Development

#### Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
Significant Objective 1	No Contribution 0	Principal Objective 2	Significant Objective 1

#### Project Summary

Provide a brief summary description of the project, including: (i) what is the problem and issues to be addressed? (ii) what are the project objectives, and if the project is intended to be transformative, how will this be achieved? (iii), how will this be achieved (approach to deliver on objectives), and (iv) what are the GEBs and/or adaptation benefits, and other key expected results. The purpose of the summary is to provide a short, coherent summary for readers. (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

1. The project addresses the degradation and progressive fragmentation of ecosystems and species leading to biodiversity loss in seven protected areas (PAs) of Argentina and their buffer areas (BA). The main threats are the expansion of invasive alien species (IAS), including feral livestock, inadequate management of domestic livestock, and recurrent wildfires, all exacerbated by climate variability or global temperature increase, and the lack of sustained policies and resources for ecological restoration.
2. The project's objective is to recover the integrity, functionality and resilience of these ecosystems, ensuring the conservation of globally important species and habitats and the sustained provision of ecosystem services. The transformative character lies in establishing the institutional, financial and governance conditions necessary for ecological restoration to become a long-term national policy for the National System of Protected Areas, with potential for replication in other systems and the region.
3. The project will implement institutional actions for formulating restoration guidelines for PAs and their BAs, design and implement a restoration program and seek funding sources to carry it out. Local advisory committees or similar spaces for stakeholder participation and interjurisdictional coordination will be created or strengthened around the 7 PAs to articulate ecological restoration actions.
4. Restoration actions will be carried out in seven (7) prioritized PAs to recover the resilience and regeneration capacities of these sites. In turn, this will contribute to ensuring the provision of ecosystem services to society. The prioritized PAs are: (i) Los Glaciares National Park, (ii) Campos del Tuyú National Park, (iii) Los Cardones National Park, (iv) Tierra del Fuego National Park, (v) Iberá National Park, (vi) Lihué Calel National Park and (vii) Laguna de los Pozuelos Natural Monument. Three (3) root causes and five (5) barriers that hinder effective restoration actions in these territories have been identified.
5. To achieve this, the project is structured in three components: strengthening governance and creating sustainable financing mechanisms, implementing demonstrative restoration interventions - IAS control, livestock management and wildfire prevention - and generating and disseminating knowledge through digital platforms, learning exchanges and broad awareness campaigns.
6. Expected benefits include improved management of more than 1.1 million hectares and restoration of 74,878 degraded hectares. The project will contribute to GEF Global Environmental Benefits in biodiversity and sustainable forest management, strengthen climate resilience, and generate social and economic co-benefits for local communities, indigenous peoples and the tourism sector.

#### Project Description Overview

## Project Objective

To reduce ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss in seven selected protected areas and their buffer zones, to contribute to the recovery of their integrity, connectivity, and ecological resilience, in strategic alliance with key stakeholders.

## Project Components

### Component 1: Strengthen the governance of ecological restoration processes in protected areas and their buffer zones.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
269,060.00	1,099,000.00

#### Outcome:

1.1. Improvement of enabling conditions for ecological restoration success, including the perspectives of men and women and promoting equal opportunities.

#### Output:

1.1.1: Institutional guidelines developed for diagnosis, planning, execution and monitoring of ecological restoration processes in protected areas and their buffer zones.

1.1.2: Ecological Restoration Program established within the National Parks Administration.

1.1.3: Sustainable financing mechanism identified for ecological restoration processes of priority protected areas.

1.1.4: Seven local advisory committees and/or participation spaces created or strengthened

1.1.5: Interjurisdictional coordination processes established in each of the seven protected areas.

### Component 2: Implementation of demonstrative interventions to address critical issues in ecological restoration, generate practical experience, collaborative work and replication.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
5,017,411.00	36,599,000.00

#### Outcome:

2.1: Gradual recovery of conservation values that have been degraded by presence of invasive alien species, livestock or wildfires in seven protected areas and their buffer areas.

2.2 Strengthened capacities for invasive alien species and domestic livestock management in six protected areas and their buffer areas, with effective participation, integrating local knowledge and perspectives from men and women, as well as promotion of actions oriented to generate equal opportunities.

2.3: Strengthened capacities for wildfire prevention and ecological fire management in three protected areas and their buffer areas, with active participation of men and women, integrating information and determining actions with a differentiated approach.

#### Output:

2.1.1: Updated or new baselines for conservation values (species and/or ecosystems) affected by degradation and for the threats driving their deterioration.

2.2.1: Plans for prevention, monitoring and control of invasive alien species (including feral livestock) implemented.

2.2.2: Collaborative livestock management plans designed and implemented.

2.2.3: Information and awareness campaigns on invasive alien species or livestock management implemented.

2.3.1: Collaborative plans for wildfire prevention and ecological fire management designed and implemented.

2.3.2: Information and awareness campaigns on wildfire prevention and ecological fire management implemented

### Component 3: Generation and dissemination of knowledge about sustainable ecological restoration actions in protected areas and their buffer areas

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
548,492.00	3,425,000.00

Outcome:

3.1: Strengthened knowledge management, awareness and communication about ecological restoration in protected areas and their buffer areas, **with an approach that includes the perspectives of men and women and promotes equal opportunities in developing actions in the territory.**

Output:

3.1.1: Inclusive communication and awareness strategy for specific groups and sites designed and implemented, with participation and commitment of main stakeholders from seven prioritized protected areas.

3.1.2: Lessons learned and good practices documented and disseminated nationally and internationally.

3.1.3: Formal instances to share knowledge, lessons learned and good practices.

3.1.4: One knowledge management module on ecological restoration hosted in APN's Biodiversity Information System.

3.1.5: Development of capacities and training in ecological restoration methods and techniques

### M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
134,604.00	963,738.00

Outcome:

Effective project-level monitoring and evaluation, **with perspective of equity and inclusion between men and women.**

Output:

Project inception workshop  
Capacity building workshop  
Annual GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR) / Reports of Core GEF Indicators  
Project Advisory Committee meeting reports  
Grievance and Suggestions Mechanism (GSM)  
Gender Action Plan (GAP)  
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)  
Indigenous Peoples Participation and Engagement Plan (IPP)  
Environmental and Social Management Framework  
Independent mid-term review  
Independent final evaluation.

## Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1: Strengthen the governance of ecological restoration processes in protected areas and their buffer zones.	269,060.00	1,099,000.00
Component 2: Implementation of demonstrative interventions to address critical issues in ecological restoration, generate practical experience, collaborative work and replication.	5,017,411.00	36,599,000.00
Component 3: Generation and dissemination of knowledge about sustainable ecological restoration actions in protected areas and their buffer areas	548,492.00	3,425,000.00
M&E	134,604.00	963,738.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>5,969,567.00</b>	<b>42,086,738.00</b>
Project Management Cost	298,444.00	2,089,336.00
<b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b>	<b>6,268,011.00</b>	<b>44,176,074.00</b>

Please provide Justification

## PROJECT OUTLINE

### A. PROJECT RATIONALE

Describe the current situation: the global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address, the key elements of the system, and underlying drivers of environmental change in the project context, such as population growth, economic development, climate change, sociocultural and political factors, including conflicts, or technological changes. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

#### Context and Current Situation

- Argentina is a country of great natural wealth. Its vast territorial extension, covering more than 2.8 million km<sup>2</sup> of continental surface and 1.6 million km<sup>2</sup> of sea, and its latitudinal gradient of more than 30 degrees, gives it a unique diversity of climates and ecosystems. In this territory, 18 ecoregions have been identified that include forests, woodlands, wetlands, grasslands, savannas, and arid steppes, among other, where there are more than 11,000 plant species, 3,000 vertebrate species and more than 100,000 arthropod species ([APN, 2024](#)).
- However, this natural wealth in PAs and BAs faces growing threats. The introduction and expansion of invasive alien species (IAS), including feral livestock, inadequate management of domestic livestock, and recurrent wildfires are degrading and fragmenting ecosystems and species of high conservation value. These processes, combined with climate variability and global

temperature increase, erode ecological resilience, reduce the provision of ecosystem services and directly affect the livelihoods of local communities.

9. The National System of Protected Areas (SNAP) and the National System of Marine Protected Areas (SNAMP), managed by the [National Parks Administration](#) (APN) currently cover more than 18 million hectares ([SIB, 2025](#)) and constitute the country's main tool for biodiversity conservation. However, pressures on these areas are increasing and threaten to reverse the achievements made.
10. Protected areas (PAs) in Argentina are an important driver for the tourism sector and the country's economy, as they attract national and foreign tourists and generate jobs and development opportunities throughout the country ([SAyDS, 2019a](#)). The tourism sector represents 9 % of the national GDP and 6 % of total employment, with more than one million jobs. It is a dynamic activity, present in all regions, made up of more than 51,000 formal companies that provide tourism services, mostly micro, small and medium enterprises. It is the country's fourth export sector, after food, automotive products and knowledge-based services ([MTyD, 2022](#)). Part of this sector is dedicated to nature-based tourism.
11. Seven PAs of the 52 terrestrial PAs within the SNAP have been selected for targeted intervention. Together, they represent approximately 20% of the system's total area. The targeted territory comprises areas that are Key Biodiversity Areas, Ramsar, or other international recognition for their biological importance. The seven PA and their BAs contain 4 Ramsar Sites (in L. de los Pozuelos NM, Iberá NP, Campos del Tuyu NP, and Tierra del Fuego NP), 17 KBAs are located across all seven PA, one World Natural Heritage Site (Los Glaciares NP), and one Core Area of a MAB Biosphere Reserve (Laguna de los Pozuelos NM). Table 1 shows the types of ecosystems or species assessed as degraded or affected selected to be restored within each PA, as well as the main types of degradation operating in each one.

Table 1. Types of degraded ecosystems or affected species selected to be restored by Protected Area; main types of degradation operating in each one, and actions that will be financed by the project.

Protected Area	Specific biodiversity values to be restored	Type of degradation	Actions financed by the project
<b>Los Cardones NP:</b>  <b>Driver/s of degradation:</b>  Domestic livestock	a) 64 ha of High Andean wetlands ( <i>vegas</i> )  b) 500 ha of Native Andean Shrublands and grasslands  c) 500 ha of <i>Prosopis ferox</i> (Churqui) forest  d) 1000 ha of <i>Trichocereus atacamensis</i> ( <i>Cardonal</i> )	(a) and (b): changes in natural plant communities, competition with native herbivores, and soil erosion by overgrazing by small livestock (goats and sheep) and large livestock (cattle).  (c) and (d): reduced underground water availability produced by disturbances in upstream wetlands in (a) affects mortality rates and recruitment.	Monitoring and Evaluation of the recovery of degraded areas  Design and implementation of livestock management plans.  Removal of domestic livestock from PA.  Active vegetation cover restoration actions in highland wetland sectors  Support for the implementation of the project to <a href="#">restore the structure and functionality of the Malcante Andean highland wetland</a>
<b>Iberá NP:</b>  <b>Driver/s of degradation:</b>  IAS:	a) 6700 ha of Hygrophilous and (b) Xerophilous forest  c) 6800 ha of Grasslands and (d) Wetlands	For (a), (b), (c) and (d):  Altered forest regeneration processes by high density of IAS (mammals)	Monitoring and Evaluation of the recovery of degraded areas Implementation of the IAS control Plan (in preparation by the PA) Removal of IAS (automatic cages and baits, watchtowers) Design and implementation of livestock management plans.

<p>- Feral pig (<i>Sus scrofa</i>)</p> <p>- Axis deer (<i>Axis axis</i>)</p> <p>- Feral cattle (<i>Bos taurus</i>)</p> <p>- Feral buffalo (<i>Bubalus arnee bubalis</i>)</p> <p>Domestic livestock</p> <p>Wildfires</p>		<p>Reduced food resources for native fauna due to high density of IAS (mammals)</p> <p>High fauna mortality rates (in all ecosystem types) and high mortality of trees in xerophilous forests, due to recurrent large-scale and intense wildfires.</p>	<p>Update and implementation of the <a href="#">Fire Management Plan</a></p>
<p><b>Campos del Tuyú NP:</b></p> <p><b>Driver/s of degradation:</b></p> <p>IAS:</p> <p>- Feral pig (<i>Sus scrofa</i>)</p> <p>- Axis deer (<i>Axis axis</i>)</p> <p>- Bridal creeper (<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>)</p> <p>Domestic livestock (in BA)</p> <p>Wildfires</p>	<p>a) Approx. 50 individuals of Pampas Deer (<i>Ozotoceros bezoarticus</i>) (NT – IUCN Red List)</p> <p>b) 3050 ha of Grasslands</p> <p>c) 100 ha of <i>Celtis tala</i> forest</p>	<p>Reduced food resources for native fauna due to high density of IAS (mammals)</p> <p>(c) High density of IAS (climbing shrubs) produces tala tree mortality, reducing the extension of tala forests.</p> <p>Natural grass availability for native fauna strongly reduced by overgrazing domestic livestock.</p> <p>High fauna mortality rates (in all ecosystem types) and high mortality of trees in xerophilous forests, due to recurrent large-scale and intense wildfires</p>	<p>Monitoring and Evaluation of the recovery of degraded areas</p> <p>Design and implementation of the IAS control plan</p> <p>Removal of IAS (materials for building corral traps)</p> <p>Implementation of a collaborative livestock management plan</p> <p>Background: Ecological Restoration Program of the Campos del Tuyú National Park</p>
<p><b>Lihué Calel NP:</b></p> <p><b>Driver/s of degradation:</b></p> <p>Wildfires</p>	<p>a) 5537 ha of <i>Prosopis caldenia</i> forest</p> <p>b) Native fauna species (guanaco, gray fox, puma, and Patagonian mara)</p>	<p>High fauna mortality rates (in all ecosystem types) and high mortality of trees in xerophilous forests, due to recurrent large-scale and intense wildfires</p>	<p>Updating and implementation of the <a href="#">Fire Management Plan</a></p>

<p><b>Los Glaciares NP:</b></p> <p><b>Driver/s of degradation:</b></p> <p>IAS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feral cattle (<i>Bos taurus</i>)</li> <li>- Feral horses (<i>Equus ferus caballus</i>)</li> </ul> <p>Domestic livestock</p>	<p>a) 13049 ha of Andean-Patagonian (Magellanic) forest</p> <p>b) Aprox. 35/40 individuals of Patagonian huemul (<i>Hippocamelus bisulcus</i>) (EN – IUCN Red List)</p> <p>c) 7900 ha of Bottom Valley Grasslands</p>	<p>Trampling and browsing by large exotic ungulates produces:</p> <p>Disruption of natural regeneration of vegetation (incl. trees)</p> <p>Changes in plant community composition</p> <p>Soil erosion, compaction, changes in microtopography.</p>	<p>Monitoring and Evaluation of the recovery of degraded areas</p> <p>Elimination of IAS</p> <p>Support for the implementation of the <a href="#">Ecological Recovery Project of the environments affected by the invasion of wild cattle in Los Glaciares National Park 2023 - 2033</a></p> <p>Design and implementation of the Livestock Management Plan.</p>
<p><b>Tierra del Fuego NP:</b></p> <p><b>Driver/s of degradation:</b></p> <p>IAS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feral horse (<i>Equus ferus caballus</i>)</li> <li>- Domestic livestock</li> </ul>	<p>a) 3500 ha of <i>Nothofagus</i> forest</p> <p>b) 160 ha of Wetlands (<i>Sphagnum</i> peat bogs)</p>	<p>Trampling and browsing by large exotic ungulates produces:</p> <p>Disruption of natural regeneration of vegetation (incl. trees)</p> <p>Changes in plant community composition</p> <p>Soil erosion, compaction, changes in microtopography.</p>	<p>Monitoring and Evaluation of the recovery of degraded areas</p> <p>Design and implementation of the IAS control plan</p> <p>Background: <a href="#">Technical Assistance to the National Parks Administration for the Removal of Invasive Horses from the Tierra del Fuego National Park</a></p>
<p><b>Laguna de los Pozuelos NM:</b></p> <p><b>Driver/s of degradation:</b></p> <p>Domestic livestock</p>	<p>a) 589 ha of High-Andean wetlands (<i>vegas</i>)</p> <p>b) Central lagoon (habitat for migratory and resident water bird species)</p>		<p>Monitoring and Evaluation of the recovery of degraded areas</p> <p>Design and implementation of livestock management plans.</p>

#### Global Environmental Benefits to which the project contributes

12. The proposed project aims to lay the foundation for the progressive recovery of ecological resilience of degraded ecosystems and species in prioritized PAs to achieve Global Environmental Benefits (GEB) in terms of biodiversity and sustainable forest management, two of the work dimensions that are part of GEF priority investments. The project will contribute to the conservation of globally important biological diversity (e.g., threatened or endemic species, underrepresented and fragmented ecosystems), to the reduction of forest loss and degradation, to the maintenance of the range of environmental services and products derived from forests and other biomes, and to the improvement of sustainable livelihoods of local communities and forest-dependent people.

13. In this context, the global environmental benefits of this project aim to improve the management effectiveness of 1,106,601 hectares corresponding to the surface of seven priority PAs (Table 1). This will be achieved by creating or strengthening enabling conditions to promote successful ecological restoration actions, together with practical interventions for ecosystem recovery and wildfire prevention, as well as strengthening knowledge management.
14. Through demonstrative field interventions, the project will implement measures for the restoration of 74,878 hectares located within and in the BAs of the selected priority PAs. These actions range from initial collection of baseline information on damage and factors driving degradation, management and control of invasive alien species including feral livestock, adequate management of domestic livestock to monitoring the recovery of intervened ecosystems and populations and executing awareness campaigns for stakeholders. These actions will be reinforced by strengthening governance processes and knowledge management on ecological restoration in PAs.
15. The total number of beneficiaries will be approximately 856 people (495 men and 361 women). These beneficiaries include the local productive sector, owners of ranches in the BAs; indigenous peoples and local communities that benefit from project activities, either through improved livestock management practices and/or better fire management, schools near PA, park staff who receive training, the tourism sector.

### Project transformation and innovation elements

16. The project's innovation focuses on exploring new approaches to build collaborative management models for implementing ecological restoration processes in PAs and their BAs, which could be replicated within Argentina and internationally. The project seeks to advance the ecological restoration of PAs and surrounding lands through dialogue, information and knowledge exchange, standardized monitoring protocols, impact assessment and programmatic reporting. To this end, the project lays the foundation for forming and, where appropriate, consolidating and strengthening governance mechanisms in each selected PA to generate policies, address common problems and threats such as biodiversity loss, ecosystem degradation and impact on the provision of ecosystem services produced by the presence of IAS, livestock and wildfires in their territories. For this, dialogue and conflict resolution spaces will provide trust, credibility and capacity for APN to attract and manage new investments in PA sustainability, through solid and coordinated long-term collaboration with key stakeholders.
17. The project experience will be useful for other regions interested in improving their ecological restoration processes and in recovering degraded conservation values. The demonstration interventions focused on PAs and their BAs will allow addressing common problems and threats, generate practical experience and lessons in active restoration actions that will be useful both for Argentina and the entire region, as they are configured as replicable and scalable actions to other regions of the world facing similar challenges.
18. A central element of change will be exploring the development of financial sustainability mechanisms for the six National Parks (NP) and the Natural Monument (NM) (Table 2) prioritized as **examples**. The objective will be for restoration activities to have a secure flow of long-term resources to achieve their goals. It is anticipated that these mechanisms can be replicated or scaled up in other protected areas of SNAP.

### Threats to terrestrial biodiversity

19. IAS are the one of the main causes of biodiversity loss and one of the most significant factors of degradation in PAs ([APN, 2008](#)). In Argentina, IAS were introduced through agricultural and forestry production, aquaculture, transport, tourism and as pets. In 2018, 723 introduced species were recorded in all ecoregions ([SAyDS, 2019b](#)), including feral animals such as wild boar, horses and dogs, which degrade ecosystems and may also represent risks to human safety.
20. Biological invasions generate global losses of 1.4 trillion dollars annually. In [Argentina](#), wild boar impact reaches between 907 and 1,380 million dollars of losses per year and affects endangered species, such as the [Pampas deer](#) (*Ozotoceros bezoarticus*) whose population in the Pampas grasslands decreased from 300 to less than 150 individuals between 1980 and 2013.
21. The list of invasive species targeted in this project includes one deer (the axis deer), four feral livestock species (wild cattle, wild horses, wild buffaloes, and wild pigs/boars), and one plant species (*Asparagus asparagoides*). Table 1 provides further information about which native species or ecosystems are degraded by the impacts of different types of drivers, and how. The impacts of the IAS are diverse, being the main ones documented in the focal PAs:

Disruption of natural regeneration of vegetation (including arboreal species)

Changes in plant community composition

Soil erosion, compaction, and changes in microtopography.

