

Enhancing Cuba's Institutional and Technical Capacities in the Agriculture and Land-use Sectors for Enhanced Transparency under the Paris Agreement

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

9970

Countries

Cuba

Project Name

Enhancing Cuba's Institutional and Technical Capacities in the Agriculture and Land-use Sectors for Enhanced Transparency under the Paris Agreement
Agencies

FAO

Date received by PM

6/7/2019

Review completed by PM

Program Manager

Milena Vasquez

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

MSP

PIF

CEO Endorsement

Project Design and Financing

1. If there are any changes from that presented in the PIF, have justifications been provided?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

16 July 2019:

The proposed CEO Approval Request is very similar to the PIF with mainly some adjustments of the outputs of the Component 3. Cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments

March 2020

No response required

December 2019

Done

2. Is the project structure/ design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

16 July 2019:

Please address the following comments:

1- Considering the importance of the energy sector as presented in the NDC for the GHG emissions (76% vs 16% from agriculture) and for the mitigation contribution (2144 MW in total as compared to 755 MW from biomass), we note the roadmap for transparency that is presented and the plans to strengthen the capacity in the energy and waste sectors to meet the BTR requirement by 2024 and ask for the following clarifications:

- Please provide an update on the work under the TNC/BUR project which is developing "the general basis of the country's MRV system, as well as the roadmap to implement the NDC" and how *specifically* this project will liaise and coordinate with that work.
- As the work under the energy and waste sector is expected to be carried out during the execution of this project, please embed a coordination and knowledge exchange mechanism into the project outputs to ensure that the work under this project is directly applicable to the other sectors and supports the **national** MRV and M&E system under Component 1.
- Please clarify Cuba's plans for updating its NDC and how this project will coordinate with that work, in particular as it related to developing indicators to track progress and a system to monitor, track and report on those indicators at a sectoral level and how that will inform the national framework. Please elaborate on the

coordination mechanism between MINAG and CITMA, and the other relevant ministries.

2- In the baseline scenario, a significant number of initiatives are presented but except for the initiatives supported by FAO, it is unclear how they can contribute or be articulated with the CBIT process. Please focus on the baseline that is useful to this proposal and how it can contribute or be articulated.

3- Under institutional arrangements, it says "based on a request from the Government, FAO will provide direct support services of the GEF resources including procurement and contracting services, fully embedded in the PMC of the project." Please note that salaries and fees for GEF Agency staff or consultants cannot be covered by GEF Funding under the PMC and that the GEF Fee Policy explicitly precludes the merging or crossing over of the implementing functions of the GEF Agencies and the execution functions undertaken by EAs. Please clarify.

23 December 2019:

1 - Comments cleared.

2 - Comment cleared.

3 - Comment not cleared. We urge the agency and the country to find a suitable third-party to carry out execution functions that the government does not have the capacity to carry out. It appears that in other GEF projects the country has been able to use national execution modalities.

7/31/2020: FAO will support execution of the project with the management of funds (procurement, etc.). An updated letter has been provided by the new OFP; however, the translation of this letter mentions a different executing agency (ministry of science, technology and environment instead of ministry of agriculture). Please upload a corrected letter. Also, please provide a summary of the response to this comment below.

8/6/2020: Correct translation has been uploaded.

Response to Secretariat comments

August 3, 2020

We apologize for the mistake in the translated letter. Please find under documentation the corrected translation. As the Spanish version of the letter describes, the executing agency will be the Ministry of Agriculture. The English translation is now consistent with the Spanish version, and we confirm this arrangements.

As requested by the government, FAO will support the execution of the project with the management of funds. The execution functions will be assumed by the Ministry of Agriculture.

July 2020.

A new letter dated July 8, 2020 has been uploaded with the government requesting FAO to undertake the management functions as explained below and in the letter. We provide the official version in Spanish and an english translation.

March 2020

Appended is letter from January 6 2020 where the country's OFP explains why they are requesting FAO to execute the project. This can be summarized as follows:

"The country's suffers from a tight economic, financial and commercial blockade (...) which prevents it from accessing different markets and technologies. These conditions translate into specific circumstances for project execution which other countries do not have.