Spatial displaced of native fauna

Reduced food resources for native fauna

22. Extensive domestic livestock in PAs degrades soil, water, vegetation and fauna, and can favor diseases or hybridization. Zoning and grazing management in rural areas can generate forage habitats, reduce competition and create conservation corridors.
23. Anthropogenic fire in grasslands is used for regrowth and improvement of forage palatability. For its part, APN employs prescribed fire in certain ecosystems to prevent uncontrolled fires and restore ecosystems. Beyond this, wildfires of extraordinary intensity and vast extensions threaten biodiversity and local economies. Between 1998 and 2017, more than [6 million hectares](#) of native forests were affected, with an annual average of 303,136 ha, increased in drought years.
24. The wildfires that occurred in Iberá NP between January and March 2022 affected 47 % of the protected area's surface (91,174 hectares), causing direct death or displacement of native fauna, which is one of its main – and a flagship – conservation values ([Saucedo et al., 2023](#)). Preliminary results indicated that around 172,784 vertebrates could have died due to the fires. The most affected mammals were capybaras, armadillos and rodents. Amphibians and reptiles were among the most affected vertebrates due to their limitations in escaping fire ([Raño et al. 2023](#)).
25. Lihué Calel NP vegetation has been heavily affected by intense and recurrent wildfires. After major wildfires occurred in 2003 and 2018, shrub regrowth predominated over herbaceous species, while the scarce surviving trees failed to regenerate the previous tree cover. The park protects caldén forests (*Prosopis caldenia*), an endemic ecosystem of the Espinal ecoregion, which has lost 20 % of its surface in the last two decades, due to fire, agricultural expansion and other fragmentation factors. Currently, wildfires have caused the almost total disappearance of adult specimens, limiting them to a patch in good condition in the operational zone of the PA. Basal regrowth persists, but without recovering the original tree structure.

#### Main barriers hindering actions to reduce these threats

26. **Barrier 1: Lack of enabling conditions to develop sustainable ecological restoration processes in protected areas of the National System of Protected Areas.** Argentina has not developed a comprehensive institutional policy for ecological restoration in PAs under national jurisdiction. Likewise, where existent, regulatory institutional frameworks for ecological restoration actions at different jurisdictional levels (national, provincial, municipal) are not articulated. APN has not approved technical guidelines for developing processes of diagnosis, planning, executing and financing of interventions for ecosystem or population restoration. The lack of sufficient and long-term funds means that only short-term restoration initiatives are developed.
27. **Barrier 2: Inadequate documentation and exchange of practical and collaborative experiences on ecological restoration in protected areas.** There are extensive experiences and knowledge to address threats in PAs produced by the presence of IAS, feral and domestic livestock and wildfires. However, previous and current initiatives are scattered in time and territory, are not coordinated and apply various methodological approaches. The real magnitude of degraded habitats and factors that trigger these threats in PAs has not been assessed. Comprehensive plans for the prevention, control and monitoring of IAS, livestock management, wildfire prevention and control, and ecological management of fire, adapted to each protected area in collaboration with local actors, who are affected by the loss of ecosystem services and destruction of the natural heritage, have not been developed. The development and implementation of a monitoring and evaluation system for the recovery of affected ecosystems and native flora and fauna populations is pending, as well as the establishment of adequate intersectoral public administration mechanisms that support collaborative ecological restoration processes in the territory.
28. **Barrier 3: Weak or inconsistent implementation of effective methods and tools for IAS control and livestock management.** Although many PAs have attempted for decades to reduce the presence and stop the expansion of IAS (using different methods such as fencing, relocation, or culling, in the case of mammals for example), as well as managing livestock within PAs, these

efforts have been insufficient. These interventions have not been maintained mainly due to budgetary limitations and discontinuity in management decisions. Effective mechanisms to limit the presence and expansion of IAS and livestock within PAs have not been consolidated. Interjurisdictional approaches for IAS control are not coordinated and, sometimes, are discrepant. Livestock production zoning and management in a BAs is rarely related to the protected area management and frequently livestock management is poor, and control is insufficient to limit the negative effects of this activity on PA conservation values. Strategic alliances with neighboring communities and livestock producers for the application of norms or zoning and good management of grazing areas have not been established or strengthened, nor has there been enough support from stakeholders for actions such as area closures, livestock removal and/or temporary containment, among other management procedures.

29. **Barrier 4: Weak interinstitutional and interjurisdictional articulation in wildfire prevention and fire management, and limited knowledge of fire's ecological role in protected ecosystems.** Existing networks do not specifically address fire risks to ecosystem integrity. Likewise, there is partial implementation of approved fire management and monitoring plans. On the other hand, although fires are inherent elements to certain ecological processes and the implementation of prescribed fire is a scientifically accepted prevention tool in some ecosystems, there is insufficient information about the recurrence and/or intensity they should have to benefit the main conservation values and ecosystem services of PAs.
30. **Barrier 5: Lack of communication or exchange of knowledge and experiences in ecological restoration processes within the protected areas system.** Available information and knowledge on ecological restoration initiatives within the SNAP is scarce, scattered and not adequately documented or systematized. Previous restoration experiences have not been systematically documented, hindering learning and adaptive management. Opportunities to exchange tools and information on ecological restoration perspectives and challenges, both within and outside PAs, are still incipient. In addition, obtained results are not adequately communicated and, therefore, stakeholders are not aware of factors driving ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss.

#### Possible future narratives

31. If the current situation is maintained, PAs will continue to lose biodiversity and resilience against changes. The advance of IAS, combined with livestock pressure and wildfires, exacerbated by droughts, new climatic patterns and global temperature increase, will deepen fragmentation and reduce the natural regeneration capacity of ecosystems and species. This baseline scenario compromises the possibility of fulfilling international commitments assumed by Argentina in biodiversity or climate matters, in addition to putting key economic sectors such as nature-based tourism at risk.
32. In contrast, an alternative scenario based on collaborative ecological restoration would allow reversing degradation, recovering habitats, ensuring the provision of ecosystem services and strengthening climate resilience, benefiting both biodiversity and communities that depend on it with a perspective of equity between women and men.

#### Intervention justification

33. The actions are integrated into the management plans of protected areas as strategic projects and programs with a time horizon of 6 to 10 years. However, APN lacks a comprehensive strategy to integrate ecosystem restoration actions across the entire National System of Protected Areas (SNAP). As a result, efforts to prevent and mitigate threats are carried out in a fragmentary manner, with limited coordination between initiatives and no effective mechanisms for sharing lessons learned among protected areas. This project seeks to reverse that situation through the implementation of seven demonstration cases that will address the main causes of ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss. These lines of action, identified as priorities for tackling threats that hinder restoration processes, are included in the management plans of the seven selected protected areas and form the basis for generating solutions that are replicable and scalable across the system. **In parallel, the counterpart resources provided by CAF in the form of technical cooperation will be used to strengthen APN and its restoration and invasive species management capacities at the national scale, while these pilots are developed and prepared for replication.** To strengthen these processes, strategic investments will support the implementation of the demonstration cases, complemented by communication campaigns targeting key stakeholders in the territory. In addition, participatory spaces will be promoted at local and interjurisdictional levels to coordinate actions at municipal, provincial, and national scales, optimizing the efforts of APN toward effective and coordinated management of protected areas. The knowledge generated during project implementation will serve as the foundation for designing an institutional policy on ecological restoration in protected areas. The dissemination of lessons learned and the training of APN

personnel will enable these experiences to be scaled up across the entire SNAP, consolidating an integrated and sustainable approach to ecosystem recovery.

34. The elimination or population containment of IAS is an indispensable component for advancing the restoration of target ecosystems or populations in the project. Even when the goal is to keep IAS populations below a threshold the results are critical to stop and bend the declining curve of species and ecosystems of high conservation value, as are Pampas Deer, Patagonian Huemul, Andean highland wetlands, or Prosopis caldenia forests. Out of the five animal IAS targeted by the project, four are feral forms of domestic species (swine, cattle, horses, and buffaloes). The fifth is an Asian deer, the axis. APN has a long-standing policy of eliminating feral animals from PAs, and through this project is seeking to firmly advance in this direction. APN has an active policy of prevention, early detection, and response against new IAS. This strategy is currently in place, and the project has included it as part of the entire IAS approach. However, PAs must deal with IAS that are currently present. In the Results Framework, the project commits to the implementation of four IAS Management Plans, for the following parks: Iberá, Campos del Tuyú, Los Glaciares, and Tierra del Fuego. These Plans are directed not only at control and elimination, but also to avoid future re-invasions. In places where it is feasible, fences (permanent or temporary) are to be installed to avoid reinvasions. Community awareness work will gain people's support to maintain areas free of the targeted IAS. Below, the particular context and situation of each park is explained. In all the PAs selected for addressing IAS, the goal is to eliminate feral cattle and horses and buffaloes from the sectors of the parks presented to this project (intervention polygons).

Ibera NP: Elimination is the aim for feral buffaloes and feral cattle; chances of reinvasion by these two invaders are very low, because they are not present in the landscape. Wild pigs and axis deer are densely present in the landscape where the park is located, and only maintaining low population densities within the park is foreseen. This is the only case in the project where coexistence with IAS is the expected result.

Campos del Tuyú NP: Both IAS, wild pigs and axis deer, are present in low densities within the park. However, from a landscape perspective, their density is higher outside than inside the park. The project's approach to IAS is at landscape level, where park and neighbors, as well as interjurisdictional efforts, are deployed to prevent the ingress (but exceptional) of IAS inside the park's limits. As is the case in Iberá the Campos del Tuyú NP requires long-term vigilance and control over these threats. The one plant invader included in the plan has also been targeted for elimination.

Los Glaciares NP: Populations of feral cattle and horses are distributed across the park, but aggregated in seven groups, isolated by geographic barriers. Elimination is the final goal. During this project two of these areas will be intervened: one will be freed of feral livestock; the other will have substantially reduced feral animal numbers (the work is to be concluded post-project). As mentioned, reinvasion has very low chances because of natural physical barriers, that will be complemented with permanent fencing where the first are not sufficient.

Tierra del Fuego NP: The expected result is the complete removal of horses and cattle from the polygon of intervention. Given that the park is close to suburban areas, the risk of reentrance of horses is not null. The risk will be managed through permanent fencing, community awareness work, and agreements with local enforcement agencies.

35. The National Parks Administration (APN) commits to applying good practices and ensuring the humane treatment of animals, both within the framework of this Project and beyond. To ensure animal welfare, the regulations established by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) through its Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2021, available at: <https://www.oie.int>) will be followed. This Code sets internationally recognized guidelines for the humane treatment of animals during handling, capture, and slaughter.
36. The intervention will not only contribute to conserving globally important species and ecosystems, but will also contribute to poverty reduction, strengthening local capacities and developing sustainable productive alternatives, integrating national priorities with international commitments.

#### **Baseline without the project**

37. Currently, ecological restoration efforts in the field of national PAs are fragmented, lack budgetary continuity and do not respond to a long-term strategy. There are no updated technical guidelines or a robust monitoring and learning system. Nor has interjurisdictional coordination between APN, provinces and municipalities been consolidated, nor has the full participation of local communities and the private sector been ensured. In the absence of this project, degradation of natural heritage will intensify, perhaps irreversibly affecting ecosystems such as caldén forests, Andean highland wetlands, Patagonian forests or northeastern grasslands.

## Alignment with policies and investments

38. The project is framed within Argentina's international commitments, including the Bonn Challenge, the Convention on Biodiversity Conservation and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. At the national level, it articulates with the [General Environmental Law](#), the [Environmental Protection Law for Native Forests](#), the [National Biodiversity Strategy and its Action Plan](#) and the [National Strategy on Invasive Alien species](#).
39. Likewise, it complements previous and ongoing investments of APN and the National Undersecretariat of Environment, adding value by integrating scattered experiences into a sustainable policy and financing framework. With this, the project will help overcome the main current barrier: the lack of budgetary continuity of restoration processes.

## Relevant stakeholders and their roles in the system

40. According to the components, the participation of various sectors, with a perspective of equity between women and men, will be key to achieving project results, whether due to their advisory role and for decision-making in local advisory committees and in jurisdictional articulation instances or for the design and implementation of various plans or for their value for cultural transformation in awareness and training processes.
41. APN is the organization responsible for project execution and each of its components, according to activities will be National or Regional Directorates or Coordinations and the Superintendency of each PA. The project interacts with other actors at the ministerial level, secretariats and national institutes. To strengthen the governance through interjurisdictional articulation, work with various national, provincial and municipal organizations will be key. In this sense, actors to be informed, consulted, or with a relevant degree of participation are mentioned: INTA, CONICET, National Fire Management Service (SNMF), SENASA, Gendarmerie, among others. In the provinces of Jujuy, Salta, Corrientes, La Pampa, Buenos Aires, Santa Cruz and Tierra del Fuego, Antarctica and South Atlantic Islands, articulation will be made with provincial organizations, among others: Environment Secretariats or Ministries; Indigenous Peoples Secretariat of Jujuy and Tierra del Fuego; tourism organizations; the Provincial Agrarian Council of Santa Cruz; the municipalities of Pellegrini, San Miguel and Ituzaingó in Corrientes; Rinconada, Santa Catalina and Yavi in Jujuy; El Calafate and El Chaltén in Santa Cruz; Tolhuin and Ushuaia in Tierra del Fuego; and Lavalle and Atlantic Coast in Buenos Aires.
42. In all components, work will be carried out in an articulated manner with national or local civil society organizations and academia, who through their local programs or projects will be key collaborators providing information, capabilities, linkages and, in some cases, contributing resources. Specifically, the following are involved with key roles: Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina (FVS), Fundación Humedales (FH), Fundación Rewilding Argentina (FRA), Fundación Yetapá, Fundación Cambyretá para la Naturaleza, Fundación para el Estudio e Intervención Socioambiental (FEISA), Fundación Correntina para la Sanidad Animal (FUCOSA), Association of Friends of Los Glaciares NP, among others, as well as various national universities and research institutes.
43. At the local level, small family producers are identified—indigenous families in Laguna de los Pozuelos NM, livestock producing family in Los Cardones NP—agricultural or forestry producers in Iberá NP—and owners and administrators of ranches bordering Campos del Tuyú NP, Lihue Calel NP, Tierra del Fuego NP and Los Glaciares NP who will be key actors co-responsible for actions oriented toward better management of livestock, IAS control or wildfire prevention. Spaces for participation will be generated with them for the design and implementation of management plans. Also, as part of the private sector, the tourism sector—operators, tourism enterprises, or service companies—will be important collaborators for implementing actions and beneficiaries of the restoration actions achieved in PAs, as well as chambers or business groups or ranches that will contribute to actions with resources or benefit indirectly from knowledge and learning. A broad set of neighbors and indigenous communities in PAs vicinities are also identified as beneficiaries, who will be able to take advantage of this project's experience channeled through knowledge exchange, best practices and lessons learned. Indigenous peoples will play a key role in specific PAs both in contributing to strengthening the governance of ecological restoration processes in the context of advisory committees as well as incorporating their traditional knowledge in component 3. They will also participate in consultations involved in the development of the guidelines and program under component 1.
44. Work will be done with the actors mentioned and immediate school communities to each PA, and with clubs, local organizations and neighbors in the communication and awareness strategy. In this sense, the project represents an opportunity for articulation of each PA with its surroundings. Culturally sensitive management, constructive conflict management, sustained participation of

men and women and adequate communication will be key to its success in addition to achieving increased willingness to participate, territorial appropriation and facilitating social learning.

## B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole. The project description is expected to cover the key elements of good project design in an integrated way. It is also expected to meet the GEF’s policy requirements on gender, stakeholders, private sector, and knowledge management and learning (see section D). This section should be a narrative that reads like a joined-up story and not independent elements that answer the guiding questions contained in the guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

45. The problem addressed by the project comprises two concatenated elements: the degradation and progressive fragmentation of conservation values of ecosystems and biodiversity of seven PAs of Argentina and the consequent loss of resilience and natural regeneration capacities of these ecosystems and species to guarantee the sustained provision of ecosystem services to society. The theory of change describes the analysis of both the main causes that generate the current situation without the project, as well as the barriers that prevent reversing the environmental problem, that is, reducing the fragmentation of ecosystems and wildlife populations through the implementation of effective ecological restoration actions in degraded environments identified in the seven PAs. In this sense, there are three main types of disturbances or disruptions that these PAs and their BAs face (Table 1).
46. One of these disruptions is the presence of IAS—including feral livestock—that produce disturbances in natural systems, transmit diseases and compete with native flora and fauna, with special impact on species categorized as vulnerable or endangered, causing displacement, fragmentation and reduction of native populations. Second, inadequate management of domestic livestock in PAs poses a threat that requires special treatment due to the impact produced by excessive livestock stocks that bring soil compaction and erosion, as well as alterations in natural vegetation regeneration. Third, high-intensity and recurrent wildfires, especially in the central region, are favored by the accumulation of combustible biomass, in ecosystems characterized by water scarcity. Prolonged drought periods linked to meteorological conditions and climate variability generate more frequent scenarios of electrical storms, winds and heat waves with synergistic effects on this threat.

Table 2. Root causes of ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss that have the greatest impact on PAs selected by the project.

Protected area	Invasive alien species (IAS) (including feral livestock)	Domestic livestock (privately owned)	Wildfire
1. Campos del Tuyú NP	x	x	x
2. Lihue Calel NP			x
3. Iberá NP	x	x	x
4. Laguna de los Pozuelos NM		x	
5. Los Cardones NP		x	
6. Los Glaciares NP	x	x	
7. Tierra del Fuego NP	x	x	

47. The project proposes an intervention strategy aimed at promoting favorable conditions for coordinated planning and management between the PA and actors in its BA (private and public). In this direction, it will seek to strengthen governance with the participation of main institutional, social and community actors, with an approach that includes the perspectives of men and women and promotes equal opportunities that guarantee actions with differentiated approaches, in addition to equitable integration of women and men in situation analyses and decision-making processes, as well as foster youth participation in project activities. It will be necessary to have precise information that allows the development of dialogue and constructive conflict management spaces. In addition, the project will contribute to generating practical experience and knowledge on the application of measures to reduce fragmentation generated by IAS, livestock and wildfires.
48. Without this project, restoration interventions will continue to be isolated and intermittent, without a clear roadmap that responds to a long-term policy or strategy with adequate financing for its implementation. The responsibility for preventing

and reducing ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss will continue to fall exclusively on APN within its PAs, without a coordinated approach with actors in their surroundings, without the participation and commitment of key stakeholders, such as indigenous peoples, local populations, the private sector and local governments, who are, moreover, the main affected by the loss of ecosystem services and resilience in their territories. In this way, fragmentation leading to ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss will continue to increase and, if timely and effective measures are not adopted, the damage could become irreversible. To prevent this from happening, the project proposes developing three components:

49. **Component 1: Strengthened governance of ecological restoration processes in protected areas and buffer areas.** This component will allow configuring adequate spaces to address barrier 1, seeking to foster dialogue, collaboration and coordination among stakeholders for preventive and remedial actions in the territory related to the causes of ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss, as well as factors that aggravate them; it will strengthen intersectoral coordination, identify and manage potential conflicts, as well as implement specific actions to address the perspectives of women and men promoting equal opportunities.
50. **Component 2: Implementation of demonstrative interventions to address critical issues in ecological restoration, generate practical experience, collaborative work and replication.** This component has been designed to implement concrete ecological restoration actions in the territories of the 7 selected PAs, through control, reduction or suppression of threats affecting critical conservation values (IAS, inadequate livestock management, and large-scale highly recurrent wildfires). The ecological restoration approach to be applied is hybrid, integrating elements of active and passive restoration, where pressures are alleviated or removed (e.g. IAS competition, livestock overgrazing, wildfires) and populations or ecosystems are expected to unassisted recover as a response to disturbance elimination. Only in a few cases will active restoration of conservation values be applied (lowland grasslands, Andean highland wetlands and caldén forests). Implementation will allow testing various approaches and methodologies—some already being applied, others innovative—while evaluating the response of conservation values and thereby generating experience and knowledge, both technical and practical, for replicability. This component, the most practical of the project, will also allow putting into action throughout its implementation, the governance strategies that are created or strengthened under component 1. It is expected to overcome barriers 2, 3 and 4 with the implementation of this component.
51. **Component 3: Generation and dissemination of knowledge about sustainable ecological restoration actions in protected areas and their buffer areas.** This will reduce barriers to limited access and participation of key stakeholders in training actions, lack of experience exchange and awareness to achieve broad participation of different actors, with an approach that includes perspectives of men and women and promotes equal opportunities in developing actions in the territory and to address barrier 5.
52. The expected impact of this project's interventions will be to recover natural conditions of habitats and wildlife populations in the seven priority PAs. This will be achieved through the implementation of effective and integrated management, based on interinstitutional cooperation, sustained investments and stakeholder participation in applying ecological restoration actions appropriate for each PA. The theory of change diagram offers a schematic view of the environmental problem, barriers to be faced and how they are addressed through the project components and results, leading to expected impacts (Figure 1). The main hypotheses on which the causal connections of the theory of change are based are the following:
  - Authorities at different jurisdictional levels (national, provincial, municipal) are willing to cooperate and increase institutional efforts to execute joint restoration actions in their territories, with technical support from APN.
  - Women, men and youth in the selected PAs and their BAs are willing to adopt prevention, restoration and monitoring practices as a mechanism to protect conservation values that sustain environmental goods and services, livelihoods and local productive systems.
  - There are political and institutional commitments reflected in the availability of adequate personnel and financial resources to develop enabling conditions (i.e., improved governance, planning, knowledge and learning) in the seven selected PAs, as well as to maintain and replicate knowledge transfer processes, governance systems that include perspectives of men and women, and operational management in PAs and their BAs.

### Theory of change statement

53. Biodiversity degradation and loss of ecosystem resilience in Argentina's PAs are largely driven by the presence of IAS, inadequate management of livestock and recurrent wildfires, leading to significant shortcomings in the stated PAs' goals and

to unsustainable land use. This scenario is aggravated by poor knowledge management. The project proposes to overcome these barriers through strengthening governance, collaborative restoration, updating management practices and stakeholder awareness. These direct changes will allow advancement toward effective ecological restoration, with solid monitoring systems, demonstrative experiences and adoption of sustainable practices. Ultimately, global environmental benefits will be generated: conservation of globally important biodiversity, reduction of forest degradation and maintenance of ecosystem services essential for communities and nature.

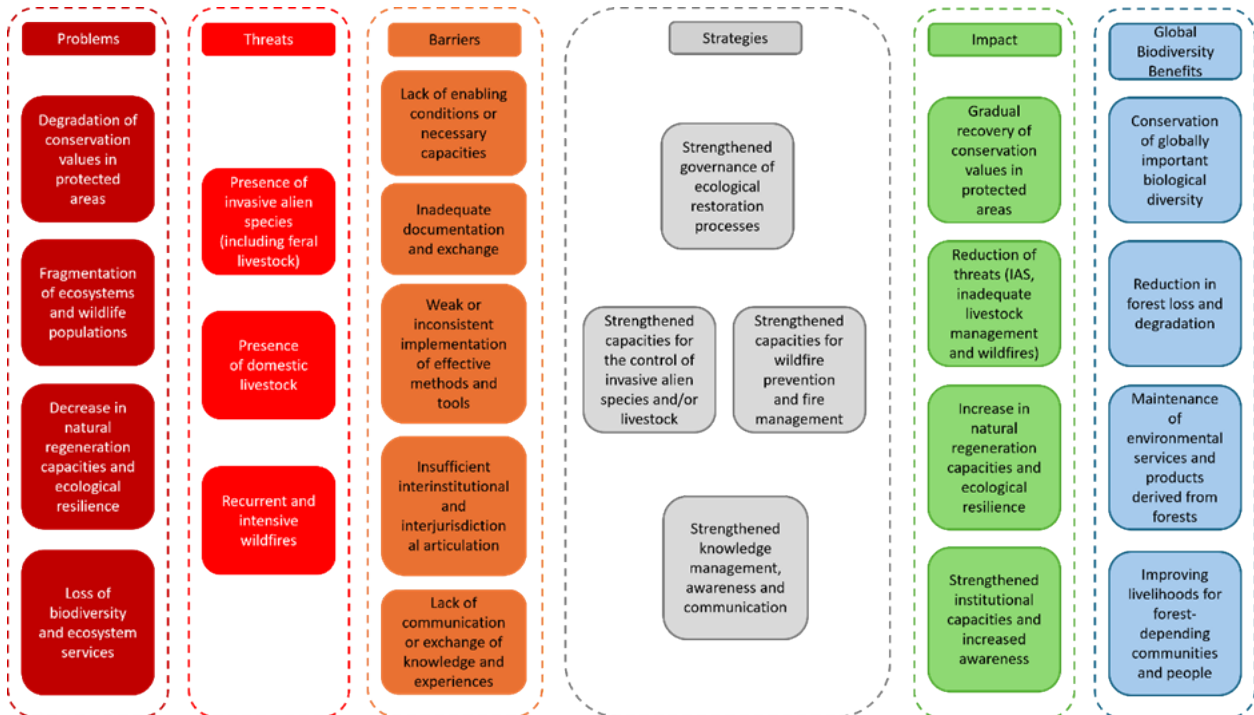


Figure 1. Theory of change diagram for the ecological restoration project in seven protected areas in Argentina.

### Expected results and project components

54. The project objective is to reduce ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss in seven selected protected areas and their buffer areas, to contribute to the recovery of their integrity, connectivity, and ecological resilience, in strategic alliance with key stakeholders. The project is organized into three components, five outcomes and 17 outputs to help address barriers that limit progressive recovery processes of conservation values of these deteriorated PAs (Figure 1).
55. This project has been designed in response to the narrative described in the scenario without GEF intervention. With this project, APN will lay the foundation for establishing a program with ecosystem-based solutions in PAs and their BAs through the development of integrated, coordinated and participatory ecological restoration processes and recovery of degraded conservation values in selected PAs, with a solid policy and specific roadmap. This implies a high level of participation of key stakeholders with various roles for achieving results, including the incorporation of specific strategies to guarantee involvement and obtaining project benefits for men and women, as well as a culturally appropriate participation for indigenous peoples and inclusion of resilience and adaptation to environmental changes and challenges in all its interventions. Below, the scope of project components is described:
56. **Component 1: Strengthened governance of ecological restoration processes in protected areas and buffer areas.** This component will focus on creating or improving enabling conditions to facilitate sustained application of ecological restoration actions with an ecosystem approach in coordination with local stakeholders (Result 1.1).
57. **Result 1.1. Improvement of enabling conditions for ecological restoration success, including perspectives of women and men and promoting equal opportunities.** First, the project will develop strategic institutional guidelines for diagnosis, planning, implementation and monitoring of ecological restoration processes in PAs and their BAs (Output 1.1.1), in collaboration with key stakeholders – including Indigenous people-, paying attention to including perspectives of women and men and promoting equal opportunities. This output will include reviewing and/or updating existing technical guidelines and development of new guidelines for ecological restoration of ecosystems impacted by IAS, livestock and wildfires. It will address species reintroduction and population supplementation, post-fire restoration, active restoration associated with APN

plant nursery production, among other strategies. These guidelines will complement PA management plans by providing guidance for the identification of degradation factors, formulation of comprehensive corrective strategies appropriate to area conditions, and monitoring and knowledge management mechanisms (e.g., scientific research and technological innovation). These guidelines will contemplate provisions with a differentiated approach for men and women—especially for data analysis and action definition—and must implement the participatory approach among the guidelines promoted by the project.

58. Second, the project will promote the establishment of an ecological restoration program or operational unit within the structure of APN's National Conservation Directorate (Output 1.1.2). This program or unit is expected to focus on providing technical and scientific tools for ecological restoration and establishing a roadmap to direct, coordinate and supervise ecological restoration in the scope of national system PAs.
59. Third, the project will support the development of sustainable financing mechanisms suitable for APN's SNAP (Output 1.1.3). The recovery of degraded ecosystems requires long-term, diversified, and resilient financial mechanisms that support both the environmental aspects of the initiatives, and socio-economic benefits for beneficiaries and stakeholders. The design of financial tools could include public or private investments through innovative models and instruments. Governance frameworks and monitoring of their transparency will be addressed along with the development of the mechanisms. The overarching aim is to ensure that restoration efforts are not only ecologically effective and socially inclusive but also financially stable
60. Fourth, the project will strengthen the participation of local actors in restoration initiatives (Output 1.1.4) through local advisory or consultative committees, or similar participatory spaces, as there is a growing need to establish broader and more formal collaborations to address current ecological restoration challenges in PAs. Since the sustainability of project interventions will depend on the long-term contribution of key actors to restoration actions the project will promote or strengthen these participation spaces, for dialogue, exchange and information analysis, intersectoral coordination of preventive and corrective actions in the territory and constructive conflict management on various topics of interest, including those derived from degradation and biodiversity loss. In addition to key public institutions, the following will also participate: civil society organizations and science and technology institutions—universities and research centers—who will play a key role in providing knowledge, information, technical assistance and other resources necessary for the effectiveness and sustainability of proposed strategies; the local productive sector, whether these are owners and/or administrators of ranches in BAs or near intervention sites; indigenous and rural communities that are beneficiaries and/or could be affected by project activities. These committees will need to include topics of local interest and incorporate issues, approaches, and strategies that include the perspectives of women, men, and young people, promoting equal opportunities. They will also consider traditional governance mechanisms and implement Free, Prior and Informed Consent processes for the participation of Indigenous peoples in PAs where they are present.
61. Finally, the project will organize interjurisdictional articulation processes to support ecological restoration initiatives (Output 1.1.5) with a view beyond the physical or administrative boundary of the PA. This will involve promoting policy coherence between various strategies, institutional frameworks and ecological restoration norms with national public institutions (such as SENASA, National Fire Management Service, Gendarmerie), provincial (Secretariats or Directorates with responsibility for fire control policies, or agricultural activities, among others), as well as municipal institutions with environmental competencies, with two specific purposes: strengthen the necessary link between policies and field interventions, especially in those spaces where APN has no jurisdiction (i.e., spaces under the competence of provincial or local governments), and create practical experience and knowledge that can be shared and applied in other PAs of the national system and in other countries with similar problems.
62. **Component 2: Implementation of demonstrative interventions to address critical issues in ecological restoration, generate practical experience, collaborative work and replication.** This component will focus on developing interventions in the territory of the seven priority PAs. These interventions will allow obtaining information, practical knowledge—including traditional knowledge and practices of Indigenous peoples-, experience and lessons on various practices to restore degraded ecosystems and species, all of which will have a high degree of collaborative work. For this, in addition to the participation of all identified stakeholders, specific processes will be put in place to guarantee the participation of indigenous and rural producer families—especially in Laguna de los Pozuelos NM, Los Cardones NP, and Iberá NP—owners and administrators of ranches or farms bordering PAs—e.g. in Tierra del Fuego NP, Los Glaciares NP, Lihue Calel NP, Iberá NP, Campos del Tuyú NP—whose participation is essential for understanding threats and opportunities for ecosystem recovery will be key. The component comprises three expected results designed to address barriers 2, 3, and 4.

63. **Result 2.1: Gradual recovery of conservation values that have been degraded by the presence of invasive alien species, livestock or wildfires in seven protected areas and their buffer areas.** The project will prepare a scientific baseline of affected ecosystems and factors that trigger degradation in each PA (Output 2.1.1). This analysis must provide sufficient technical-scientific information and knowledge about the magnitude of impacts to adjust pertinent strategies and action plans. Additionally, it will allow specifying necessary investments in works and equipment to prevent damage, begin restoration of degraded ecosystems and biodiversity recovery. To verify that project interventions have the desired impact on conservation values and/or reduce pressures causing their degradation, retraction or fragmentation, each PA will have a monitoring plan to track and evaluate responses or identify trends in recovery of degraded ecosystems and species (Output 2.1.2). This will allow actions to be adjusted or reformulated in a timely manner according to recovery responses.
64. **Result 2.2 Strengthened capacities for invasive alien species and domestic livestock management in six protected areas and their buffer areas, with effective participation and incorporation of local knowledge and perspectives from men and women, as well as promotion of actions oriented to generate equal opportunities.** Interventions for ecological restoration require comprehensive understanding of each ecosystem, species and scenario. That is, managing factors that produce disturbances, knowing natural regeneration capacities, managing abiotic and biotic processes, and involving key stakeholders (e.g., indigenous and rural communities, private sector and local governments) in decision-making, restoration actions and ecosystem recovery monitoring. In PAs, this also implies protection and regeneration of conservation values, rehabilitation of degraded areas and rational management of productive areas in BAs to guarantee the functioning of ecological processes, provision of ecosystem services and responsible interactions of people with the ecosystem.
65. Collaborative plans for the early detection, prevention, control and monitoring of IAS, and for livestock management with a regenerative approach, will be developed and implemented adapted to the particularities of each PA and its surroundings (Outputs 2.2.1 and 2.2.2). IAS management effort will focus on feral pigs or wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), axis deer (*Axis axis*) and feral livestock (cattle, horses and sheep). The best course of action (prevention, elimination, containment or control) will be determined depending on the invasion phase documented at project start (baseline). To support these processes, key stakeholder participation will also be promoted through information and awareness campaigns on IAS and their impact, and on how they can contribute to reducing the damage caused (Output 2.2.3). These campaigns will focus on participation and involvement of neighbors—especially through the educational communities, indigenous or rural communities, small or large-scale landholders, local and provincial governments, national government entities—for example, National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality (SENASA), National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA) and National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET)—universities, non-governmental organizations and other ongoing restoration initiatives. All activities under Result 2.2. will be carried out with effective participation and incorporation of local knowledge and perspectives from men and women, as well as promotion of actions oriented to generate equal opportunities. In the case of identified indigenous communities, and in accordance with the national legislation of Argentina and the GEF ESS policy, it involves developing prior, free and informed consent processes for plan development and maintaining good faith dialogue instances to manage information and other possible benefits that are identified.
66. The experience and lessons learned from demonstrative interventions will be shared and transferred through experience exchange events, training and dissemination of good practices that will be developed in Component 3 of this project.
67. **Result 2.3: Strengthened capacities for wildfire prevention and ecological fire management in three protected areas and their buffer areas.** The third result of component 2 aims to strengthen capacities for preventing recurrent and intense wildfires and ecological fire management in three PAs: Iberá NP, Campos del Tuyú NP and Lihué Calel NP. The project proposes to significantly strengthen the implementation of collaborative plans—already developed and in force—for fire prevention and control and for using fire for ecological purposes (through prescribed fire) (Output 2.3.1.). Plan implementation will be strengthened with early warning systems for fire outbreaks that will incorporate cutting-edge technology, substantial improvement of available equipment for firefighting, and constant evaluation of the impacts and performance of field actions. The project will also contribute to strengthening APN through operational resources to intensify fire prevention actions and prescribed fire, improving and maintaining firebreak systems, trails, water supply sources, water reserves, elimination of combustible plant material through cuts or prescribed fire, among others. To support these actions, active participation of stakeholders, men and women, will be promoted, especially favoring youth involvement. The approach will be applied not only to guarantee women's participation, but also to incorporate information and determine actions with a differentiated approach. Adaptive management of fire management will be promoted.
68. The application of these plans will be more successful to the extent that the project manages to establish collaborative networks with local stakeholders. Therefore, a key element will be the implementation of information and awareness campaigns on wildfire prevention and ecological fire management (Output 2.3.2). These campaigns will promote the

integration of youth and women in wildfire prevention and management processes, as well as early detection of wildfires and use of prescribed fire in the three PAs for which their equitable participation will be favored as well as the incorporation of an equitable approach in diagnoses and design.

69. **Component 3: Generation and dissemination of knowledge about sustainable ecological restoration actions in protected areas and their buffer areas.** This component will document and disseminate lessons learned among stakeholders and the general public, integrating and sharing traditional knowledge and practices of Indigenous peoples.
- The expected result is strengthening knowledge management, awareness and communication on ecological restoration in PAs and their BAs (Result 3.1). This result will aim to generate benefits related to access to information and capacity strengthening, improving the willingness and appropriation of all stakeholders for developing actions in the territory. Additionally, it will also aim to generate benefits to a broader public—neighbors in towns or cities near PAs, the educational community in particular—as it is expected to increase the quantity, quality and distribution of existing information and adequate dissemination to ensure equitable access, strengthening institutional and general public capacities. The communication strategy will be implemented broadly with focus on the need to generate a perception change on various project topics. Actions will consider approaches sensitive to contexts and cultures in each PA, as well as adequate strategies to work with men and women, and especially with youth and children.
70. **Result 3.1: Strengthened knowledge management, awareness and communication about ecological restoration in protected areas and their buffer areas, including perspectives and ensuring equitable participation conditions of men and women as well, in addition to youth.** To achieve this result, the project proposes developing a communication and awareness strategy for specific groups and sites, with the participation of key stakeholders, paying attention to men, women and youth, in the seven selected PAs (Output 3.1.1). This strategy will establish the guiding framework within which each of the project's PAs will design and implement their respective thematic and local communication campaigns (see Outputs 2.2.3 and 2.3.2.). The Project will allocate funds to the development of a communication and awareness-raising strategy with a behavior change focus. The strategy will be grounded in an initial Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) assessment conducted across the seven protected areas. This approach will enable audience segmentation and the tailoring of messages and communication channels to the diverse socio-territorial contexts of the selected protected areas. The strategy will be implemented on the ground by communication and environmental education agents from each protected area through an integrated approach that combines awareness-raising, capacity building, systematization, and the exchange of experiences, while promoting the active engagement of women, youth, Indigenous communities, and other community stakeholders. To ensure effectiveness and enable adjustments to the strategy, the Project will finance an external audit service. This process will not only assess media reach but will also include post-intervention perception studies to measure actual behavioral changes among specific target groups. The audit results will allow for the dynamic adjustment of the strategy and will guide behavior change communication actions in specific groups and locations.
71. The project will also record lessons learned, and systematize implemented good practices, particularly from results obtained in component 2, so that they strengthen the existing body of knowledge on ecological restoration actions in intervened ecosystems and in the field of restoration in general (Output 3.1.2). In this sense, the effort and investment that the project allocates for developing baselines at the beginning of interventions and for regular monitoring of changes or trends aim to ensure that extracting lessons is a feasible goal. Once lessons learned and good practices are identified, compiled and validated, they will be communicated and disseminated in various areas settings and to various audiences, in appropriate forms and channels. In collecting lessons and practices, perspectives of men and women will be incorporated including disaggregated information and experiences, as well as ensuring equitable participation conditions for men and women, in addition to youth. Lessons learned and best practices in addressing gender<sup>111</sup> inequalities and promoting women's empowerment will also be included. The project foresees organizing formal knowledge exchange events, with the objective of ensuring that experiences gained are widely known, and promoting appropriation by APN technical and field teams, partners, and local stakeholders. Additionally, interinstitutional and academic exchange events, among others, are foreseen. It is important to highlight that knowledge exchange includes institutional and community levels, involving communities that are within and around intervention areas (Result 3.1) to share best practices and encourage replication of successful approaches.
72. Project communication will be complemented by an online knowledge management platform on ecological restoration (hosted on the official Argentine State portal: <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/>), connected to APN's [Biodiversity Information System](#) (Output 3.1.4). The objective is to facilitate stakeholders' access to information and disseminate lessons learned and best practices. Finally, the project will develop capacity building processes through training activities, among others (Output

3.1.5). These activities are expected to strengthen both institutional and community capacities and consider the participation of women and youth from local communities. Transversally, the project will generate important benefits for the tourism sector specialized in nature-based tourism: guides, companies, transport companies, hospitality and gastronomy, as well as men and women who engage in tourism in the seven PAs.