This specific situation (...) forces the government to procure goods and services outside of the country, therefore day to day operations with international funding are more difficult given the current financial and commercial restrictions imposed on Cuba (...) Direct execution of the project by FAO will allow for a more efficient use of financial resources received from the GEF, particularly if the government were to execute the funds directly which could bring risks such as losing funding from the long processes in Cuba.

December 2019

- Considering the importance of the energy sector as presented in the NDC for the GHG emissions (76% vs 16% from agriculture) and for the mitigation contribution (2144 MW in total as compared to 755 MW from biomass), we note the roadmap for transparency that is presented and the plans to strengthen the capacity in the energy and waste sectors to meet the BTR requirement by 2024 and ask for the following clarifications:

- Please provide an update on the work under the TNC/BUR project which is developing "the general basis of the country's MRV system, as well as the roadmap to implement the NDC" and how *specifically* this project will liaise and coordinate with that work.

A first version of the general bases of the country's MRV system including the GHG emissions, removals subsystems and mitigation actions was developed in the context of the 3CN / BUR. That version was presented and discussed in the National Climate Change Group in November 2018. The document is currently being updated based on the decisions of Katowice CoP 24, to be aligned with the MPGs. The work is being focused on the flexibility approach that the country will adopt. As for the NDCs implementation road map, it was prepared and presented to the National Climate Change Group.

The 3NC - 1st BUR, the MRV system, the NDC implementation road map, as well as the transparency system (specifically in AFOLU sector) are linked to the implementation of the State Plan for Facing Climate Change, with participation of all the Cuban institutions under the coordination of CITMA.

The decision on communicating or updating the NDC according to Decision 1.CP 21 and taking into account the NDC time frame, will be taken in due time by the government.

This Project directly tributes to the implementation of the MRV system, the definition of adaptation and mitigation actions and NDCs adoption in the AFOLU sector (including the definition of new contributions) and should be governed by the country's general MRV bases and the NDC roadmap that is finally adopted. This process is monitored by CITMA through the National Climate Change Group, which globally coordinates all the projects that contribute to these objectives (TCN / BUR, CBIT-AFOLU, etc.)

- As the work under the energy and waste sector is expected to be carried out during the execution of this project, please embed a coordination and knowledge exchange mechanism into the project outputs to ensure that the work under this project is directly applicable to the other sectors and supports the **national** MRV and M&E system under Component 1.

Please refer to the text in the PRODOC page 28 and CEO Endorsement page 25 under output 1.1.1. "Coordination mechanism for the agriculture, forestry and other land-use sector to integrate, coordinate and plan transparency-related activities established".

- Please clarify Cuba's plans for updating its NDC and how this project will coordinate with that work, in particular as it related to developing indicators to track progress and a system to monitor, track and report on those indicators at a sectoral level and how that will inform the national framework. Please elaborate on the coordination mechanism between MINAG and CITMA, and the other relevant ministries.

Cuba is currently in a national consultation process to expand and update its NDC with the objective of communicating it in 2020.

The National Climate Change Group (GNCC) led by CITMA harmonizes the global coordination mechanism in the country for all climate change-related actions. In this group, there are representatives of all national ministries and entities, appointed by the corresponding ministers and Principals of entities, including MINAG.

GNCC meets monthly and monitors the implementation of "Tarea Vida", which includes Cuba's international commitments under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.

The country's transparency system is being designed and implemented in correspondence with the Paris Agreement and socialized in the GNCC. This monitoring includes the responsibilities of each of the ministries. All projects that pay tribute to these objectives are monitored by the GNCC, including the CBIT-AFOLU, for which MINAG is accountable.

The MRV and M&E systems and their indicator systems developed within the CBT-AFOLU project will form a subsystem of the national system of monitoring indicators of the State Plan.

2- In the baseline scenario, a significant number of initiatives are presented but except for the initiatives supported by FAO, it is unclear how they can contribute or be articulated with the CBIT process. Please focus on the baseline that is useful to this proposal and how it can contribute or be articulated.