73. In PA management structure, women's institutional participation is high, although there are not always explicit strategies for equitable role assignment to men and women, or promotion of measures that ensure equitable access to specific tasks (e.g. equipment adapted to fire management tasks).
74. A transversal aspect to all PAs is the absence of systematic and disaggregated data. There is no precise information about the number of women in technical, hierarchical or community roles, nor about the differentiated impact of conservation policies. This lack of information not only makes women's contributions invisible but also limits the design of inclusive strategies and the possibility of evaluating equity in management. Based on this analysis, an action plan has been developed that deepens this analysis and identifies specific strategies and actions by output, as well as indicators.
75. It is considered that there is willingness on the part of teams and opportunities to implement the plan that foresees in addition to guaranteeing effective participation of women, generating capacities in teams, incorporating criteria for differentiated perspective analysis and including sex-disaggregated data among several other measures to mitigate risks; in participatory activities: promote effective participation of women and men in all phases of activities, as well as content that contemplates specificities of men and women; in training activities: considering specific content about perspective and approach in clear language adapted to project activities to sensitize men and women for officials, technical teams and other stakeholders; in specific activities of demonstrative interventions of ecological restoration promote equitable participation in action implementation in order to reduce role assignment based on stereotypes and gaps in equitable treatment, as well as social and cultural gaps; transversally promote participation of specialists in these topics when pertinent; transversally develop awareness programs and capacity strengthening for equity between men and women and mainstreaming of this approach in policies, programs and projects of involved institutions; ensure that GSM maintains active a management protocol for cases of GBV complaints that may be linked to the Project.
76. Annex H includes the GAP that foresees specific actions and indicators for each output and includes specific activities associated with generating capacities for plan implementation and a social specialist who ensures its articulation with project activities.
77. Some organizations are co-financiers or contribute key resources to this project and are members of local advisory councils in addition to participants in activities of all components.
78. During the project preparation phase, various activities related to stakeholder participation were developed—individual interviews, work meetings, forum presentations, participatory workshops, virtual consultations, preparation and discussion of working documents—with the objective of presenting the Project, collecting relevant information, identifying interests, and corroborating social and environmental risks and ultimately improving the final design quality in a participatory manner. This stage allowed confirming and deepening PIF information but also expanding intervention options—considering alternatives to watering hole closure such as rotational use to provide options to families engaged in livestock activities—identifying co-benefits that can result in incentives for the private sector to support control initiatives—for example perimeter fence repair, or co-construction of collaborative livestock plans to regularize permittee situations, among others. The project has contributions from all pertinent APN areas and other state institutions, civil society organizations, universities and other science and technology

organizations, in addition to the private sector and communities with interest in the project. Especially, in relation to Indigenous Peoples, research and consultations were carried out with reference organizations and institutions, as well as a process of Free, Prior and Informed Consent with Indigenous peoples and their representative authorities. More than 50 participatory activities (workshops, meetings and interviews) were developed and more than 134 people, 59 % women and 41 % men participated in project development.

79. A Stakeholder Map was developed that identified key actors for the project, that is, people, groups or institutions whose participation is essential and required for fulfilling the purpose, objectives and results of the initiative to be developed. The Map included an analysis of the role to be played by each actor, the level of influence and interest in the project, existing relationships and an analysis of impacts, risks and possible management measures. This analysis was done specifically for each of the 7 PAs and for each project component. Participation levels and communication means when appropriate are described for each project component since the same actor may have differentiated roles according to the component.
80. The participation plan is carried out considering a systemic approach and has an adaptive character for achieving project results. Considering committed results and outputs, the particular context of each PA and risks and proposed management measures, the participation plan proposes general activities by output and transversal for all PAs and specific guidelines for each area. Participatory activities are dynamic in character and must be reviewed at project start, and adapted as it unfolds, to be sensitive to the type of activity, the context in which it is implemented and stakeholders. Below, participation principles, levels and main activities are shared synthetically.
81. General principles are proposed to guide participation throughout the entire project and that should be monitored by the Project Coordinator and Monitoring Specialist, as well as the person(s) in charge of coordinating the SEP, IPP and GAP, as well as the communication strategy:
- **Institutional commitment:** for effective participation, institutional commitment is key, manifested at the beginning and during activities, allocating logistical and technical resources, and generating timely responses.
  - **Participation of interested stakeholders:** careful work of identifying key actors who will participate in each space, individuals and organizations, must always be maintained, seeking that all those relevant for achieving objectives are included, considering the participation of men, women and youth and what is foreseen for indigenous peoples in corresponding cases. Special consideration should be given to power asymmetries of different groups and design appropriate calls, spaces and dialogues so that contributions from each sector can be made.
  - **Generation and dissemination of relevant and reliable information** for all actors, understandable and accessible. This principle is transversal for all activities and specifically for component 3. An element of effective participation is that stakeholders have adequate, sufficient, timely and accessible information, expressed in simple language according to context and type of group being worked with. To this effect, appropriate means for each territory will be considered; for example: website publications, meetings, radio reports, brochures, exhibitions, direct mail, among others.
  - **Conflict Sensitivity:** even when the Project expects low levels of negative impacts or conflicts in its implementation, work must be done with sensitivity, analyzing the context and identifying potential tensions, or existing confrontation situations. This with the objective of implementing conflict prevention strategies when possible and otherwise activating adequate response mechanisms. Complaint and conflict management will be carried out through the GSM, which APN already has in operation and proposes a procedure with an adequate standard for the Project. This must be complemented with sensitive management by teams from each PA with their relevant actors in the territory and strengthening their capacities for constructive conflict management is recommended.
  - **Cultural sensitivity.** PAs are inserted in 7 different contexts so it must be sensitive to cultural factors. Cultural sensitivity has a diversity of nuances: being sensitive to different capacity levels or asymmetries of key actors; existing diversity in territories between actors and production types; various languages—technical, common, etc.—; an adequate approach to men and women; sensitivity to cultural aspects of indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups such as rural farmers. In particular, for Indigenous peoples and communities located in protected areas, a specific participation plan is envisaged in the IPP.

82. According to the output and stakeholders involved there will be differentiated participation levels whether these are **informative**—which involve providing clear and accessible information to understand the issues in question, opportunities and alternatives; **consultative and dialogue** where stakeholders can generate knowledge and address positions, interests and concerns, and evaluate alternatives that better guide decision-making or finally **decision-making** instances oriented to reach definitive consensus—expressed in conventions, agreements, protocols, plans—or that inform decision-making by the competent authority.
83. Project activities oriented to producing and sharing information, whether about IAS, livestock management or fire management, are expected to increase the quantity, quality and distribution of existing information and that adequate dissemination ensures equitable access, strengthening institutional and general public capacities. The communication strategy should be implemented broadly with a focus on the need to generate a perception change on various project topics.
84. Below, different **spaces and activities** are referred to. The project proposes a series of actions linked to increasing articulation, dialogue and consensual decision-making between stakeholders—through Interjurisdictional Articulation, Local Advisory Committees or participatory spaces and collaborative processes for planning, designing or development of campaigns. These types of actions are expected to generate a benefit in restoration objectives and in collaborative PA management for which relationship with their vicinity is key.
85. In the case of actions involving grassroots communities or small and medium producers, work will be done with consideration of aspects related to the particular culture of the sector and the productive dimension. For example, in the case of livestock, identification of sustainable practices, exchange activities should consider these aspects and be sensitive to the sector's capacity for change, as well as to the selection of incentives that the sector visualizes as necessary (e.g. good livestock practices that increase field productivity, sustainable alternative economic practices).
86. A Project Advisory Committee will be formed to review progress and provide strategic guidance. This committee will be composed of the GEF implementing agency (CAF), the entity that will execute the initiative (APN) and civil society organizations and representations of local beneficiaries. This committee will analyze project progress and provide recommendations and improvement proposals to facilitate achievement of project goals.
87. In addition, during the inception workshop in which key actors identified to generate project appropriation will participate, it is important to clarify complementary roles and responsibilities, present key aspects linked to communication, training, as well as the GSM. This instance is key to share central aspects of SEP, IPP and GAP, so a training is proposed for the entire project team including coordination and support from the National Directorate, Regional Directorates, as well as from each PA to strengthen capacities for participation, collaboration and constructive conflict management and mainstreaming of equity strategies to guarantee compliance with social safeguards and improve collaborative project implementation.
88. The SEP offers guidelines, indicates the level of participation for each output, as well as proposes indicators to assess progress in participation. Whenever necessary, specific provisions are made for each PA. Presented below is a table detailing the roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders.

National level					
Sector	Related PAs	Institutions	Responsibilities	Role in the Project	Component
Governmental	All PAs	<b>National Parks Administration (APN):</b> National Conservation Directorate (DNC); Environmental Management and Planning Coordination; People and Communities Coordination (PCC); Natural Resources Management Program; General Human Resources Directorate (DGRH); Training and Career Development Directorate (DCyDC); Communications and Institutional Relations Directorate (DCyRI), East-Central Protected Areas Program (PAPCE); Southern Patagonia Regional Directorate (DRPA); Northern Patagonia Regional Directorate (DRPN); Northeast Regional Directorate (DNREA); Northwest Regional Directorate (DRNOA); National Operations Directorate (DNO); Fire and Emergency Response Directorate (DLIFE); Los Glaciares NP; Tierra del Fuego NP; Lihué Calel NP; Iberá NP; Campos del Tuyú NP; Laguna de los Pozuelos NM; Los Cardones NP.	Responsible for managing the country's most important protected areas as spaces for the conservation of natural and cultural heritage, research, sustainable tourism, and local development.	Project executor/ co-financier Is the institution where the project will be physically located. It will primarily perform coordination functions with other entities and direction of the different stages of implementation. It is a member of the Project Steering Committee. It leads and convenes partners and participating institutions for project implementation.	1, 2, 3

<b>Governmental</b>	All PAs	Federal Environmental Council (COFEMA)	Interjurisdictional body that coordinates environmental policy between the Nation, the provinces, and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, coordinating guidelines and agreements on environmental management.	Participant in an advisory role especially for the articulation between initiatives with similar objectives	1, 2, 3
<b>Governmental</b>	All PAs	Secretariat of Tourism, Environment, and Sports; National Undersecretariat of Environment.	Federal public institution responsible for environmental policy and its coordination with sectors such as tourism and sports within the framework of the Secretariat.	Participant in an advisory role especially for the articulation between initiatives with similar objectives	1, 2, 3
<b>Governmental</b>	All PAs	National Fire Management Service, Gendarmerie, Ministry of Security, Ministry of Transport, Road Authority, Federal Police, National Service of Agro-Food Health and Quality (SENASA), National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA), National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET)	National public institutions responsible for the regulation, control, and management of security, transportation, and road infrastructure, scientific and technological institutions, among others.	Among them, strategic partners are identified in the interjurisdictional coordination bodies where they will seek to articulate policies, programs, projects or specific practices in restoration and also collaborators in interventions contributing with knowledge and/or resources.	1, 2, 3
<b>Governmental</b>	Laguna de los Pozuelos NM, Iberá NP, Tierra del Fuego NP	National Institute of Indigenous Affairs (INAI)	Centralized body (Decree No. 438/2025) created to implement public policies and guarantee the rights of indigenous peoples in the country.	Participant in an advisory role on issues related to Indigenous Peoples within the framework of the project	1, 2, 3
<b>Science and Technology</b>	All PAs	National University of Tierra del Fuego (UNTdF); University of Buenos Aires (UBA); National University of La Pampa (UNLPam); National University of the Center (UNICEN); National University of Mar del Plata (UNMdP); National University of La Plata (UNLP); National University of San Andrés (UdeSA); National University of Jujuy (UNJu); National University of Salta (UNSa); National University of Córdoba (UNC)	Universities that conduct research and/or have projects associated with the project's topics or work in the PA's area of influence.	Collaborators in interventions providing knowledge and other technical input	1, 2, 3
<b>Civil Society</b>	Laguna de los Pozuelos NM, Iberá NP, Lihue Calel NP, Campos del Tuyú NP	Fundación Humedales (FH), Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina (FVS), Fundación Rewilding Argentina (FRA), Alianza del Pastizal (AdP), Asociación Argentina de Grupos Jardín	National organizations with environmental objectives and local action in protected areas.	Collaborators in interventions contributing with knowledge and/or resources. In some cases, they are strategic partners due to the scale of the territorial projects or resources provided, or due to their long-standing territorial commitment to programs related to the Project. In all cases, they will be key players in achieving results and supporting the PAs. They also benefit from the achievement of project results.	1, 2, 3
<b>Private</b>	All PAs	Argentine Chamber of National Park Concessionaires; Argentine Association of Travel and Tourism Agencies; Association of Tourism Hotels (AHTRA); Transener SA	Private sector organizations that represent or manage strategic services in tourism, hospitality,	Participants in activities in an advisory role	1, 3

			and energy, operating in protected areas, linked to the provision of infrastructure, economic activity, and coordination with the State.		
<b>Provincial level</b>					
<b>Governmental</b>	All PAs	Tourism Secretariat of the Province of Santa Cruz, Ministry of Tourism of Corrientes, Ministry of Production and Environment of Tierra del Fuego, Undersecretariat of Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Diversity of Tierra del Fuego, Ministry of Government, Justice and Human Rights of Tierra del Fuego, Ministry of Security of La Pampa, Ministry of Public Construction and Services of La Pampa, Ministry of Environment of Buenos Aires, Ministry of Production and Sustainable Development of Salta, Directorate of Water Resources of the province of Jujuy, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Jujuy, Corporation for the Development of the Pozuelos Basin (CO.DE.PO), Provincial Roads, Police, Firefighters, Brigadiers	Institutions responsible for managing public environmental and tourism policies, transportation, and road infrastructure, and for managing indigenous peoples' policies with levels of coordination with national protected areas.	Strategic partners in interjurisdictional coordination bodies where specific restoration policies, programs, projects or practices will be coordinated - Collaborators in interventions contributing knowledge and/or resources	<b>1, 2, 3</b>
<b>Governmental</b>	Lihué Calel NP, Tierra del Fuego NP, Iberá NP, Los Cardones NP	General Acha and Puelches Schools (La Pampa), No. 13 school (Tierra del Fuego), Camba Trapo Primary School, Paraje Uruguay Primary School, Colonia Carlos Pellegrini Secondary School, Multi-grade Primary School Cerro Negro del Tirao (Salta) and other educational establishments.	Public educational institutions at the primary, secondary, or multi-level levels that collaborate with PAs in environmental education activities.	Participants in activities -consultation role- and will also be beneficiaries, as they will be key in awareness-raising activities through campaigns. A special role is identified for their contributions to the equitable participation of women and men and the involvement of youth.	<b>3</b>
<b>Governmental</b>	Los Glaciares NP	Provincial Agrarian Council (CAP) - (Santa Cruz)	Technical body managing provincial reserves, composed of producers, farm workers, and specialized professionals.	Strategic partners in interjurisdictional coordination bodies where specific restoration policies, programs, projects or practices will be coordinated - Collaborators in interventions contributing knowledge and/or resources	<b>1, 2</b>
<b>Science and Technology</b>	Tierra del Fuego NP	Spatial Data Infrastructure for Tierra del Fuego, Antarctica and the South Atlantic Islands (IDETDF)	A network of public, scientific-technical, and private institutions from the province and the national government that works together to organize and provide access to the province's public geospatial information.	Collaborators in interventions contributing knowledge	<b>1, 3</b>
<b>Private</b>	Iberá NP, Los Glaciares NP, Tierra del Fuego NP	Santa Cruz Tourist Guides Association (AGUISAC); Corrientes Chamber of Tourism; TRANEX SRL (End of the World Train)	Provincial tourism sector organizations that represent and coordinate guides and service providers, contributing to the development, promotion, and regulation of tourism activities in PA territories.	Participants in activities in an advisory role and collaborators in awareness-raising strategies on the threats and opportunities of restoration proposed by the project	<b>1, 3</b>
<b>Civil Society</b>	Tierra del Fuego NP	Association of Officials and Lawyers in Defense of Animal Rights (AFADA), Abolitionist Lawyers, Friends of the Fuegian Animal Kingdom (ARAF)	Civil society organizations dedicated to wildlife protection and animal welfare, with information on PA	Participants in activities in an advisory role and in particular in some cases organizations working on issues that are sensitive to the project with which timely communication will be especially necessary.	<b>2, 3</b>

			territories and surrounding areas.		
<b>Municipal/local level</b>					
<b>Governmental</b>	All PAs	Municipality of El Calafate (Santa Cruz), Municipality of Tolhuin, Municipality of Ushuaia (Tierra del Fuego), Municipality of Ituzaingó, Municipality of San Miguel, Municipality of Colonia Carlos Pellegrini (Corrientes), Municipality of General Lavalle, Municipality of La Costa (Buenos Aires), Municipality of Rinconada (Jujuy) and municipal commissioners of Jujuy.	Local public administration institutions.	Strategic partners in interjurisdictional coordination bodies where specific restoration policies, programs, projects or practices will be coordinated - Collaborators in interventions contributing knowledge and/or resources	<b>1, 2, 3</b>
<b>Civil Society</b>	Ibera NP, Los Cardones NP, Los Glaciares NP	Fundación Yetapá, Fundación Cambyretá para la Naturaleza, Fundación para el Estudio e Intervención Socioambiental (FEISA), Asociación Amigos del Parque Nacional Los Glaciares	Foundations with a presence in PA territories or surrounding areas that work in conservation, environmental education, and the development of socio-environmental projects.	Collaborators in interventions contributing knowledge and/or resources. In some cases, they are strategic partners due to the scale of the territorial projects or resources provided, or due to their long-standing territorial commitment to programs related to the Project. In all cases, they will be key players in achieving results and supporting the PAs. They also benefit from the achievement of project results.	<b>1, 2, 3</b>
<b>Civil Society</b>	Tierra del Fuego NP, Lihue Calel NP	Fundación Anfibia, Asociación Tradicionalista de Doma y Folklore 'Los Federales', Bird Watchers Club Ñacurutú, Fundación Hábitat y Desarrollo.	Civil society organizations with a presence in PA territories or surrounding areas, dedicated to educational, cultural, and/or socio-environmental research activities.	Collaborators in interventions contributing knowledge. They also benefit from the achievement of project results.	<b>1, 2, 3</b>
<b>Civil Society</b>	Tierra del Fuego NP, Iberia NP, Los Glaciares NP	Asociación Manekenk, Curuzú Cuatía Hunters and Conservation Association, Mountaineering Clubs	Community and sports organizations linked to nature tourism and environmental education in areas adjacent to protected areas, which facilitate recreational, educational, or conservation activities, acting as a bridge between the local community and PA management policies.	Participants in activities in an advisory role. They also benefit from the achievement of project results.	<b>1, 2, 3</b>
<b>Private</b>	Los Glaciares NP, Lihue Calel NP, Iberá NP, Campos del Tuyú NP, Tierra del Fuego NP	Ranches in the central zone of Los Glaciares NP: Dos Hermanos, Santa Teresita, La Sola, La Unión, Ranches in the northern zone of Los Glaciares NP: San José, Río Túnel, Neighboring areas of Lihue Calel NP: Sierra Chica, Liu-Co (Aguas Blancas), El Bocha, Iberá Ranch of Fundación Rewilding Argentina, Forestal Argentina producer Montenegro in Iberá NP, Pellegrini Zone (Corrientes): Mota, Popesku, Guikini, Ayala, Rodríguez, Fernández Llano, Enciso, Cabral, Cantero, Caram, El Tránsito Ranch Cambyretá Zone (Corrientes): Ranch 11, Ranches near Campos del Tuyú NP: El Erandio, La Argentina, La Linconia, Las Tijeras, El Divisadero; horse owners in Tierra del Fuego	Producers with agricultural, livestock or forestry activities within or adjacent to the PAs	Participants and co-responsible parties in the demonstration interventions will be involved in the collaborative development of management plans for IAS, livestock management, and fire management. Also, some of them are members of advisory commissions. Beneficiaries. They will benefit from the incorporation of more efficient management practices or restoration in the PAs. Some impacts may also be identified and will be appropriately managed according to the guidelines identified in the plans, ensuring their early and continuous participation.	<b>1, 2, 3</b>
<b>Private</b>	Iberá NP, Campos del Tuyú	General Lavalle Rural Society (Buenos Aires), Ituzaingó Rural Society, Mercedes Rural Society (Corrientes), Abra Pampa Livestock Board (Jujuy)	Gathering of agricultural producers and multisectoral spaces on livestock	Participants in activities in an advisory role	<b>1, 2</b>

	NP, Laguna de los Pozuelos NM		management operating in PA areas.		
<b>Private</b>	Los Glaciares NP, Tierra del Fuego NP	Nibepo Ranch Aike; Lago Argentino Andean Club; Hielo y Aventura S. A Concessionaire; ARGOS S. A; El Chaltén Mountain Guides Association (AGMEC); El Calafate Tourist Accommodation Civil Association; El Calafate Chamber of Commerce, Tourism, Industry and Related Industries; Fuegian Association of Travel and Tourism Agencies (AAFUVyT); Tierra del Fuego Association of Tourism Professionals (A.Pro.Tur); hotels such as Hotel Arakur	Associations and concessionaires operating within or around protected areas as guides or providers offering specialized tourism services (e.g., hiking, sailing, lodging, commerce), with investments in infrastructure and operations authorized by the National Parks Administration.	Collaborators in interventions providing resources and technical support, participants in an advisory role and also beneficiaries for achieving the project results	<b>1, 2, 3</b>
<b>Indigenous Peoples</b>	Laguna de los Pozuelos NM, Tierra del Fuego NP	Ciénago Grande Aboriginal Community and the Mamani, Mamani, Julián, and Calizaya Indigenous Producer Families; Yagán Paiakola Indigenous Community	Indigenous communities present in protected areas, recognized as collective subjects of law, bearers of traditional knowledge and with cultural, historical, and spiritual ties to the territory, whose participation in PA management is contemplated in national and international regulatory frameworks.	Participants and co-responsible parties in the demonstration interventions will be involved in the collaborative development of livestock management plans. Beneficiaries involved in the incorporation of more efficient management practices or restoration in the PAs. Some impacts may also be identified and will be appropriately managed according to the guidelines identified in the plans, ensuring their early and continuous participation. In particular, the strategies for engaging these indigenous communities and families are outlined in the PPI.  Participants consulted for the elaboration of guidelines and program and active participation in sharing lessons and traditional knowledge with other stakeholders at national level.	<b>1, 2, 3</b>
<b>Indigenous Peoples</b>	Iberá NP, Laguna de los Pozuelos NM	Mboi Cuá Indigenous Community; Kolla People Communities surrounding Laguna de los Pozuelos NM	Other Indigenous communities present in protected areas, with indirect involvement.	Participants in activities and beneficiaries that will also be key in awareness-raising activities through campaigns and the effects of fire management and IAS control. They will also be able to benefit from livestock management experiences implemented in demonstration interventions. In particular, the strategies for engaging these indigenous communities and families are outlined in the PPI.	<b>1, 2, 3</b>
<b>Local Communities</b>	Iberá NP, Los Cardones NP	Guines Colque Family; Uguay Community	Local peasant communities present in PA territories and surrounding areas, with traditional livestock, cultural, and community organization practices.	Participants and co-responsible partners in the demonstration interventions will be involved in the collaborative development of livestock management plans.  Beneficiaries that will benefit from the incorporation of more efficient management practices or restoration in the PAs. Some impacts can also be identified that will be appropriately managed according to the guidelines identified in the plans, ensuring their early and continuous participation.	<b>1, 2, 3</b>

<b>Citizens</b>	All PAs	Tourists and neighbors bordering the seven PAs	The people, men, women, youth and children who use the PAs for the development of tourism or educational activities that benefit from the results of this project and the people who live near the PAs	Beneficiaries for achieving project results, which result in improved PAs and better threat management.	<b>1, 2, 3</b>
	All PAs	Media	Various local media outlets, including radio, television, social media, newspapers, and magazines, collaborate in implementing communication and awareness campaigns for the issues facing each Protected Area.	Collaborators in the implementation of awareness-raising and information activities at the local level	<b>3</b>

89. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), in Annex I, and the Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP), in Annex J, and the Gender<sup>[1]</sup> Action Plan (GAP) in Annex H develop in greater detail the planned participation actions for each of the components.

90. Monitoring and evaluation of project execution aims to ensure that monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are successfully applied and serve as a basis for adaptive management. For this, the following actions are included:

- An inception workshop to ensure common understanding of the project among APN authorities, the PMU and CAF.
- A training workshop with the entire project team to strengthen compliance with the project's environmental and social safeguards.
- The installation of a Grievance and Suggestions Mechanism (GSM).
- Reporting and monitoring progress, to support decision-making. This includes preparing annual implementation reports (project implementation review, PIR), monitoring project indicators, including GEF core indicators, the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), the Indigenous Peoples Participation Plan (IPP), the Gender<sup>2</sup> Action Plan (GAP) and the Environmental and Social Management Plan.
- Maintain regular meetings with the Project Advisory Committee to report progress and provide strategic guidance. This committee will be composed of the GEF implementing agency (CAF), the entity that will execute the initiative (APN), civil society organizations and representations of local beneficiaries.
- Conduct an independent external mid-term review (at the middle of the implementation period).
- Conduct an independent external evaluation at the end of the project.

91. It is important to highlight that the monitoring and evaluation system will contemplate results indicators that account for the participation of men and women and how their respective perspectives are considered

[1] The term "gender" refers to the two sexes, male and female, in the context of society. The term shall have no other meaning than that which precedes it. (See Rome Statute, Art. 7.3).

## Institutional Arrangement and Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Please describe the Institutional Arrangements for the execution of this project, including financial management and procurement. If possible, please summarize the flow of funds (diagram), accountabilities for project management and financial reporting (organogram), including audit, and staffing plans. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

92. This project will have synergies with other ongoing investments implemented by APN, in strategic alliance with other initiatives and projects of public and private entities.
93. One of them is the project '[Sustainable Recovery of Landscapes and Livelihoods in Argentina](#)' (Loan Agreement 9335-AR, Grant Agreement PROGREEN B7681-AR), which began in February 2022 and will last five years. It includes investments in three of the seven PAs of this project (Los Glaciares NP, Tierra del Fuego NP and Los Cardones NP). According to convergent expected results, investments could be articulated in analytical and knowledge products, biodiversity baselines, IAS management plans, ecological restoration and fire management, as well as capacity strengthening and technical knowledge actions.
94. Another project is 'Valuation of Ecosystem Services in Protected Areas of Argentina' which has the general objective of applying the ecosystem services valuation methodology in protected natural areas – among them Los Glaciares NP and Campos del Tuyú NP - and carrying out methodological transfer to the APN team, within the framework of the EUROCLIMA Program.
95. Synergies will also be sought with the recently approved project, [GEF ID 11394](#), 'Improving conservation, connectivity and biodiversity mainstreaming in priority ecoregions' whose objective is to develop an Ecosystem Restoration National Plan, focused on integrated biodiversity conservation, which will provide guidance and protocols for new conservation and restoration models that reconcile biodiversity protection with its sustainable use in various ecosystems. The project will implement demonstrative pilots in the following provinces: Chaco, Misiones, Rio Negro, Santa Fe and Tierra del Fuego.
96. Additionally, the project will collaborate with various civil society organization initiatives. One of them is the 'Small cat conservation in Argentina (Panthera)' initiative. APN signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) with the international organization 'Panthera Corporation' with the objective of working together on jaguar and other wild cat conservation. Within this framework, letters of intent have been signed for projects and joint fundraising. The project will also establish synergies with the '[Iberá Project](#)', which carries out species and ecosystem restoration in Iberá National Park, executed by Rewilding Argentina Foundation, which carries out international philanthropy efforts to raise resources.
97. This project will build on knowledge and learning generated in previous projects executed by APN and other public and private entities, such as 'Rural Corridors and Biodiversity' ([GEF ID 3830](#)) (Grant GEF TF 0A0233-AR). Since its start in 2017, this project produced relevant analytical instruments, such as the '[Study of sources and financing mechanisms for protected areas and corridors and development of application instruments](#)', which offers information and recommendations for financial sustainability of SNAP projects and activities. Additionally, numerous PA and corridor management plans were developed participatively, training activities were carried out, public policy instruments for corridors were discussed and sustainable development subprojects were implemented. The processes, results and products provide useful background to support the development of enabling conditions for the current ecological restoration initiative

Will the GEF Agency play an execution role on this project?

If so, please describe that role here and the justification.

The GEF Agency (CAF) will not play an execution role on this project

Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

98. [Fundación Rewilding Argentina](#). In Iberá NP, FR maintains a long-term agreement with APN, collaborating with domestic livestock herding, providing personnel for different zones of the PA and participating in installing perimeter fencing. Additionally, it is part of multi-stakeholder groups and also is related to the APN as it owns some properties in the National Reserve area in Iberá. It participates in the Iberá Committee, led by the province of Corrientes, where it occupies the secretariat role.
99. [Fundación Yetapá](#). With its '[Eyes of the Sky](#)' project, it raises awareness about the impacts of the climate crisis, creates brigades for fire management, provides training in drone use for early fire detection, as well as addresses biodiversity and economic diversification. It contributes to wetland conservation through technology use, fostering community economy and entrepreneurship. It works in interinstitutional spaces to strengthen processes. It has 14 years of work in Iberá.
100. [Fundación Humedales](#). In 2017 it began working in Laguna de los Pozuelos NM with communities as an APN ally. Its current project has three components: restoration (diagnosis and ecological restoration of wetland ecosystems), ecosystem services related to grazing and water access, and participation in dialogue roundtables (work with communities and training). Currently there is a [memorandum of understanding](#) between FH and APN.
101. [Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina](#). It implements the project '[Safeguarding overlooked ecosystems: protecting, managing and restoring grasslands and savannas in Argentina, Colombia and Paraguay through multi-sectoral participation and knowledge exchange](#)', International Climate Initiative (IKI). Government of Germany. 2024-2028. The main work packages are protection, sustainable management and restoration of grasslands and savannas, and includes work with and around Campos del Tuyú NP

## Core Indicators

Indicate expected results in each relevant indicator using methodologies indicated in the GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework Guidelines. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

### Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
1106601	1106601	0	0

#### Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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#### Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
1106601	1106601	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
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							Endorsement)		
Campo s del Tuyú	555775 43	National Park	3,040.00	3,040.00			61.00		
Iberá	16890	National Park	195,094. 00	195,094.00			59.00		
Laguna de los Pozuelo s	3	Natural Monume nt or Feature	16,000.0 0	16,000.00			54.00		
Lihué Calel	20	National Park	32,514.0 0	32,514.00			51.00		
Los Cardon es	166722	National Park	64,117.0 0	64,117.00			55.00		
Los Glaciar es	6	National Park	726,927. 00	726,927.00			64.00		
Tierra del Fuego	14	National Park	68,909.0 0	68,909.00			54.00		

### Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
74877.6	74877.6	0	0

### Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

### Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
25,286.60	25,286.60		

### Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Woodlands	9,050.00	9,050.00		
Natural grass	32,737.00	32,737.00		

### Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
7,804.00	7,804.00		

### Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)

<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (direct)</b>	2010943	2010943	0	0
<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (indirect)</b>	0	0	0	0

**Indicator 6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions Avoided in the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector**

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (direct)</b>	2,010,943	2,010,943		
<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (indirect)</b>				
<b>Anticipated start year of accounting</b>	2030	2030		
<b>Duration of accounting</b>	20	20		

**Indicator 6.2 Emissions Avoided Outside AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) Sector**

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (direct)</b>				
<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (indirect)</b>				
<b>Anticipated start year of accounting</b>				
<b>Duration of accounting</b>				

**Indicator 6.3 Energy Saved (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)**

Total Target Benefit	Energy (MJ) (At PIF)	Energy (MJ) (At CEO Endorsement)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at MTR)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at TE)
<b>Target Energy Saved (MJ)</b>				

**Indicator 6.4 Increase in Installed Renewable Energy Capacity per Technology (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)**

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)
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**Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments**

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
<b>Female</b>	308,102	361		
<b>Male</b>	286,919	495		
<b>Total</b>	<b>595,021</b>	<b>856</b>	0	0

Explain the methodological approach and underlying logic to justify target levels for Core and Sub-Indicators (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

102. Core Indicator 1 (GEF): Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management. This indicator refers to the number of hectares (ha) of terrestrial PAs under improved management effectiveness (Sub-indicator 1.2). The project estimates a target of 1,106,601.00 ha, corresponding to the total surface of selected PAs, distributed as follows: Los Glaciares NP (726,927.00 ha, represents 66 % of the target), Campos del Tuyú NP (3,040.00 ha, 0.27 %), Los Cardones NP (64,117.00 ha, 6 %), Tierra del Fuego NP (68,909.00 ha, 6 %), Iberá NP (195,094.00 ha, 18 %), Lihué Calel NP (32,514.00 ha, 3 %) and Laguna de los Pozuelos NM

(16,000.00 ha, 1 %). In terms of management effectiveness, this indicator uses as baseline the results of applying the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) for GEF-7 PA projects of the biodiversity focal area. The selected PAs reported the following results in October 2023: Los Glaciares NP (64 points), Campos del Tuyú NP (61), Los Cardones NP (55), Tierra del Fuego NP (54), Iberá NP (59), Lihué Calel NP (51) and Laguna de los Pozuelos NM (54 points). Through strengthening capacities of key actors for better governance and sustainability of ecological restoration in PAs and their BAs (Component 1), implementation of demonstration interventions to address critical ecological restoration problems, generate practical experience, collaborative work and replication (Component 2), and generation of communication inputs and knowledge dissemination on the topic (Component 3), the project will achieve substantial improvements in the management effectiveness of selected PAs, reflected in better METT scores at mid-term and at the end of the project.

103. Core Indicator 3 (GEF): Area of land and ecosystems under restoration. It is estimated that the project will conduct restoration actions that will impact approximately 74,878.00 ha in total, distributed in: 25,287.00 ha of forest surface and forest lands under restoration (Sub-indicator 3.2), 41,787.00 ha of natural grasslands (32,737.00 ha) and woodlands (9,050.00 ha) under restoration (Sub-indicator 3.3), and 7,804.00 ha of wetlands in restoration processes (Sub-indicator 3.4). The target for this indicator is distributed across the seven selected PAs and their BAs, according to the following details:

- Los Glaciares NP: The restoration target is 21,300.00 ha, which has been degraded by the presence of feral livestock (cattle and horses) and the entry of domestic livestock from neighboring livestock ranches due to lack of perimeter fencing. In the northern zone of the PA the environmental problem is generated by extensive domestic livestock, left without management for many years. Additionally, there is concern for the safety of visitors who take the Vuelta al Huemul trek, due to possible attacks from these animals.
- Campos del Tuyú NP: The restoration target is 3,150.00 ha, where damage is evident due to the presence of IAS, livestock and wildfires, within the protected area, but especially in the BA. Within the PA, 400.00 ha will be intervened (300.00 ha of grassland and 100.00 ha in the Marismas del Tuyú Wilderness Nature Reserve). In the BA, the project will restore 2,750.00 ha (2,650.00 ha of grassland and 100.00 ha of forest) in collaboration with key actors in the zone.
- Los Cardones NP: The restoration target is 2,064.00 ha. Interventions aim at the recovery of Andean highland wetlands (vegas), plains and other areas degraded by the massive presence of livestock (cattle, sheep). In these areas, under a collaborative work scheme with local actors, the aim is to recover water retention and storage capacity, and vegetation cover that favors habitat conditions for native fauna, particularly rare species or those that depend on the high mountain wetlands of the PA.
- Tierra del Fuego NP: The restoration target is 3,500.00 ha of forest concentrated in the public use area of the southern sector of the PA, which borders the city of Ushuaia, affected by the presence of feral livestock, mainly horses. Interventions will be carried out to recover Nothofagus forests, with horse removal actions, information and awareness campaigns for key actors, and monitoring the impact of interventions and performance of activities in the territory.
- Iberá NP: The restoration target is 38,000.00 ha, where damage caused by the presence of IAS and livestock is concentrated. Interventions will aim at controlling population density of IAS: wild boar and axis deer. Early detection of wildfire across the park will be strengthened, by means of incorporation of technological devices.
- Lihué Calel NP: The restoration target is 5,538.00 ha of forests and forest lands affected by large wildfires. The predominant landscape is low forest with islands of caldén/algarrobo and/or scattered caldén trees. The selected area includes the two strict nature reserves (SNR) and most of the caldén/algarrobo population nuclei of the park affected by wildfires. Interventions will be oriented toward recovery of degraded areas through actions to prevent and reduce high-intensity wildfires, focused on improving the effectiveness of the fire primary care system and providing equipment for fuel reduction in key areas (maintenance of trails, roads and firebreaks).
- Laguna de los Pozuelos NM: Interventions will be carried out in the Southern portion of the protected area and in neighboring farm fields within the BA, with a restoration target of 1,326.00 ha. Interventions include highland grasses and domestic livestock management (cows, sheep and camelids), as well as active recovery of the Andean highland wetlands in the public use sector of the park.

104. Core Indicator 6 (GEF): Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated. Sub-indicator 6.1: Carbon Sequestered or Emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Uses). It is estimated that total greenhouse gas emissions mitigated will be 2,010,943.00 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e from carbon sequestration and avoided emissions over 20 years (accounting period), beginning in 2030 (initial accounting year) after project completion. This value was estimated using the Ex-Ante Carbon Balance Tool.

105. Core Indicator 11 (GEF): People benefiting from GEF-financed investments. The total number of beneficiaries will be approximately 856 people (495 men and 361 women). This indicator reflects the total number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by sex. The number has been determined through analysis of each activity, defining direct recipients as those who receive benefits generated by the project.

## Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Moderate	Risk Assessment: Extreme weather conditions (winds, lightning, high temperatures and unpredictable precipitation) increase fire risk and may hinder project activities in PAs. Management Measures: Integrate climate variability into planning through available monitoring and projections. Train Park Rangers and firefighters and provide them with fire management equipment in all parks where vulnerability conditions to fire threat are registered. Strengthen early warning systems for visitors in case of fires, in parks with public access. Adopt measures and design/acquisition criteria for equipment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in operations.
Environmental and Social	Low	Risk Assessment: Possible conflicts or lack of consultation and participation of indigenous peoples within PAs and BAs. Lower participation of youth and women in project activities and benefits; increase in gender gap between men and women. Possible fortuitous finding of archaeological material or cultural resources during maintenance activities and soil movement. Temporary affectation of native fauna, fragmentation of their movement and disturbance of habitats and corridors due to fencing installation, crew transit or implementation of prescribed fire. Management measures: Strengthen project teams in engagement tools, constructive conflict management and dialogue; seek support for mediation when necessary. Implement an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) and apply APN's Protocol for Free, Prior, and Informed Consultation in coordination with the National Institute of Indigenous Affairs (INAI), with the aim of ensuring the early and effective participation of indigenous communities in project activities that involve them and in its benefits, to guarantee their consent on demonstration interventions and sustained dialogues in good faith with other communities that could benefit from the project's results. Design specific activities for youth and women or contemplate actions that guarantee equal opportunities to access training and dialogue or decision-making processes. Additionally incorporate strategies to collect and elaborate data and incorporate actions that address the gap between men and women. Specific measures for these purposes have been contemplated

		in the project's GAP. Implement the Protocol for archaeological/cultural findings and establish archaeological monitoring measures, including signage and physical protection of sites, training of maintenance workers; ensure prior review of heritage maps and presence of a heritage technician during works/maintenance; consult experts, locals and stakeholders about cultural heritage and appropriation of its dissemination if sensitive. Incorporate mitigation measures into demonstrative interventions for possible ecological and social impacts such as maintenance and installation of fencing with fauna passages to allow animal movement; programming tasks outside critical fauna reproduction periods; proposal of rotational grazing for wetland restoration that does not restrict productive activity of families; and compensation when restricting resource uses.
Political and Governance	Moderate	Risk Assessment: Changes in political priorities and institutional discontinuity due to authority rotation and budgetary restrictions. Political or interjurisdictional barriers for agreement on conventions, management consensus and articulation between jurisdictions. Management Measures: Disseminate the project to new authorities if there is renewal. Reinforce interest and commitment of key actors in project development. Clarify and coordinate actions between jurisdictions and actors. Actively participate in existing interjurisdictional instances (e.g. Laguna de Pozuelos Biosphere Reserve Management Committee, Iberá Committee, Gran Parque Iberá Fire Interinstitutional Board, among others). Generate institutional articulation spaces for plan approval and implementation.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy		
Technological	Low	Risk Assessment: Lack of capacities for managing technologies that will be incorporated to address threats faced by the project. Management Measures: Selection of equipment to acquire with criteria of energy efficiency, climate variability, and according to available resources to operate them. Training of APs workers for adequate management of new technological equipment. Adequate maintenance of new equipment.
Financial and Business Model		N/A
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Moderate	Risk Assessment: Human Resources deficit and operational/technical limitations in APN, including management of new technologies and data processing. Management Measures: Ensure continuity and strengthening of teams working on the project. Develop internal workshops to align criteria and approaches on project main topics (e.g. on ecological use of fire). Strengthen technical capacities through consultancies, equipment and training in monitoring technologies (drones, GIS, camera traps, night vision scopes).