Please see changes in the baseline section of the PIF. The baseline scenario initiatives that establish synergies with the project were included. The areas and relations with the project were mentioned in a general way, more detailed information is presented below:

- National Program of Science and Technological Innovation: Climate Change (Government of Cuba) 2012–2022: Estimation of future climate and environmental scenarios for the country. The AFOLU sector, based on the results of this project, will have scientifically supported information for the timely adoption of mitigation and adaptation measures. The CBIT project will allow the AFOLU sector to have a system that is in a position to evaluate and report the implementation of adaptation and mitigation measures in the sector taking into account ETF requirements.
- Third National Country Communication Project TNC / BUR (GEF) 2018–2021: within the framework of the project, the general basis of the country's MRV system, as well as the NDC adoption roadmap are developed. These documents will serve as a guide for the elaboration of the AFOLU sector's MRV (output 2.1.2), and the identification of actions that contribute to the NDC (output 1.1.3)
- Clean Energy Technologies for Rural Areas in Cuba (GEF) 2014–2021: Increase access to bioenergy technology in Cuba by promoting the use of biodiesel and biogas technologies by rural farmers. The CBIT project will allow the AFOLU sector to have a system that is in a position to evaluate and report the reduction of GHG emissions achieved by generalizing the results of this project in the country (as well as co-benefits in adaptation) taking into account ETF requirements
- Environmental bases for sustainability of local food production (BASAL) (EU, SDC) 2015–2022: Reduces vulnerabilities related to climate change in the agricultural sector at the local level (three municipalities) and national level. In the CBIT project, basic frameworks and infrastructure will be established for enhanced monitoring and reporting of adaptation activities in the agriculture, forestry and other land-use sector under the ETF.

3- Under institutional arrangements, it says "based on a request from the Government, FAO will provide direct support services of the GEF resources including procurement and contracting services, fully embedded in the PMC of the project." Please note that salaries and fees for GEF Agency staff or consultants cannot be covered by GEF Funding under the PMC and that the GEF Fee Policy explicitly precludes the merging or crossing over of the implementing functions of the GEF Agencies and the execution functions undertaken by EAs. Please clarify.

FAO will not, under any circumstance, use project funds to pay for FAO staff or cover the travel/supervision costs of such staff. FAO's internal control framework establishes a firewall between the execution and implementation functions. This is done by securing segregation of duties, to avoid conflict of interest, associated to the internal FAO roles.

MINAG is requesting FAO through an official letter uploaded as part of this submission, to provide direct support services of the GEF resources including procurement and contracting services. In collaboration with MINAG and the PSC, FAO will participate in the planning and execution of contracting and procurement processes and support MINAG to comply with the ETF requirements and improve the quality of the MRV system tracking results among other activities. MINAG's request was based on the project's technical nature and on the government's recognition that, as a neutral partner, FAO is uniquely positioned to work with a wide range of entities in view of enhancing Cuba's institutional and technical capacities in the AFOLU sector for enhanced transparency under the Paris Agreement.

The following arguments justify FAO's execution role in this project from an administrative and management perspective:

- The key Government partners will still be building its execution capacities. In the project implementation phase, MINAG maintains its leading role and ownership of resources. MINAG through the PIU and the NPD will develop AWP, TORs, technical portions of LOAs and participate in selection processes. The PIU will report to the PSC led by the Government and will seek approval of the AWP. FAO's role in the recruitment processes will ensure the upholding of both technical and procedural standards. Government will participate in the drafting of ToRs for consultants to be hired through the NPD. This is particularly relevant in the Cuban context. MINAG is receiving GEF funds for the first time in the framework of the CBIT project (ID 9970) and the COBIMAS project (ID 9435).
- Cuba must deal with very particular economic challenges in order to administer US dollars. Day-to-day arrangements (such as procurement and contracting services) are extremely slow for domestic entities due to Cuba's economic and political challenges, making it very complicated and close to impossible to operate with U.S. dollars. In this case, it is more efficacious to have FAO execute the project. The domestic market is very weak and almost all project acquisitions must be made abroad.
- Although FAO would administer the funds, the Government of Cuba will control fund flows and continuously build capacities to execute this and future GEF projects. The Government of Cuba applies very rigorous national control mechanisms to international funds. For each international project, the Government asks each national counterpart to sign internal ToRs to clarify roles. The main state responsibility of the Ministry (Ministerio del Comercio Exterior y la Inversión Extranjera - MINCEX) is to ensure that international cooperation funds and resources are used in a transparent manner. Likewise, the Government of Cuba, represented by MINCEX, has a high level of empowerment of its projects and demands that FAO and any partner systematically render accounts on the state of the technical and financial execution of these projects.