		Improve institutional, technical and financial capacities for environmental and social management of the project.
Fiduciary	Moderate	Risk Assessment: Macroeconomic conditions such as high inflation and exchange rate volatility could increase costs foreseen by the project. Difficulty in obtaining co-financing due to changes in new government priorities, or lower resource availability from civil society organizations identified in the areas. Management Measures: Maintain clear communication channels with relevant authorities to ensure their interest and support. Articulate with provincial institutions and programs or private/civil society sector to reinforce co-financing and results achievement. Disbursement scheme adapted to possible macroeconomic scenarios to face possible devaluation of the budget.
Stakeholder	Low	Risk Assessment: Lack of interest or engagement of key local actors in governance and collaborative activities; especially if they require practice changes or investments. Deficit of capacities/mechanisms for consultation, public information or conflict management. Conflicts with communities and neighbors due to past experiences or to proposal of management measures that would demand substantial changes. Management measures: Implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) with the purpose of ensuring meaningful information and participation: early, equitable, effective and appropriate of local actors in project activities and their benefits. Strengthen project teams in engagement tools, constructive conflict management and intercultural dialogue; seek support for mediation when necessary. Have a Grievance and Suggestions Mechanism (see SEP) appropriate and effective for conflict attention and resolution. Disseminate and keep this mechanism active.
Other		N/A
Overall Risk Rating	Low	The project's general risk categorization is LOW, conditioned to risk mitigation and management measures that have been incorporated into project activities and contemplated in specific action plans (SEP, IPP and GAP). Adequate implementation of measures and plans will be monitored by environmental and social specialists from the project executing unit.

## C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Explain how the proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies and country and regional priorities, including how these country strategies and plans relate to the multilateral environmental agreements.

For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), please identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and explain how.

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

112. This project directly aligns with GEF-8 Programming Directions by contributing to the Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Program, strengthening biodiversity conservation under the Biodiversity Focal Area (BD-1, BD-2, and BD-3), and generating climate-resilience co-benefits consistent with GEF guidance.
113. The project contributes to advancing the application of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#) (GBF), through the restoration of integrity, connectivity and resilience of degraded and priority ecosystems of PAs and their BAs (Objective A), improving the flow of goods and services that PAs provide to people who depend on the health of these ecosystems to maintain their livelihoods (Objective B), and developing means, including financial ones, to strengthen institutional, operational and community capacities with the participation and involvement of stakeholders in ecological restoration processes (Objective D). The project will contribute to advancing toward the following global GBF objectives for 2030 (Table 4).

Table 4. Project contributions to GBF objectives and targets.

Target Number	Form of contribution
TARGET 2 Restore 30% of all Degraded Ecosystems.	<p>An area of 74,878 ha will undergo ecosystem restoration interventions, of the following types (<a href="#">sensu FAO Glossary</a>):</p> <p>Biophysical interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restoration of vegetation cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fire management</li> <li>- Assisted Natural Regeneration</li> <li>- Tree and grass planting (only at small-test scale)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Control of invasive species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Species control measures (mechanical)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Agricultural practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pasture and forage crop improvement</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Additionally, three types of enabling interventions will be carried out.</p>
TARGET 3 Conserve 30% of Land, Waters and Seas.	<p>An area of 1,106,601 ha of protected areas is expected to increase the management effectiveness, reflected in higher METT scores, compared to the baseline at the beginning of the project.</p>
TARGET 6 Reduce the Introduction of Invasive Alien Species by 50% and Minimize Their Impact.	<p>The form of contribution is “eliminating or controlling IAS in priority sites”; in this case four priority protected areas.</p> <p>IAS include five mammal species and one plant species (within IAS the project includes feral livestock).</p> <p>The total area subjected to IAS control is 53,032 ha, distributed as follows:</p> <p>Iberá NP: 38,000 ha</p> <p>Campos del Tuyú NP: 3,040 ha</p> <p>Los Glaciares NP: 8,492 ha</p>

	T. del Fuego NP: 3,500 ha
TARGET 8 Minimize the Impacts of Climate Change on Biodiversity and Build Resilience.	Under ecosystem-based mitigation, an estimated 2,010,943 metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e are expected to be sequestered and stored in the area (in ha) of land subject to interventions (project intervention polygons).
TARGET 10 Enhance Biodiversity and Sustainability in Agriculture, Aquaculture, Fisheries, and Forestry.	<p>An area of 38,590 ha will transition into sustainable management of livestock production, including biodiversity friendly practices, as regenerative approaches.</p> <p>The total area subjected to sustainable livestock production is distributed as follows:</p> <p>L. de los Pozuelos NM: 1,326 ha</p> <p>Los Cardones NP: 2,064 ha</p> <p>Iberá NP: 29,000 ha</p> <p>Los Glaciares NP: 6,200 ha</p>
TARGET 22 Ensure Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice and Information Related to Biodiversity for all.	<p>The project will strengthen or establish – establish in most cases - in each implementation site a multi-sectoral local group/committee to address participatorily all restoration issues. Seven committees in total.</p> <p>Local communities and indigenous people are to integrate these spaces.</p>

114. The project will contribute to achieving global objectives of the [Decade on Ecosystem Restoration](#). The 74,878 hectares to be restored with this project are part of Argentina's commitment to restore 2,140,000 hectares by 2030 within the framework of the three Rio conventions. Likewise, the area to be restored is consistent with Argentina's commitments within the framework of the [United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification](#) regarding the [Land Degradation Neutrality](#) component. Argentina has established a commitment to restore 1,340,000.00 hectares, which includes (a) 1,000,000 hectares of degraded cropland, (b) 200,000 hectares of forest land and (c) 140,000 hectares of grasslands and savannas. Regarding commitments within the Bonn Challenge framework, [Argentina](#) set a goal of restoring 1,000,000 hectares of degraded forest lands. Argentine commitments total 2,340,000 hectares under restoration and are part of the [Global Restoration Decade Commitments Database 2020](#), signed within the framework of the three Rio conventions.

115. The project will contribute to objectives of the [National Adaptation and Mitigation Plan](#) (strategic line biodiversity conservation and common goods, action line 6: ecosystem restoration and conservation), and the [National Action Plan for Native Forests and Climate Change](#) (EEO 9. Restoration and recovery). Additionally, the project will give continuity to the [National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species](#), developed within the framework of the [National Biological Diversity Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2030](#). Actions related to wildfire prevention and fight against fires will be coordinated with the SNMF, dependent on the National Ministry of Security. Scientific knowledge production on ecological restoration will be supported in the context of APN integration into the Interinstitutional Council of Science and Technology ([Law 25.467](#)).

## D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

### Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

**We confirm that gender dimensions relevant to the project have been addressed during Project Preparation as per GEF Policy and are clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).**

Yes

**1) Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive-measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?**

Yes

If the project expects to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment, please indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:

**Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;**

Yes

**Improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or**

Yes

**Generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.**

**2) Does the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?**

Yes

## Stakeholder Engagement

We confirm that key stakeholders were consulted during Project Preparation as required per GEF policy, their relevant roles to project outcomes has been clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B) and that a Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been developed before CEO endorsement.

Yes

**Select what role civil society will play in the Project**

Consulted only; **Yes**

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; **Yes**

Co-financier; **Yes**

Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body ;

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain) **Yes**

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

And if so, has its role been described and justified in section B project description?

Yes

### Environmental and Social Safeguards

We confirm that we have provided information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed project or program, including risk screenings/ assessments and, if applicable, management plans or other measures to address identified risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex E).

Yes

Please provide overall Project/Program Risk Classification

#### Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Low	Low Medium/Moderate		

## E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

### Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described during Project Preparation in the Project Description and that these activities have been budgeted and an anticipated timeline for delivery of relevant outputs has been provided.

Yes

### Socio-economic Benefits

We confirm that the project design has considered socio-economic benefits to be delivered by the project and these have been clearly described in the Project Description and will be monitored and reported on during project implementation (at MTR and TER).

116. The project will generate socio-economic benefits for rural families, Indigenous peoples, tourism service providers, and livestock producers in the seven Pas and BAs. Rural families, including those headed by women, will directly benefit from the adoption of sustainable livestock management practices, the restoration of degraded lands, and access to technical assistance that increases productivity while reducing ecological impacts. Indigenous peoples engaged in project activities will actively participate in co-management and demonstrative interventions, ensuring that traditional knowledge is valued and livelihoods are strengthened, according to the IPP. The tourism sector will benefit from healthier ecosystems and restored landscapes that enhance opportunities for nature-based tourism. Local guides, accommodation providers, and associations

will see their activities strengthened through improved visitor experiences, reduced wildfire risk, and awareness campaigns that safeguard the sustainability of their economic activity. Finally, livestock producers and farmers located within or near PAs will participate in collaborative plans for IAS, livestock management and/or wildfire prevention, which will reduce losses, secure forage resources, and open opportunities for new conservation-compatible practices.

117. Monitoring of these socio-economic benefits will be carried out through the project's core indicators and safeguard instruments, including the SEP, IPP and GAP. Specific tracking will be conducted on the number of direct beneficiaries, the adoption of improved livestock practices, the participation of rural and indigenous families in decision-making, and the growth of local tourism opportunities. Independent mid-term and final evaluations, together with systematic reporting, will ensure accountability and adaptive management throughout project implementation.

## ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

### GEF Financing Table

#### Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
CAF	GET	Argentina	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	6,268,011.00	564,121.00	6,832,132.00
<b>Total GEF Resources (\$)</b>						<b>6,268,011.00</b>	<b>564,121.00</b>	<b>6,832,132.00</b>

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Was a Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

150000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

13500

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
CAF	GET	Argentina	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	150,000.00	13,500.00	163,500.00
<b>Total PPG Amount (\$)</b>					<b>150,000.00</b>	<b>13,500.00</b>	<b>163,500.00</b>

Please provide Justification

### Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
CAF	GET	Argentina	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	6,995,632.00
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>6,995,632.00</b>

### Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
BD-1-2	GET	6,268,011.00	44176074
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>6,268,011.00</b>	<b>44,176,074.00</b>

### Confirmed Co-financing for the project, by name and type

Please include evidence for each co-financing source for this project in the tab of the portal

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Argentina – Administración de Parques Nacionales	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	30520800
GEF Agency	CAF	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	300000
Recipient Country Government	Argentina – Ministerio de Seguridad Nacional	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2442582
Civil Society Organization	Conservation Land Trust (CLT)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1200000
Civil Society Organization	Fundación Rewilding Argentina	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2800000
Civil Society Organization	Fundación Yetapá	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	100687
Others	Municipalidad de Tolhuin	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	330480

Others	Universidad Nacional de Tierra del Fuego	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	44800
Others	Fundación Cambyretá para la Naturaleza	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	47200
Others	Provincia de Corriente – Ministerio de Turismo	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	6389525
<b>Total Co-financing</b>				<b>44,176,074.00</b>

Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

118. Co-financing with own resources: the contribution in kind to be made by the APN consists partly of the projected budget and existing support equipment in the areas of intervention whose objectives are to obtain the results of the project. These will include contributions from the DLIFE and the seven PAs linked to the project. These include, among others, personnel expenses (salaries), consumables, rentals, fuel, machinery, and equipment. This also considers the financing of the Support Program for the Development of Sustainable Activities in Rural Populations (Padas) and the Sustainable Use Projects and their Consultation and Participation Processes (PRO.FO.CI.). In line with donor guidance, all expenditures directly associated with lethal-control actions (e.g., dispatch ammunition, specialized dispatch equipment, third-party services specifically for dispatch) will be covered through co-financing, not from donor funds. Co-financing with resources from other public and private entities: This includes co-financing from the SNMF, the Ministry of Tourism of the Province of Corrientes, the Municipality of Tolhuin (Tierra del Fuego), the National University of Tierra del Fuego, Fundación Rewilding Argentina, Conservation Land Trust, Fundación Yetapá and Fundación Cambyretá para la Naturaleza.

## ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

### GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	9/17/2025	Ignacio Lorenzo	0059899180424	ilorenzo@caf.com
Project Coordinator	9/17/2025	Mauricio Velásquez	00593994804007	mvelasquez@caf.com
GEF Agency Coordinator	9/18/2025	Sebastián Rodríguez Claros	003105060516	srodriguez@caf.com

### Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):

Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template.

Name of GEF OFP	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Esteban Eduardo Di Sibio	Director General	Dirección General de Programas y Proyectos Sectoriales y Especiales de Interior de la Vicejefatura de Gabinete	

## ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Please indicate the page number in the Project Document where the project results and M&E frameworks can be found. Please also paste below the Project Results Framework from the Agency document.

RESULTS FRAMEWORK: Ecosystem restoration in seven national protected areas in Argentina												
OUTCOME	OUTPUT	INDICATOR	SUB-INDICATOR	DEFINITION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	RESPONSIBLE	DISAGGREGATION	BASELINE	ACTIVITIES	TARGET	NOTES	ASSUMPTIONS
Project Objective: To reduce ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss in seven selected protected areas and their buffer zones, to contribute to the recovery of their integrity, connectivity, and ecological resilience, in strategic alliance with key stakeholders												
		<p><b>GEF Core Indicator 1:</b> Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management.</p> <p><b>Aligned with Indicator 3.1 of KM-GBF (coverage of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures)</b></p>	1.2. Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness	<p>This indicator refers to the number of hectares of protected area (PA) whose management has been improved.</p> <p>It refers to the seven (7) PA prioritized for interventions that show a positive change in management effectiveness, measured by Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) score, which is calculated using the GEF-7 BD tracking tool.</p>	<p>Annual management effectiveness measurements carried out in each PA, applying METT</p> <p>Annual APN-PMU internal report on Protected Areas System management evaluation</p>	<p>Monitoring Specialist (PMU)</p> <p>Environmental Specialist (PMU)</p>	<p>By protected area</p> <p>By realm, biome and ecosystem functional group</p> <p>By effectiveness (protected area management effectiveness)</p>	0	n/a	1,106,601.00	<p>The baseline METT score and the area (in ha) for each priority protected area is as follows:</p> <p>Los Cardones NP (METT baseline: 55): 64,117 ha</p> <p>Iberá NP (METT baseline: 59): 195,094 ha</p> <p>Campes del Tuyú NP (METT baseline: 61): 3,040 ha</p> <p>Lihué Calel NP (METT baseline: 51): 32,514 ha</p> <p>Los Glaciares NP (METT baseline: 64): 726,927 ha</p> <p>Tierra del Fuego NP (METT</p>	

										baseline: 54): 68,909 ha Laguna de los Pozuelos NM (METT baseline: 54): 16,000 ha  [Any increase in METT score will satisfy the threshold for this indicator]		
		<p><b>GEF Core Indicator 3: Area of land and ecosystems under restoration</b></p> <p>Aligned with Indicator 2.1 of KM-GBF (area under restoration)</p> <p>Definition: This indicator captures the total area of land and ecosystems directly undergoing restoration in terms of ecosystem function and/or ecology.</p>	<p>3.2. Area of forest and forest land under restoration</p> <p>This indicator captures the area of forest and forest land that is undergoing ecological restoration.</p>		<p>GIS cartography and/or satellite images and/or remote sensing analysis and/or expert validation and field evaluations.</p>	<p>Monitoring Specialist (PMU)</p> <p>Environmental Specialist (PMU)</p>	<p>By ecosystem functional group</p> <p>By protected areas</p> <p>By type of restoration activity</p>	0	n/a	25,287 ha	<p>Project duration is limited as to allow, in the selected PA, an advanced recovery of prioritized ecosystems or populations, so the indicator captures, as a result of the interventions, the number of hectares under restoration processes.</p>	
			<p>3.3. Area of natural grass and woodlands under restoration</p> <p>3.3. (a)</p>	<p>This indicator captures the ecosystem types that are undergoing ecological restoration.</p>	<p>GIS cartography and/or satellite images and/or remote sensing analysis and/or expert validation</p>	<p>Monitoring Specialist (PMU)</p> <p>Environmental Specialist (PMU)</p>	<p>By ecosystem functional group</p> <p>By protected areas</p> <p>By type of restoration activity</p>	0	n/a	<p>3.3.(a) 32,737 ha</p> <p>3.3.(b) 9,050 ha</p>	<p>Project duration is limited as to allow, in the selected PA, an advanced recovery</p>	

			woodlands 3.3. (b) natural grass		and field evaluations.						of prioritized ecosystems or populations, so the indicator captures, as a result of the interventions, the number of hectares under restoration processes.
			3.4. Area of wetlands (including estuaries and mangroves) restored	This indicator captures the area of wetlands, that is undergoing ecological restoration	GIS cartography and/or satellite images and/or remote sensing analysis and/or expert validation and field evaluations.	Monitoring Specialist (PMU) Environmental Specialist (PMU)	By protected areas By type of restoration activity	0	n/a	7,804 ha	Project duration is limited as to allow, in the selected PA, an advanced recovery of prioritized ecosystems or populations, so the indicator captures, as a result of the interventions, the number of hectares under restoration processes.
		<b>GEF Core Indicator 6:</b> Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated. <b>Aligned with Indicator</b>	6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector (Agriculture,	Carbon sequestration is defined as the process of increasing the carbon content of a reservoir/pool other than the atmosphere (IPCC, 2012). Avoided emissions refers to reduced	n/a	Monitoring Specialist (PMU) Environmental Specialist (PMU)	n/a	0	n/a	2,010,943.00	

		<p>r 8.b. of KM-GBF (number of countries with policies to minimize the impact of climate change and ocean....)</p>	<p>Forestry and Other Land Uses)</p>	<p>emissions due to avoided deforestation or forest degradation, sustainable forest management, and improved practices on other land uses such as in agriculture.</p> <p>The FAO 'Ex-Ante Carbon-balance Tool' (EX-ACT) is applied. (www.fao.org/tc/exact/carbon-balance-tool-exact) The indicator value is expressed in expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (direct). Expected accounting start year: 2030. Accounting duration: 20 years.</p>								
		<p>GEF Core Indicator 11: People benefiting from GEF-financed investments</p>		<p>This indicator captures the total number of direct beneficiaries, disaggregated by sex.</p>	<p>Activity reports and/or signed participant lists.</p>	<p>Monitoring Specialist (PMU) Social Specialist (PMU)</p>	<p>By sex (male, female)</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>856 (at least 42% women)</p>		
<p><b>Project Component 1: Strengthened governance of ecological restoration processes in protected areas and buffer zones.</b></p>												
<p>1.1. Improvement of enabling conditions for ecological restoration success, including perspectives of women and men and promoting equal opportunities</p>	<p>1.1.1: Institutional guidelines developed for diagnosis, planning, execution and monitoring of ecological restoration processes in protected areas and their buffer zones</p>	<p>Final document of 'APN Guidelines for Ecological Restoration' available with participatory approach</p>	-	<p>The indicator verifies that institutional guidelines and protocols for ecological restoration have been developed and that includes provision with a sensitive approach to men and women and an intercultural perspective. The document incorporates guidelines for: a) invasive alien species management, b) domestic livestock management, c) wildfire prevention and management, d) species</p>	<p>Approval by APN</p>	<p>Component Lead Monitoring Specialist (PMU)</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>1. Contracting external consultancy for facilitation of guidelines development process (Product 1.1.1) and Program (Product 1.1.2). 2. Ad hoc team integrated by National Conservation Directorate (DNC), including Regional Directorate</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Guidelines will complement the Management Plan implemented by each PA.</p>	<p>There is internal institutional agreement in APN on the contents of guidelines, or it can be reached.</p>

				<p>reintroduction and population supplementation, e) post-fire restoration, f) nursery management and g) active ecosystem restoration.</p>					<p>es and Forest Fire Fighting and Emergency Directorate (DLyFE). 3. Compilation and critical review of (partial) guidelines previously developed by APN. 4. Development of new guidelines for the institution, including species reintroduction and population supplementation, post-fire restoration, and active forest restoration associated with APN nursery production and other actions. 5. Preparation of integrative document with different restoration protocols and guidelines. 6. Socialization of document with seven (7) Local Advisory Committees (see</p>		
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									1.1.4.) and stakeholders in interjurisdictional articulation processes (see 1.1.5). 7. Document approval by APN.			
	1.1.2: Ecological Restoration Program established within the National Parks Administration.	Program approved in DNC	-	<p>The indicator reflects that an Ecological Restoration Program has been created within APN's structure. The program ensures that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- institutional guidelines are implemented (1.1.1.)</li> <li>- ecological restoration actions are coordinated, directed and monitored</li> <li>- high technical quality standards (ecological and socio-environmental) are applied to restoration initiatives in protected areas.</li> <li>- incorporate provisions with an approach that addresses the perspectives of men and women and promotes equal opportunities.</li> </ul>	Approval by APN	Component 1 Lead Monitoring specialist (PMU) National Conservation Directorate (DNC)	n/a	0	<p>1. Review of background, particularly the project 'Ecological restoration program: mitigation of invasive species effects on natural ecosystems of APN protected areas'. 2. Design of restoration program by DNC natural resources team. 3. Definition of key professional profiles (coordinator, specialists, etc.) to integrate the program. 4. Approval by APN. 5. Program startup (estimated for project's fourth year).</p>	1	Note : SEP, GAP and IPP provide specific considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities.	There is institutional willingness within APN to create a new program.