expertise, who contributed to the design of the tools and are able to address country needs, based on their feedback. Furthermore, FAO ensures sharing of and access to the best available global knowledge and practices in the AFOLU sector, following its broad experience supporting the monitoring, reporting and verification processes in more than 60 countries around the world. If FAO does not have a key role in the execution of the project this may stay on the paper and it would be a lost opportunity.

In conclusion, the development of capacities (of all stakeholders, public and private) in this project is an integral and crucial part of the project's execution activities and essential to achieving the desired outcomes and ensuring their sustainability. At the end of the project, country actors such as MINAG and CITMA will have reinforced substantially their capacities across people, institutions and the enabling policy environment in order to be able to; (i) to collect and analyse data to fulfill the requirements of the transparency mechanism under the Paris Agreement and the MPGs adopted by COP 24 in Katowice in December 2018, (ii) strengthen the quality of the MRV system, as well as to (iii) produce evidence for decision making on sustainable production and climate change. Finally, it will provide MINAG and CITMA as well as other governmental entities with the capacities, knowledge and tools to autonomously manage the MRV system and comply with the ETF requirements.

[1] https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.50.06_CBIT_Programming_Directions_0.pdf

3. Is the financing adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objective?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

16 July 2019:

We note that the Budget lists a vehicle for \$30,000 with GEF resources. The use of GEF funds to purchase vehicles is strongly discouraged as such costs are normally expected to be borne by co-finance. Any request to use GEF funding to purchase project vehicles must be justified. The Secretariat assesses such requests and decides whether to approve them.

23 December 2019:

Comment not cleared. We do not believe the purchase of a vehicle is justifiable for this project. Please resubmit budget.

7/312020: The budget has been updated to remove the purchase of a vehicle. Comment cleared. Please provide a summary of the response to this comment below to keep better track.

8/6/2020: Comment cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments

August 3, 2020

The budget was updated to show that the project will not purchase a vehicle.

March 2020

The costs of the vehicle has been removed from the project budget and moved into travel costs. The project will not purchase a vehicle.

December 2019

We note that the Budget lists a vehicle for \$30,000 with GEF resources. The use of GEF funds to purchase vehicles is strongly discouraged as such costs are normally expected to be borne by co-finance. Any request to use GEF funding to purchase project vehicles must be justified. The Secretariat assesses such requests and decides whether to approve them.

The project and its activities (implementation of a transparency system in the AFOLU sector, the organization of all the planned workshops and other activities related to the functions described in the project), require efficient transportation of the Project Management Team.

According to the established internal regulations in Cuba, the acquisition of means of transportation through the economic plan is extremely limited.

Considering the tariffs of the transportation services in Cuba and the prices for the acquisition of a vehicle, the acquisition of a means of transport is cheaper than the contracting of the services required to meet the objectives of the project.

Bearing in mind that:

1. The tariffs of transportation services in the country to public companies:^[1]
 - Km in the city: 0.90 CUC^[2];
 - First three hours: 10.00 CUC; after the first three hours: 7.00 CUC.

2. The transportation needs for the achievement of the project's objectives are summarized in:

- Km per day to travel in the city of Havana (project daily work from the Coordination Unit to the FAO-office in Havana, MINAG, technical working groups, other stakeholders' offices, premises for workshops, etc.): 60 Km.
- Suppose that an average of two stops are required per day for less than three hours (what is a minimum calculation, based on the type of administrative and technical procedures the project will be undertaking)

3. The cost of hiring the transportation services for the 36 months of project execution would result in:

- Kilometers traveled: $60 \text{ Km} * 24 \text{ days / month} * 36 \text{ months} * 0.9 \text{ CUC} = 46656 \text{ CUC}$
- Stops: $2 \text{ stops} * 24 \text{ days} * 36 \text{ month} * 10 \text{ CUC} = 17280 \text{ CUC}$

Total cost of hiring the transportation service: 63936 CUC

4. Purchase price of the vehicle

- Purchase price of the vehicle: 30000 CUC (Annex 3 PRODOC. Nonexpendable procurement)
- Vehicle related operating cost: 18000 CUC (Annex 3 PRODOC. General operating expenses budget)

Total cost of purchasing the vehicle: 48000 CUC

5. Conclusion: Considering the Cuban context, it is more convenient to buy a car than to rent it.

[1] In the country there are other transportation services but they are even more expensive: <http://www.transtur.com/car/search>, <http://www.havanaautos.com/Autos.aspx>

[2] 1cuc = 1usd

4. Does the project take into account potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, and describes sufficient risk response measures? (e.g., measures to enhance climate resilience)

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

16 July 2019:

Yes, the project takes into account potential major risks. Nevertheless, as regard to the high personnel turnover risk, the proposed mitigation measures are unclear, in particular, the establishment of permanent capacities, capacity building and good knowledge management. Please clarify these measures and how they will be implemented.

23 December 2019: Comment cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments

March 2020

No response required

December 2019

Yes, the project takes into account potential major risks. Nevertheless, as regard to the high personnel turnover risk, the proposed mitigation measures are unclear, in particular, the establishment of permanent capacities, capacity building and good knowledge management. **Please clarify these measures and how they will be implemented.**

Within the project, none of the risks is classified as high. In the case of personnel turnover, the rating is medium.

The mobility of personnel from the public to business and private areas is a general phenomenon in the country and the Government has decided in recent days to apply a salary increase to all public sector workers to minimize this problem.

For this project, a strategy for creating permanent working groups in different public institutions, their training and creation of attractive working conditions has been designed, which, together with the recent decisions of the Government on salary matters mentioned above, creates the conditions of sustainability of the project in terms of staff retention.

5. Is co-financing confirmed and evidence provided?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

16 July 2019:

Yes. Cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments Done

6. Are relevant tracking tools completed?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request The project has set baseline assessments and targets for relevant CBIT indicators, as well as a target under Core Indicator 11. Cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments Done

7. Only for Non-Grant Instrument: Has a reflow calendar been presented?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Not applicable.

Response to Secretariat comments Not applicable

8. Is the project coordinated with other related initiatives and national/regional plans in the country or in the region?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

16 July 2019:

Indeed, other related initiatives are indeed presented. Is there any other ones that could enhance the scope of the proposal? Please also explore whether a coordination could be explored with the GEF project "Integrating Rio Global Environmental Commitments into National Priorities and Needs through the Improvement of Information Management and Knowledge for Planning and Decision Making" (GEF ID 9319). This project may allow to link with the energy sector.

Per comments above, please further clarify how specifically the project is coordinating with the ongoing work for Cuba's TNC/BUR.

23 December 2019: Comment cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments

March 2020

No response required

December 2019

Per comments above, please further clarify how specifically the project is coordinating with the ongoing work for Cuba's TNC/BUR.

The "Integrating Rio global environmental commitments into national priorities and needs through the improvement of information management and knowledge for planning and decision making" project arises to strengthen the management of environmental knowledge for planning and decision making in Cuba. InfoGEO, the Environmental Information System and its technical and institutional capacities were strengthened to successfully pay tribute to the National Information System (SNIA). The project worked on pilots for the operation of this System in strategic sectors (agriculture, fishing, tourism) and in selected territories of Havana and Matanzas.

The project was designed in 2015 and started its implementation in 2017, so it could not consider the progress of the AP, neither its implementation regulated by the Decisions of COP 24 of Katowice.

The CBIT-AFOLU project has specific objectives that InfoGEO does not contemplate. Nevertheless, it can provide substantive information to the future development of the InfoGEO platform, specifically in the area of climate change in the AFOLU sector.

CITMA, in its role as general coordinator of the complementary statistical system in the environmental area, coordinates the alignment of the executed information systems projects thus ensuring the complementarity and compatibility of the projects that pay tribute to those objectives: TNA / BUR, CBIT-AFOLU, InfoGEO, among others.

9. Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

16 July 2019:

Yes. Cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments Done

10. Does the project have descriptions of a knowledge management plan?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

16 July 2019:

Yes. Cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments Done

Agency Responses

11. Has the Agency adequately responded to comments at the PIF stage from:

GEFSEC

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Not applicable

Response to Secretariat comments Done

STAP

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Not applicable

Response to Secretariat comments Done

GEF Council

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Not applicable

Response to Secretariat comments Done

Convention Secretariat

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Not applicable

Response to Secretariat comments Done

Recommendation

12. Is CEO endorsement recommended?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

16 July 2019:

Thank you for the submission of the CEO Endorsement Request. The proposal isn't ready yet. Please address the comments above.

In addition, please note that there is the need to clarify and correct a mislabeled Executing Partner Type at the beginning of the CEO Endorsement Request. The proposal says "GEF Agency" while the Executing Partner is presented to be Ministry of Agriculture (MINAG).

In addition, if possible please change to CBIT "YES" in Part I after type of trust fund if the portal allows.

Also, please add under taxonomy: capacity-building initiative for climate change.

Finally, we note that the Pro Doc that was submitted is on track changes. Please submit a finalized version.

23 December 2019: Not yet. Please address remaining comments.

7/31/2020: . Please upload a corrected translation of letter from OFP regarding execution arrangements.

8/6/2020: Correct translation has been submitted. Comments cleared. PM recommends CEO endorsement.

Response to Secretariat comments

August 3, 2020

The corrected translation of the OFP letter regarding execution arrangements was uploaded.

March 2020

Remaining comments have been addressed.

December 2019

The GEF Portal does not allow to mark MINAG as the Executing Partner.

For the rest of the comments: DONE

Review Dates

	Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief Reasoning for CEO Recommendations

This project aims to strengthen institutional and technical capacities of the agriculture, forestry and other land-use (AFOLU) sector to respond to the enhanced transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement. Cuba ratified the Paris Agreement on December 28, 2016. In its first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), Cuba identifies six key actions under adaptation, including incorporating adaptation in programs, plans and projects linked to food production, integral water management, land-use, forestry, fishery, tourism and health planning. It also included a series of proposed mitigation actions in the energy sector linked to the AFOLU sector, such as new renewable energy generation from biomass, solar pumps in agriculture, and processing organic waste for energy generation and organic fertilizers to replace chemical fertilizers.

The project is aligned with the CBIT programming priorities to support activities that strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities, to provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13, and to assist in improving transparency over time. This project will coordinate with the support provided for the preparation of its Third National Communication and first Biennial Update Report, which will develop a general MRV system, as well as with REDD+ technical assistance from FAO.

The project aims to achieve the following outcomes:

1. Strengthening institutional capacity in the AFOLU sector to respond to the enhanced transparency framework in line with national priorities;
2. Strengthening technical capacity in the AFOLU sector to assess and report on emissions and removals, and mitigation actions;
3. Strengthening technical capacity in the AFOLU sector to monitor and report on climate change impacts and adaptation actions.

According to its latest greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory from 2010, 76% of emissions corresponded to the energy sector, 15% to agriculture and the rest to waste and industry. In addition, Cuba reported 14.3 million tons of carbon dioxide in removals from its forests. This project will support the development of an monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) system in the AFOLU sector, the first in a step-wise approach, as it has higher challenges for data collection and analysis, and considering it is a priority for the country for adaptation and mitigation, and in line with the national climate change plan, "Tarea Vida".

Co-financing of \$500,000 is provided by the national government in-kind with \$150,000 from a FAO project funded by the EU.