<p>1.1.3: Sustainable financing mechanism identified for ecological restoration processes of priority protected areas.</p>	<p>Number of sustainable financing mechanisms identified</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>The indicator evaluates the result of the effort and investment in identification and/or development of sustainable mechanisms and financing sources for ecological restoration within APN system.</p>	<p>Final report from external consultancy on sustainable financial mechanisms for ecological restoration approved</p>	<p>Component Lead Monitoring specialist (PMU)</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>1. Review (as background) of products from APN consultancy 'Study of Sources and Financing Mechanisms for Protected Areas and Corridors and Development of Application Instruments' (GEF TF0A0233; 2021). 2. Contracting specialized external consultancy for identification and/or development of sustainable financing mechanisms. 3. Collaborative preparation of document on financial mechanisms</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Note : SEP, GAP and IPP provide specific considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities.</p>	<p>Argentine national economic crisis does not impede the development of a sustainable financing mechanism (at least for partial financing of restoration) International financial support for sustained restoration actions can be attained The Decade of Ecosystem Restoration is a favorable timing to develop sustained financing.</p>
<p>1.1.4: Seven local advisory committees and/or participation spaces created or strengthened. <b>Aligned with Indicator 22.b. of KM-GBF (number of countries taking action towards the full, equitable,</b></p>	<p>Number of PAs with local advisory committees and/or participation spaces that promotes equal participation and inclusion of perspectives for men and women</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>The indicator presents the number of protected areas involved in this project, which have achieved, upon completion, establishing Local Advisory Committees to address restoration ecology topics in participatory and/or collaborative manner with equal and inclusive participation of women</p>	<p>Committee creation acts Documents of reached agreements Participant lists disaggregated by PA, men and women and sector Reports of committee</p>	<p>Component Lead Monitoring specialist (PMU)</p>	<p>by protected area by social sector by men and women ensuring at least 45% of women representation.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>1. Strategic design of convocation to integrate space to promote and motivate participation of various sectors, men and women and indigenous peoples. 2. Consensual agreement</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Note 1: Each protected area will adjust activities to its particular situation, resulting in differentiated work plans. Note 2: SEP, GAP and IPP</p>	<p>Committed and active collaboration from a substantial fraction of convened stakeholders. Sectors identified as essential (e.g. productive and social) participate.</p>

	<p>inclusive, effective and gender*-responsive representation and participation in decision making...)</p>				<p>es' sessions</p>			<p>t of specific objectives according to each PA. 3. Governance definition through agreement between integrating parties. 4. Preparation and signing of document /s describing composition, objectives, meeting frequency and other governance agreements, including how equity issues between men and women are addressed. 5. Regularity in meetings or exchanges between integrating parties focused on defined objectives. 6. Implementation of adaptive management.</p>	<p>provide specific considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities.</p>	<p>PAs have operational resources to sustain participation spaces (for new activities generated by project); staff reductions do not occur.</p>
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	1.1.5: Interjurisdictional coordination processes established in each of the seven protected areas.	Number of PAs with interjurisdictional coordination processes in place	-	The indicator quantifies the number of protected areas involved in this project that have achieved, upon its completion, sustaining mechanisms to harmonize or coordinate their ecological restoration agendas, particularly with provincial and/or municipal entities.	Meeting reports Agreement records Participant lists	Component 1 Lead Monitoring specialist (PMU)		0	1. Communication to involved jurisdictions about APN Ecological Restoration Program development and restoration project in corresponding National Park. 2. Identification of policies, regulations, programs or actions requiring coordination. 3. Establish appropriate coordination mechanisms for each particular situation. 4. Implementation of coordination mechanisms, ensuring frequent monitoring of results. 5. Implementation of adaptive management.	7	Note 1: SEP, GAP and IPP provide specific considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities.	Barriers that may be generated by political differences between jurisdictions are overcome. Committed and active collaboration from stakeholders.
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**Project Component 2: Implementation of demonstrative interventions to address critical issues in ecological restoration, generate practical experience, collaborative work and replication.**

2.1. Gradual recovery of conservation values that have been degraded by presence of invasive	2.1.1: Updated or new baselines for conservation values (species and/or ecosystems) affected by degradation and for the threats	Number of baselines	-	Baselines are established for conservation values (CV) and for pressures or threats. (see detail in NOTES)  Methodologies for generating baselines vary for each CV and threat; they	PA Monitoring Reports of Pas  Reports or publications by researchers (internal or external)	Component 2 Lead  Monitoring specialist (PMU)	by conservation value and threat  by protected area	0	1. Review of current monitoring indicators status (those which will be included in project). 2. Validation	33	<b>Los Cardones NP:</b> CV1: Andean highland wetlands (vegas), CV2: shrubland and grassland	Baseline studies (for those baselines not available at project start) are completed within appropriate timeframes to allow
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<p>alien species, livestock or wildfires in seven protected areas and their buffer areas.</p>	<p>driving their deterioration.</p>			<p>may include presence/absence or relative abundance of species, vegetation cover percentage, physical-chemical condition of soils, NDVI, livestock load, among others.</p>				<p>n of baseline selection to be added to regular monitoring. 3. Formation of technical-professional teams responsible for developing reference bases. 4. Design of methodological approaches. 5. Field phase execution. 6. Systematization, analysis, interpretation and feedback or goal adjustment.</p> <p>[Note: each protected area will adjust activities to its particular situation, resulting in differentiated work plans, programs or projects]</p>	<p>nd, CV3: Prosopis ferox forest, CV4: Trichocereus atacamensis forest. Threat 1: domestic livestock. <b>Iberá NP:</b> CV1: hygrophilous forest, CV2: xerophilous forest, CV3: grasslands, CV4: wetlands. Threat 1: feral pig (Sus scrofa), Threat 2: axis deer (Axis axis). Threat 3: feral livestock. Threat 4: domestic livestock. <b>Campo del Tuyú NP:</b> CV1: pampas deer (Ozoteros bezoarticus). CV2: pampas grassland. CV3: Celtistala forest. Threat 1: feral pig (Sus scrofa).</p>	<p>subsequent evaluation of changes</p>
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												1: feral and domestic livestock. <b>Laguna de los Pozuelos NM:</b> CV1: Andean highland wetlands (vegas). CV2: central lagoon. Threat 1: domestic livestock.
	2.1.2. Monitoring plans to track the recovery of species and ecosystems designed and implemented	Number of monitoring plans	-	The indicator reflects the number of Monitoring Plans that are developed or adapted and subsequently implemented, in equal number of protected areas. One (1) comprehensive Monitoring Plan is expected for each protected area.	APN monitoring reports	Component 2 Lead Monitoring specialist (PMU)	by protected area	0	1. Formation of technical-professional team responsible for preparing and implementing each Monitoring Plan. 2. Monitoring Plan design: objectives, methods and tools; baselines (and sources); responsible parties and roles; schedule; budget and other necessary resources; contingency approach; data analysis and result interpretation. 3. Validation and/or approval of each plan. 4. Acquisition and installation	7	Note: each protected area will adjust activities to its particular situation, resulting in differentiated work plans.	Clear roles and responsibilities are designated for monitoring. External researcher groups (partners) linked to PAs can adjust their agendas to project timelines. Technological capacity and specialized human resources exist (or are achieved) to sustain monitoring actions.

									5. Implementation of Monitoring Plans			
2.2. Strengthened capacities for invasive alien species and domestic livestock management in six protected areas and their buffer areas, with effective participation, integrating local knowledge and perspectives from men and women, as well as promotion of actions oriented to generate equal opportunities.	2.2.1: Plans for prevention, monitoring and control of invasive alien species (including feral livestock) implemented.  <b>Aligns with Indicator 6.b of KM-GBF (number of countries adopting relevant regulations, processes and measures to reduce the impact of invasive alien species)</b>	Number of plans	-	The indicator quantifies the results of efforts and investment in invasive alien species management. APN categorizes feral livestock as invasive alien species, therefore plans for its control or suppression are included in this indicator.  Each plan defines ordered and sequential actions that allow management of invasive alien species identified by the project.	APN plan implementation reports	Component 2 Lead  Monitoring specialist (PMU)	By protected area: - Iberá NP - Campos del Tuyú NP - Los Glaciares NP - Tierra del Fuego NP  [By taxonomic group)	0	1. Review of plans or projects, preparation of operational plans / work plans. 2. Formation of implementing teams for each PA; acquisition, conditioning and setup of equipment and materials. 3. Sustained and systematic execution of operational plans, implementing patrolling, detection, and capture, relocation or culling of individuals according to each plan. 4. Systematic recording of activities carried out and results obtained.	4	Note: SEP, GAP and IPP provide specific considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities.	Infrastructure installed that prevents IAS re-invasions or IAS movements to controlled sites is properly maintained throughout project and after.  Adequate perception management of local groups against IAS control.

	<p>2.2.2: Collaborative livestock management plans designed and implemented.</p> <p>Aligns with Indicator 10.1 of KM-GBF (Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture)</p>	<p>Number of plans developed with equal participation and inclusion of perspectives for men and women</p>		<p>The indicator quantifies the results of efforts and investment for domestic livestock management. Domestic livestock includes both authorized within protected areas or existing on private properties in buffer areas.</p> <p>Each plan defines ordered and sequential actions and practices that allow improved domestic livestock management, reducing overgrazing, and restoring affected natural grasslands.</p> <p>Each Plan includes a strategy that addresses the perspectives of women and men whenever is relevant and actions to manage differentiated barriers that men and women may have in implementing the plans.</p>	<p>APN plan implementation reports</p>	<p>Component 2 Lead</p> <p>Monitoring specialist (PMU)</p>	<p>By protected area: - Laguna de los Pozuelos NM - Los Cardones NP - Iberá NP - Campos del Tuyú NP - Los Glaciares NP - Tierra del Fuego NP</p> <p>By sex (men and women) ensuring at least 45% of women representation.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>1. Review of the status of each current plan or agreement at project start (Occupation and Grazing Permits). 2. Initial analysis of current livestock production systems. 3. Collaborative plan design: rotational grazing, pasture restoration, soil, water and biodiversity conservation practices. 4. Equipment and material acquisition and preparation; training of responsible teams. 5. Sustained and systematic implementation of plans, collaborating with beneficiaries. 6. Continuous recording of actions and results.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Note 1: each protected area will adjust activities to its particular situation, resulting in differentiated work plans.</p> <p>Note 2: SEP, GAP and IPP provide specific considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities.</p>	<p>Interest and commitment of livestock producers neighboring or nearby PA is achieved regarding proposed management changes</p> <p>Understanding is achieved between project technical proposals and certain traditional practices.</p> <p>Livestock management practices promoted by project improve not only environmental conditions of productive units but also production profitability.</p>
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	<p>2.2.3: Information and awareness campaigns on invasive alien species or livestock management implemented.</p>	<p>Number of campaigns with sensitive approach to needs of men and women</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>We define each campaign as the set of planned actions to inform, aware or mobilize the population in the context of each PA about the impact of invasive alien species or livestock without adequate management, seeking changes in perception, attitude or behavior and assessing the perspectives of men and women for pre-campaign diagnosis and to identify specific messages/media for women and youth.</p> <p>One campaign is developed per PA.</p> <p>The dimension, extension and timing of each campaign depends on each PA.</p> <p>Campaigns are consistent with the institutional strategy (Product 3.1.1)</p>	<p>Graphic, audiovisual, digital material, etc. produced for campaigns</p> <p>Social media and APN website</p> <p>APN institutional records and files</p>	<p>Component 2 Lead</p> <p>Component 3 Lead</p> <p>Monitoring specialist (PMU)</p>	<p>By protected area: - Laguna de los Pozuelos NM - Los Cardones NP - Iberá NP - Campos del Tuyú NP - Los Glaciares NP - Tierra del Fuego NP</p> <p>By sex (men and women) ensuring at least 45 % of women and young people participate in the campaigns</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>1. Diagnostic study on perception and social attitudes (at local level) regarding presence and control of invasive alien species. 2. Design: background research, define objectives, target audience, content and communication channels of campaign. 3. Campaign action plan development. 4. Campaign execution. 5. Campaign evaluation.</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Note 1: - IAS campaigns: PN Iberá, PN Campos del Tuyú, PN Los Glaciares y PN Tierra del Fuego - Livestock management campaigns: MN Laguna de los Pozuelos, PN Los Cardones.</p> <p>Note 2: each protected area will adjust activities to its particular situation, resulting in differentiated work plans.</p> <p>Note 3: SEP, GAP and IPP provide specific considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities.</p>	<p>The degree of knowledge, awareness and mobilization of people increases as result of communication strategy and actions</p>
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2.3. Strengthened capacities for wildfire prevention and ecological fire management in three protected areas and their buffer areas, with effective participation, integrating local knowledge and perspectives from men and women, as well as promotion of actions oriented to generate equal opportunities.	2.3.1: Collaborative plans for wildfire prevention and ecological fire management designed and implemented.	Number of plans with equal participation and inclusion of perspectives for men and women	-	The indicator quantifies achievement of efforts and investment in fire management. Each plan defines ordered and sequential actions that allow prevention, early detection, control and suppression of wildfires; it also includes plans and protocols for prescribed fire (or ecological fire management). Each Plan includes in its strategy that addresses the perspectives of women and men whenever is relevant and actions to manage differentiated barriers that men and women may have in implementing the plans.	APN internal reports on plans implementation	Component 2 Lead Monitoring specialist (PMU)	By protected area: - Iberá NP - Campos del Tuyú NP - Lihué Calel NP  By sex (men and women) ensuring at least 45% of women representation.	0	1. Continued implementation of current Fire Management Plans; including prescribed fire protocols. 2. Strengthening knowledge on the ecological role of fire and on alternative techniques for fire management. 3. Update of Fire Management Plans at their expiration date, developed with collaborative approach. 4. Installation of early fire detection systems (domes with multispectral cameras).	3	Note 1: each protected area will adjust activities to its particular situation, resulting in differentiated work plans.  Note 2: SEP, GAP and IPP provide specific considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities.	Counterparts (stakeholders) for fire fighting maintain their material resources and personnel throughout project.  No reductions occur in APN-contracted personnel (brigadists) throughout the project
	2.3.2: Information and awareness campaigns on wildfire prevention and ecological fire management implemented.	Number of campaigns with sensitive approach to needs of men and women	-	We define each campaign as the set of planned actions to inform, aware or mobilize the population in the context of each PA about the impact of wildfires in PAs, seeking changes in perception, attitude or behavior and assessing the perspectives of men and women for pre-campaign diagnosis and to identify specific messages/media for women and	Graphic, audiovisual, digital material, etc. produced for campaigns  Social media and APN website  APN institutional records and files	Component 2 Lead Component 3 Lead Monitoring specialist (PMU)	By protected area: - Iberá NP - Campos del Tuyú NP - Lihué Calel NP  By sex (men and women) ensuring at least 45% of women representation.	0	1. Design: define objectives, research background, define target audience, content and communication media of campaign. 2. Campaign action plan development. 3. Campaign	3	Note 1: each protected area will adjust activities to its particular situation, resulting in differentiated work plans.  Note 2: SEP, GAP and IPP provide specific	The degree of knowledge, awareness and mobilization of people increases as result of communication strategy and actions

				<p>youth.</p> <p>One campaign is developed per PA.</p> <p>The dimension, extension and timing of each campaign depend on each PA.</p> <p>Campaigns are consistent with the institutional strategy (Product 3.1.1)</p>					<p>execution .</p> <p>4. Campaign evaluation.</p>		<p>considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities.</p>
<p><b>Project Component 3: Generation and dissemination of knowledge about sustainable ecological restoration actions in protected areas and their buffer areas</b></p>											
<p>3.1. Strengthened knowledge management, awareness and communication about ecological restoration in protected areas and their buffer areas including perspectives and ensuring equitable participation conditions of men and women as well, in addition to youth.</p>	<p>3.1.1: Communication and awareness strategy for specific groups and sites designed and implemented, with participation and commitment of main stakeholders from seven prioritized protected areas.</p>	<p>Strategic communication and awareness plan implemented with sensitive approach to needs of men and women</p>	-	<p>The indicator reflects the development of a strategic communication and awareness plan during project execution. It includes all basic elements and sequential steps for effective communication AND INCLUDES the perspectives of men and women for pre-campaign diagnosis and to identify specific messages/media for women and youth.</p>	<p>Institutional reports</p>	<p>Component 3 Lead</p> <p>Monitoring specialist (PMU)</p> <p>Expert consultant</p> <p>Communications and Institutional Relations Directorate (DCyRI)</p>	<p>By sex (men and women) ensuring at least 45% of women representation in campaign beneficiaries</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>1. Diagnosis study on current state of local knowledge on topics addressed by the strategy.</p> <p>2. Mapping of key communication actors linked to IPP.</p> <p>3. Development of two strategic lines for communication: a) internal for APN personnel ; b) for audiences external to the institution .</p> <p>4. Internal communication: maintain an internal communication bulletin.</p> <p>5. External communication: project microsite on APN or SIB webpage.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Note: SEP, GAP and IPP provide specific considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities.</p>

									6. Audit (through external audit) communication strategies at mid-term and project end.			
	3.1.2: Lessons learned and good practices documented and disseminated nationally and internationally.	Number of integrative documents prepared with a perspective of inclusion and equity for men and women experiences.	-	The indicator quantitatively reflects the technical knowledge production achieved. It accounts for successful completion of various systematization processes, statistical analysis, comparative analysis, result evaluation, etc. of demonstrative interventions (Component 2) for formulation of lessons learned and good practices for ecological restoration. These outputs incorporate lessons learned and best practices in addressing gender* inequalities and promoting women's empowerment.	Final reports and documents Records of discussion session / attendance lists Expert consultations	Monitoring specialist (PMU) Component 2 Lead Component 3 Lead	n/a	0	1. Knowledge production: systematization of lessons learned and good practices in different formats (thematic reports, integrative reports, meeting summaries, scientific publications, congress presentations, among others). 2. Compilation of lessons learned and good practices in final integrative document. 3. Project personnel participation in national and international technical meetings. 4. Preparation and publication of guidelines for communicating lessons learned and good practices (Guide	1	Note: SEP, GAP and IPP provide specific considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities. Technical exchange exists with partners and external experts Sufficient time is allocated to APN staff in their work planning for full participation in activities	

									for Adaptive Communication on Ecological Restoration), based on the experience from seven protected areas, and directed to their communication managers.			
	3.1.3: Formal instances to share knowledge, lessons learned and good practices.	Number of events implemented	-	The indicator reflects the result of actions to promote and ensure active exchange and critical discussion of achieved results, lessons learned and identified good practices.	Event reports Participant lists Satisfaction evaluations	Project Coordinator (PMU) Component 3 Lead Monitoring specialist (PMU)	by theme by men and women	0	1. Realization of knowledge exchange meetings; three (3) thematic face-to-face events per region: a) invasive alien species; b) livestock management and c) wildfire and ecological fire management; for APN personnel (NOA, NEA, Center, Northern Patagonia and Southern Patagonia regions): - content preparation - speaker identification - logistical organization 2. Realization of an event on ecological restoration (First National	16	Note: SEP, GAP and IPP provide specific considerations and, when appropriate, indicators and targets for activities.	Strong / reliable results and lessons are derived from the 4-year implementation of project Sufficient time is allocated to APN staff in their work planning for full participation in exchange and training activities

								Meeting on Restoration in Protected Areas). 3. Recording of each event and generation to produce materials (reusable) for future meetings or training (e.g. videos, reports, graphic summaries).			
		Number of participants desagregated by sex	-	The indicator quantifies, on one hand, participation of project and APN personnel in knowledge production processes, lessons learned extraction and good practices systematization for ecological restoration, and on the other hand, APN personnel attendance to at least one of the described events, linked to each person's specific function within the institution. The activities for the preparation for and exchange of knowledge, women and men are invited in a balanced manner and that conditions are generated for their equal participation	Event reports Participant lists Satisfaction evaluations	Component 3 Lead Monitoring specialist (PMU)	by protected area by men and women ensuring at least 45% of women representation. by sector	0	Recording of minutes from each meeting/event.	80	Sufficient time is allocated to APN staff in their work planning for full participation in exchange and training activities
3.1.4: One knowledge management module on ecological restoration hosted in APN's Biodiversity Information System.		Number of knowledge management modules with with sensitive approach to needs	-	The indicator reflects that online access (agile and simplified) has been ensured to all knowledge products generated with project investment. Knowledge	Biodiversity Information System - SIB (sib.gob.ar) or argentina.gob.ar (portal)	Component 3 Lead Monitoring specialist (PMU)	n/a	0	1. Design the ecological restoration module, ensuring user-friendly interface with thematic	1	

		of men a women		products may include recommendation reports, policy reports, technical documents, case studies, etc					filters, by PA and by resource type. If necessary, a programmer will be added for design. 2. Upload documents produced by project. Knowledge products may include recommendation reports, policy reports, technical documents, case studies, etc. 3. Disseminate module creation (internal and external audience). 4. Keep repository permanently updated with materials and publications being created.				
	3.1.5: Development of capacities and training in ecological restoration methods and techniques.	Number of capacity development processes including provision sensitive to women and men	-	Quantification of courses, workshops or specific training practices on methodologies and techniques for ecological restoration.	Final reports of courses, workshops, sessions or training practices conducted	Component 3 Lead	Monitoring specialist (PMU)	by theme	0	1. Planning and realization of at least two (2) training sessions for APN personnel on ecosystem, community or population restoration	4		There is interest in trainings from target audiences  Strong / reliable results and lessons are derived from the 4-year implementation of project

		Number of people reached ensuring balanced access for men and women, and youth	-	Quantification of number of people attending conducted courses, workshops or training practices differentiating among men, women and youth	Participant lists Skills and knowledge evaluations	Component 3 Lead Monitoring specialist (PMU)	by men and women ensuring at least 45% of women representation.	0	n addressing project design and case study analysis. 2. Planning and realization of at least two (2) training sessions for journalists specializing in environmental topics, including press trips to learn about restoration experiences in progress at some pilot site/s. 3. Produce training reports for the Training and Capacity Building Center in Protected Areas (CFyCAP) website, part of the APN Training and Career Development Directorate (with support from consultant assigned to Product 3.1.1).	50		There is interest in trainings from target audiences Sufficient time is allocated to APN staff in their work planning for full participation in exchange and training activities	
<b>Monitoring and evaluation of project execution to meet GEF requirements</b>													
Effective project-level monitoring and evaluation with perspective of	Project inception workshop	Workshop conducted	-	First structured project workshop	Workshop report Participant list Photographic record Media communication	Monitoring specialist (PMU)	n/a	0	General agreements for project implementation. Human team and partners	1			

equity and inclusion between men and women									presentation. Review of objectives, roles and responsibilities, work plan, etc.			
	Capacity building workshop	Workshop conducted with inclusion of perspectives for men and women	-	Workshop to strengthen project social safeguards implementation: Gender* sensitive approach Indigenous People framework Concrete actions and monitoring for the gender action plan and the indigenous plan.	Final workshop report	Social specialist (PMU)	n/a	0	Organization and delivery of one (1) workshop aimed at strengthening capacity and skills for participatory and collaborative processes, constructive conflict management, women and men perspective approach, and strategies to work with indigenous peoples.	1	Note 1: This activity is outlined in the SEP, GAP and IPP plans. Note 2: For the activity, the entire project team will be convened, including coordination, personnel linked from National Conservation Directorate and its Regional Directorates, and personnel from each prioritized protected area.	
		Number of people reached ensuring balanced access for men and women, and youth	-	Quantification of number of people attending the workshop	Participant list	Monitoring specialist (PMU)	by men and women ensuring at least 45% of women representation.	0	Participant registration.	35		

	Annual GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR) / Reports of Core GEF Indicators Project Advisory Committee meeting reports GSM GAP SEP IPP	Number of reports, including lessons learned and best practices to promote equality between men and women	-	PPR: Project Progress Report QFR: Quarterly Financial Report	4 PPR; 8 QFR	Project Coordinator (PMU) Monitoring specialist (PMU) Financial specialist (PMU)	by report type	0	n/a	20		
	Independent mid-term review	Number of reports	-	RW: Reflection workshop to review monitoring and evaluation data and report on project strategy review. MTR: Mid-term review.	1 RW 1 MTR	Project Coordinator (PMU) Monitoring specialist (PMU)	n/a	0	n/a	2		
	Independent final evaluation	Number of reports, including lessons learned and best practices to promote equality between men and woman.	-	TE: Final evaluation report.  A comprehensive evaluation at the end of project, conducted by external independent evaluator/s	1 TE	Project Coordinator (PMU) Monitoring specialist (PMU)	n/a	0	n/a	1		

#### ANNEX D: STATUS OF UTILIZATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed
Consultancies and contracts to develop program and/or project options	57,290.00	57,290.00	
Travel costs for local experts for consultations and discussions	17,480.00	17,480.00	
Local workshops to discuss the project	34,442.00	34,442.00	
Gender, Environmental and Social Safeguards analysis and plans	40,788.00	40,788.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>150,000.00</b>	<b>150,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## ANNEX E: PROJECT MAP AND COORDINATES

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Lihué Calel NP	-37.9348778	-65.60471111111111	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Los Cardones NP	-25.2773278	-65.93185833333334	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Laguna de los Pozuelos NM	-22.341725	-66.00192777777778	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Campos del Tuyú NP	-36.3544361	-56.87624444444445	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Tierra del Fuego NP	-54.6422583	-68.485975	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Iberá NP	-27.9323778	-56.93082777777778	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

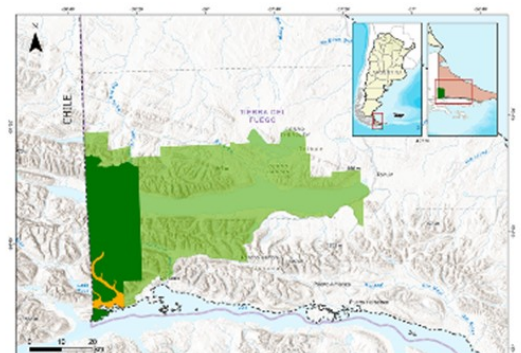
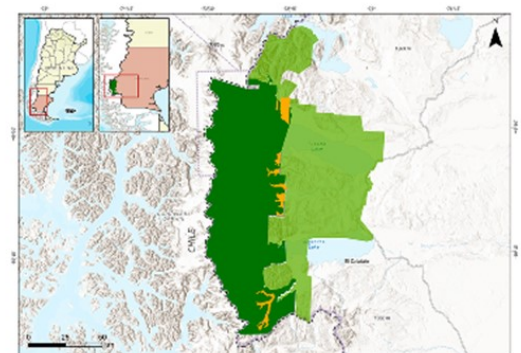
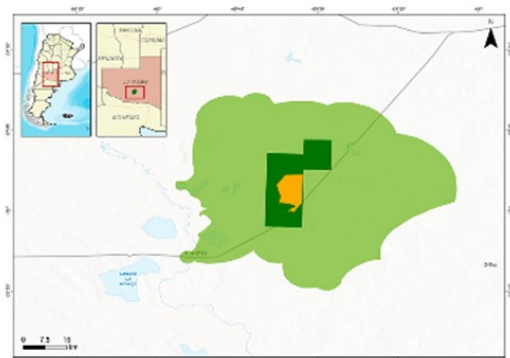
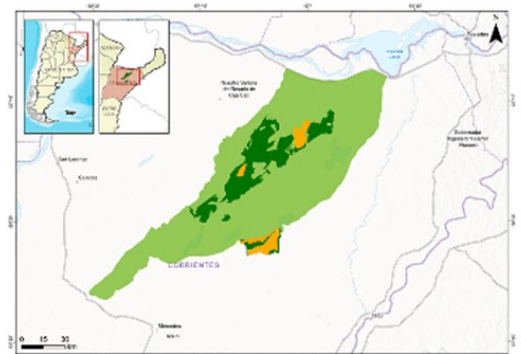
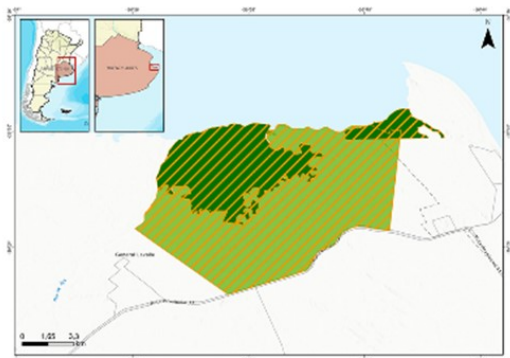
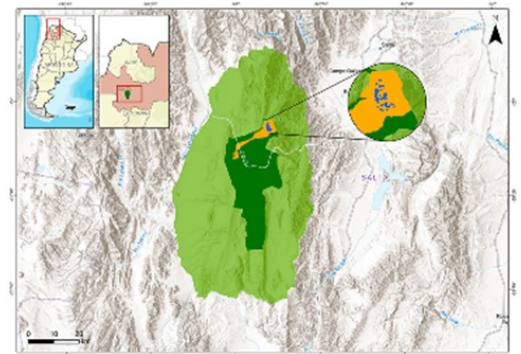
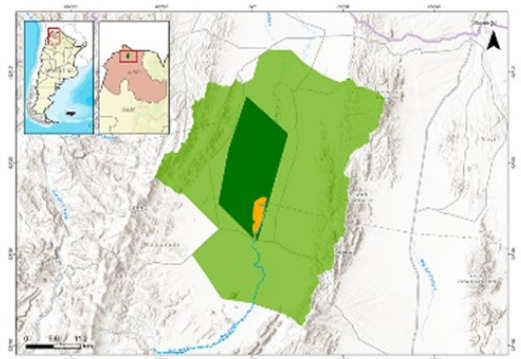
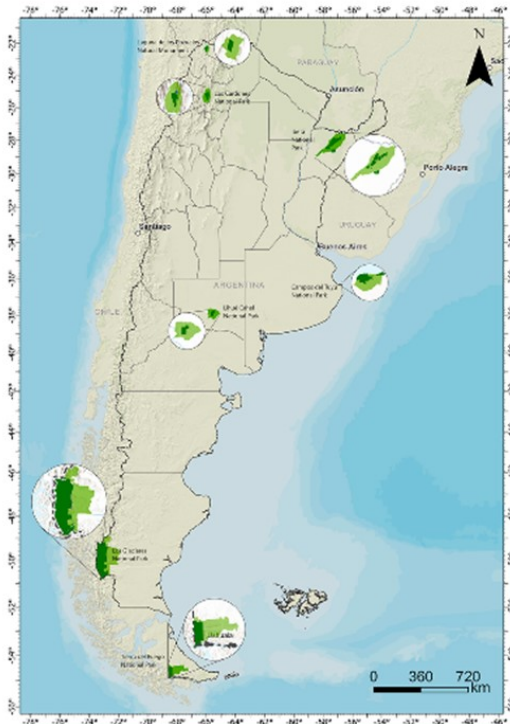
Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Los Glaciares NP	-49.9469028	-73.15797500000001	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

**Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where project interventions are taking place as appropriate.**

See attached Annex E



### References

- Intervention sites
- Protected areas
- Buffer areas
- Andean highland wetlands (vegas)
- ..... Country limit

## ANNEX F: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

Attach agency safeguard datasheet/assessment report(s), including ratings of risk types and overall project/program risk classification as well as any management plans or measures to address identified risks and impacts (as applicable).

Title

Annex F ESS Risk Assessment FR-251 HAPRASC Restoration APN

## ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Please upload the budget table here.

### Appendix G: Indicative Project Budget Template

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity	
		Component 1	Component 2			Component 3	Sub-Total	M&E			PMC
		Outcome 1.1	Outcome 2.1	Outcome 2.2	Outcome 2.3	Outcome 3.1					
Goods	Laptops, projectors, microphones, servers			28.500,00	32.450,00	16.300,00	77.250,00			77.250,00	National Parks Administration
	Road machinery (backhoe 1) for construction and maintenance of firebreaks, tractor, grass cutting implements, wood chippers			331.350,00			331.350,00			331.350,00	National Parks Administration
	Camera traps, GPS, biological monitoring instruments, drones, weather stations		274.980,00		39.330,00		314.310,00			314.310,00	National Parks Administration
	Firefighting equipment (handheld radios, weather station, dome)				104.000,00		104.000,00			104.000,00	National Parks Administration
	Fencing materials, water troughs, electric fences			346.468,00	95.816,00		442.284,00			442.284,00	National Parks Administration
	Traps, trap-making materials, and other IAS			194.500,00			194.500,00			194.500,00	National Parks Administration
	Fire control supplies, Personal protective equipment				34.100,00		34.100,00			34.100,00	National Parks Administration

	Sampling materials (camera trap batteries, sampling equipment, and laboratory analysis)		41.375,00				41.375,00		41.375,00	National Parks Administration
Vehicles	Truck (with initial fire attack kit) (1)				139.406,00		139.406,00		139.406,00	National Parks Administration
	Quads (2)			37.119,00			37.119,00		37.119,00	National Parks Administration
	Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) (1)			37.950,00			37.950,00		37.950,00	National Parks Administration
	Boat (1), propellers (#10)			55.934,00			55.934,00		55.934,00	National Parks Administration
Contractual Services – Individual	Financing mechanisms restoration	80.111,00					80.111,00		80.111,00	National Parks Administration
	Livestock management			39.885,00	90.836,00		130.721,00		130.721,00	National Parks Administration
	Baseline and monitoring restoration		70.629,00				70.629,00		70.629,00	National Parks Administration
	Communication strategy					136.668,00	136.668,00		136.668,00	National Parks Administration
	Mid term review (MTR)						-	13.500,00	13.500,00	National Parks Administration
	Annual financial audits						-	16.500,00	16.500,00	National Parks Administration
Contractual Services – Company	National restoration guidelines for APN	46.072,00					46.072,00		46.072,00	National Parks Administration
	Development of sustainable livestock management plans			402.534,00			402.534,00		402.534,00	National Parks Administration
	Development of fire management plans				841.532,00				841.532,00	National Parks Administration
	Baseline and monitoring plan for restoration actions		231.271,00				231.271,00		231.271,00	National Parks Administration
	Ecological role of fire				39.086,00		39.086,00		39.086,00	National Parks Administration
	Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE)						-	15.000,00	15.000,00	National Parks Administration
	Construction of restoration exclusion fences			817.891,00	77.825,00		895.716,00		895.716,00	National Parks Administration

											Administration
	Veterinary services for invasive alien species removal			9.380,00			9.380,00			9.380,00	National Parks Administration
	Production of audiovisual, graphic and digital materials					256.100,00	256.100,00			256.100,00	National Parks Administration
	Light aircraft rental for IAS monitoring and native wildlife tracking		16.000,00				16.000,00			16.000,00	National Parks Administration
<b>Salary / Staff costs</b>	Project Coordinator	3.990,00	9.222,00	37.822,00	27.472,00	7.847,00	86.353,00	2.014,00	4.587,00	92.954,00	National Parks Administration
<b>Project Unit Consultants</b>	Social Specialist								73.465,00	73.465,00	National Parks Administration
	Procurement Specialist								73.465,00	73.465,00	National Parks Administration
	Financial Specialist								73.465,00	73.465,00	National Parks Administration
	Monitoring Specialist							73.465,00		73.465,00	National Parks Administration
<b>Trainings, Workshops, Meetings</b>	Inception Workshop, local advisory committees, interjurisdictional coordination instances, knowledge exchange meetings	138.887,00		90.000,00	119.000,00	25.000,00	372.887,00	12.000,00		384.887,00	National Parks Administration
<b>Travel</b>	Fuel			145.740,00			145.740,00	18.625,00	47.150,00	211.515,00	National Parks Administration
	Travel expenses					106.577,00	106.577,00			106.577,00	National Parks Administration
	Per diem				110.058,00		110.058,00			110.058,00	National Parks Administration
<b>Office Supplies</b>	Office supplies								9.812,00	9.812,00	National Parks Administration
<b>Other Operating Costs</b>	Vehicle services			12.300,00			12.300,00			12.300,00	National Parks Administration
	Software licenses			3.450,00	32.200,00		35.650,00			35.650,00	National Parks Administration
<b>Grand Total</b>		269.060,00	643.477,00	2.590.823,00	1.783.111,00	548.492,00	4.993.431,00	134.604,00	298.444,00	<b>6.268.011,00</b>	

Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

119. The budget was developed collaboratively with APN's substantive areas and with personnel from selected PAs. Some differences are verified with amounts assigned to each component in the PIF document.
120. Regarding component 1, project funds will be used to hire experts who identify sustainable financing mechanisms for ecological restoration processes for prioritized protected areas and to support the development of Guidelines for diagnosis, planning and institutional monitoring of ecological restoration processes in protected areas and buffer areas. Funds are also allocated to ensure local actor participation and interinstitutional exchange, strengthening governance of restoration processes in PAs.
121. Within component 2, demonstrative actions for restoration actions in each PA will be implemented. This is where the largest investments will be executed in goods necessary to carry out proposed practices, such as purchasing equipment for developing base lines of conservation values and threats that will allow monitoring progress and achievements obtained. Machinery will also be acquired for IAS capture (animal) and IAS control (vegetation), materials for livestock management and services associated with feral livestock capture and installation of fencing, water troughs and others linked to livestock management and livestock exclusion from areas to be restored, and firebreak creation and maintenance, vehicles for fire prevention and management. Technical documents will be developed to disseminate and make the information available to other PAs, also to academia and other actors involved in restoration and sustainable natural resource management.
122. Hiring experts for developing baselines and monitoring plans for restoration actions is also foreseen, as well as implementing information and awareness campaigns on ecological fire management and fire prevention.
123. In component 3, expenses are included for the production and dissemination of information related to restoration experiences, for campaign design and dissemination materials, campaign implementation and financing the training and exchange instances between different PAs.
124. In terms of knowledge management, restoration action results will be systematized and presented in academic settings such as Ecological Restoration Network conferences and other similar events, and at least two exchange meetings between PA personnel will be held.
125. There is a budget portion allocated to project execution, monitoring and evaluation that includes contracting the responsible team, travel expenses and workshops for monitoring, follow-up and correct implementation of SEP, IPP, and GAP, as well as to verify compliance with Environmental and Social Safeguards and attend the GSM.

## ANNEX I: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS

From GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF.