GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

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General Project Information

Project Title	
Participatory restoration to improve ecosystem service provision and connectivity at the landscape scale in Colombia	
Region Colombia	GEF Project ID 11679
Country(ies) Colombia	Type of Project FSP
GEF Agency(ies): UNEP	GEF Agency ID
Executing Partner FAO	Executing Partner Type GEF Agency
GEF Focal Area (s) Multi Focal Area	Submission Date 9/17/2024
Project Sector (CCM Only)	

Taxonomy

Influencing models, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Stakeholders, Type of Engagement, Information Dissemination, Participation, Consultation, Local Communities, Private Sector, SMEs, Large corporations, Capital providers, Beneficiaries, Communications, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Academia, Awareness Raising, Education, Behavior change, Indigenous Peoples, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Theory of change, Adaptive management, Indicators to measure change, Capacity Development, Knowledge Exchange, Field Visit, Conference, Peer-to-Peer, Knowledge Generation, Workshop, Targeted Research, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Focal Areas, Land Degradation, Land Degradation Neutrality, Land Productivity, Land Cover and Land cover change, Carbon stocks above or below ground, Sustainable Land Management, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Sustainable Pasture Management, Sustainable Fire Management, Sustainable Livelihoods, Drought Mitigation, Ecosystem Approach, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Sustainable Agriculture, Income Generating Activities, Sustainable Forest, Food Security, Biodiversity, Biomes, Rivers, Tropical Rain Forests, Tropical Dry Forests, Mangroves, Wetlands, Financial and Accounting, Conservation Finance, Payment for Ecosystem Services, Mainstreaming, Tourism, Fisheries, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Forestry - Including HCVF and REDD+, Species, Threatened Species, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Landscapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt

Type of Trust Fund GET	Project Duration (Months) 72
GEF Project Grant: (a) 18,103,569.00	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b) 0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)

1,629,320.00	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d) 19,732,889.00	Total Co-financing 82,668,594.00
PPG Amount: (e) 300,000.00	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f) 27,000.00
PPG total amount: (e+f) 327,000.00	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f) 20,059,889.00
Project Tags CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No	

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. The explanation and justification of the project should be in section B “project description”.(max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

The project ' Participatory restoration to improve the provision of ecosystem services and connectivity at the landscape scale in Colombia ' is a six-year US$ 102 million (US$ 20 million GEF) investment proposal for the restoration of areas important for biodiversity and affected by land degradation in the Pacific and Caribbean coastal regions of Colombia, as prioritized in the National Restoration Strategy 2023-2026 (ENR, for its Spanish acronym). This project will support the implementation of the ENR by effectively including demonstration landscapes, in restoration processes that achieve the recovery of degraded areas, the conservation and connectivity of natural areas, and strengthen the livelihoods of rural communities. These demonstration landscapes are representative portions of the larger, by ENR prioritized territories, by creating an enabling environment for restoration at the regional level, with participatory environmental governance informed by up to date (local and academic) knowledge and participatory monitoring of restoration processes, the experience will be scaled to the level of prioritized territories in coastal regions. The objective of the project is to increase ecological integrity[1][1] and improve the resilience of the population through the participatory restoration of[2][2] degraded landscapes in the Colombian Caribbean and Pacific regions. This will be achieved through five project outcomes, delivered in three strategic components: (Component 1, Outcome 1.1) Communities and local and subnational institutions have adequate technical and organizational capacities to support the implementation and scaling of participatory landscape restoration, (Outcome 1.2) Participatory environmental governance in the prioritized territories in the Caribbean and the Pacific is strengthened, supporting the effective application and scaling up of landscape restoration processes. (Component 2, Outcome 2.1) Demonstration landscapes included in participatory restoration processes[3][3] led by communities and local institutions, generating recovery of degraded areas, connectivity and biodiversity conservation. (Outcome 2.2) Livelihoods of populations in demonstration landscapes strengthened, through productive restoration led by communities and supported by local institutions. (Component 3, Outcome 3.1) The restoration of degraded landscapes in the prioritized territories in the Colombian Caribbean and Pacific is informed by up-to-date, publicly available knowledge, and by participatory monitoring of restoration processes. A fourth component covers operational monitoring, evaluation and learning activities. The project aims at restoring 52,800 hectares and include 67,200 hectares under improved practices. It will benefit a total of 99,500 peoples, of which 50% are women. The project will be implemented by UNEP, and executed by FAO Colombia, with the guidelines and leadership of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Colombia. The implementation of

the project will be supported by other public agencies, technical cooperation agencies and non-governmental organizations and will mainly benefit indigenous peoples and local communities in the coastal regions of Colombia.

[1] The ecological integrity of an area is defined by the government of Colombia as a combination of low ecosystem transformation, high species richness, connectivity and high offer of ecosystem service. The National Restoration Strategy 2023-2026 (Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible, 2023) applies a model to define ecological integrity to prioritize areas for restoration and define goals for restoration.

[2] Landscape restoration is a broad strategy in the management of a landscape (understood as an interactive mosaic formed by natural ecosystems, production systems and spaces intended for social and economic uses). Principles of landscape restoration include: the diverse goal of restoring multiple ecological functions for multiple benefits; the recognition of the possibility of a range of interventions; maintaining and increasing natural ecosystems in the landscape; adaptation to local conditions and the application of adaptive management for long-term resilience.

[3] By landscape restoration process, we mean all the steps associated with the implementation of landscape restoration plans, including the active inclusion of stakeholders, continuous training, the execution of activities, monitoring of activities and results, adaptive management, extraction of lessons, communication.

Indicative Project Overview

Project Objective

The project objective is to increase ecological integrity and improve population resilience through participatory restoration of degraded landscapes in the Caribbean and Pacific regions of Colombia.

Project Components

1: Capacities and environmental governance for participatory landscape restoration.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
2,930,000.00	13,324,000.00

Outcome:

1.1 Communities and local and subnational institutions have adequate technical and organizational capacities to support the implementation and scaling of participatory landscape restoration

1.2 Participatory environmental governance in the prioritized territories in the Caribbean and the Pacific is strengthened, supporting the effective application and scaling up of landscape restoration processes.

Output:

1.1.1 Capacity building programme for rural communities and their representative organizations in the project's areas of intervention, on the technical aspects of participatory landscape restoration *(selection of community change leaders, development of training material and locations, interactive training events, inclusion of rural extension service for follow up with trainees).*

1.1.2. Capacity building programme for local and subnational institutions present in the project's areas of intervention, on strategical and organizational aspects of participatory landscape restoration *(selection of institutions and their representatives, development of training material on organizational tools -governance, program development, scaling, finance-, training events, follow up with trainees).*

1.2.1 Socio-institutional agreements for the conservation, planning and territorial management related to landscape restoration established between public sector, private sector and communities) *(including the application of conservation, sustainable use - including productive reconversion [1][4]- and restoration strategies and plans at scale).*

1.2.2 Legal and fiscal guidelines generated to support the application and scaling of landscape restoration processes *(associated to the National Restoration Strategy and multilateral commitments, local to regional level; through decrees, strategies, fiscal and financial incentives, etc.).*

[1] 'Productive reconversion' is defined as a *strategy that focuses on the efficient management of soil and water, and seeks to comprehensively reduce conflicts over land use, considering the biophysical, ecosystemic, social, economic, cultural and technological dimensions (https://upra.gov.co/es-co/saladeprensa/Paginas/LA-reconversión-productiva-un-camino-hacia-la-seguridad-alimentaria.aspx). In this project, it is understood as a tool to recover the ecological, economic and social functionality of productive areas in a landscape restoration strategy, and thus considered synonymous with productive restoration.*

2: Restoration and recovery of demonstration landscapes.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
11,206,495.00	46,620,000.00

Outcome:

2.1. Demonstration landscapes included in participatory restoration processes[1][5] led by communities and local institutions, generating recovery of degraded areas, connectivity and biodiversity conservation.

2.2. Livelihoods of populations in demonstration landscapes strengthened, through productive restoration led by communities and supported by local institutions.

[1] By landscape restoration process, we mean all the steps associated with the implementation of landscape restoration plans, including the active inclusion of stakeholders, continuous training, the execution of activities, monitoring of activities and results, adaptive management, extraction of lessons, communication.

2.2. Livelihoods of populations in strengthened demonstration landscapes, through productive restoration.

Output:

2.1.1 Participatory knowledge base developed to sustain the restoration of demonstration landscapes *(engagement of local knowledge expectations, further assessment on degree of degradation, mapping, assessment of soil, vegetation, fauna, and selection of final tools and techniques).*

2.1.2. Restoration plans for the demonstration landscapes formulated in a participatory manner with communities and local institutions. *(Identification of stakeholders, participatory validation of baseline information from -2.1.1-, identification of stress factors, development restoration strategies and planning of their implementation).*

2.1.3 Communities, together with local institutions, implement landscape restoration plans, which contribute to the recovery of the environmental functionality of the landscape *(work plan developed and in execution, implementation of a combination of strategies and techniques based on restoration plan -developed in 2.1.2-, continuous technical and planning support to implementation by extension agents).*

2.2.1. Participatory knowledge base developed to sustain the productive restoration (productive reconversion) plans *(engagement of local knowledge expectations for livelihood options and agrobiodiversity strategies assessment; agroecological and agroforestry production techniques selection).*

2.2.2. Restoration plans for agricultural areas (productive reconversion) within the demonstration landscapes formulated in a participatory manner with communities and local institutions. *(Identification of stakeholders, participatory diagnosis, validation of baseline information from -2.1.1-, identification of stress factors, prioritization of areas, recognition of traditional knowledge, gender and intergenerational approach land management, development of strategies and planning of their implementation).*

2.2.3 Communities, supported with local institutions, implement plans for productive restoration (productive reconversion) that contribute to the recovery of soils, increase of agrobiodiversity and well-being of communities (gender equity, social inclusion, food security and income, incentives) in the productive areas of demonstration landscapes *(work plan developed and in execution, implementation of a combination of strategies and techniques based on plan -developed in 2.2.2-, continuous technical and planning support to implementation by extension agents, collective learning through farmer field schools).*

3: Knowledge Management, community monitoring, and communication for development

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
2,760,000.00	17,249,000.00

Outcome:

3.1 The restoration of degraded landscapes in the prioritized territories in the Colombian Caribbean and Pacific is informed by up-to-date, publicly available knowledge, and by participatory monitoring of restoration processes.

Output:

3.1.1. Participatory monitoring of landscape restoration processes, including productive reconversion *(training and capacity building of communities and institutions, participatory monitoring plan of activities, results and impact, protocols for taking abiotic, biotic, social, economic data, official indicators, responsibilities, connection with formal monitoring system, feedback strategy: adaptive management system with community and institutions).*

3.1.2 Knowledge management and information exchange strategy *(research, databases, availability mechanisms, guidelines at different scales for scaling, analysis and triangulation of information, following the official flow of the information repository).*

3.1.3. Advocacy strategy implemented at larger levels and geographical areas, in support of replication and scaling *up (effective communication strategy, exchange of experiences, environmental education, creation of social movement around restoration).*

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	**Co-financing ($)**
345,000.00	1,538,994.00

Outcome:

4.1 The implementation of the project is aimed at achieving the expected results in a cost-effective manner.

Output:

4.1.1 Technical and financial supervision carried out by the Project Steering Committee.

4.1 2 Internal monitoring of progress and implementation, reporting and review of lessons learned used to inform adaptive project management.

4.1.3 External evaluations of projects used to improve project performance and sustainability.

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
1: Capacities and environmental governance for participatory landscape restoration.	2,930,000.00	13,324,000.00
2: Restoration and recovery of demonstration landscapes.	11,206,495.00	46,620,000.00
3: Knowledge Management, community monitoring, and communication for development	2,760,000.00	17,249,000.00
M&E	345,000.00	1,538,994.00
Subtotal	**17,241,495.00**	**78,731,994.00**
Project Management Cost	862,074.00	3,936,600.00
Total Project Cost ($)	**18,103,569.00**	**82,668,594.00**

Please provide justification

The fund allocation by components is according to the priorities set by the GoC in collaboration with the Implementing an Executging Agencies. The M&E and PMC allocations are within the limits set by GEF Sec guidance for the present replenishment period.

PROJECT OUTLINE

A. PROJECT RATIONALE

Briefly 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

Current Environmental Situation in Colombia: Efforts to Reduce Deforestation and Reverse Degradation with a National Restoration Strategy

Colombia is one of the most biodiverse countries on the planet, home to a tenth of the known species on the planet.[1][6] The country has an enormous diversity of landscapes: it has 18 ecological regions and 81 different types of terrestrial ecosystems. At the same time, historical processes of ecosystem transformation and land degradation have caused that there are currently a little more than 36 million hectares with low or very low ecological integrity, representing 32% of the country's land area. (Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrolo Sostenible, 2023)[2][7]. The underlying causes of deforestation and land degradation are a combination of unregulated land occupation and clearing for other land use, triggered by rural poverty and poor access to resources. Added to this, are illegal activities related to illicit crops and mining. Of the 81 terrestrial ecosystems identified, 46% are threatened (Etter et al., 2017), and 7.3 million hectares of wetlands have been transformed (Jaramillo et al. 2016). The annual deforestation rate in recent years ranges between 0.21 and 0.38 % (IDEAM, 2023). About 20% of plant and animal species are considered 'endangered' or 'vulnerable'. In addition, 47% of the country's land area manifests high risks due to climate change, which implies greater territorial socio-ecological vulnerability due to loss of biodiversity, water and food shortages (IDEAM et al. 2015)

Aware of its natural wealth and society's dependence on ecosystem services, Colombia has made significant efforts to conserve its strategic ecosystems and control the beforementioned sources of degradation. The identification and definition of environmental determinants in the country has served to redirect the processes of land occupation, reducing the impact on biodiversity and protecting essential natural resources such as water, soils, and forests (DNP, 2023).[3][8] Also, the peace process has influenced both land occupation and illicit crop production. Indicators of success are that there are currently more than 1,300 areas under different forms of protection covering 31.4 million hectares of marine and continental areas (DNP, 2021).[4][9] In 2023, the country managed to reduce the accelerated pace of deforestation by 70% compared to previous years.

Although strategies to address deforestation and environmental degradation have had a positive effect in several regions of the country, not all sources of degradation have been eliminated and there are still many areas with very low and low levels of ecological integrity and productive functionality. Without a comprehensive landscape restoration[5][10] effort, which includes continued conservation of existing natural areas, recovery of

degraded areas, and productive restoration of agricultural areas, there is a risk that deforestation will continue, and that agricultural lands and degraded areas will not provide ecosystem services for rural people. In response to this situation, and to continue efforts to reduce the loss of natural capital, reduce pressures on the country's biodiversity and ecosystems, and recover degraded areas, the Government of Colombia (GoC) has developed the National Restoration Strategy 2023-2026 (ENR, for its Spanish acronym). The ENR aims to guide the processes of restoration of landscapes and their biodiversity as a national commitment to recover the functionality of ecosystems, increase resilience to climate change, generate economies, revitalize territories, and improve the well-being of communities (MinAmbiente, 2023).[6]11 The ENR is an institutional management instrument that provides the necessary guidelines to comply with the ambitious goal of establishing 753,783 new hectares under restoration processes of coastal terrestrial and marine ecosystems, in inter-ministerial, intersectoral and National Environmental System (SINA, for its Spanish acronym) coordination. These hectares are included in 17 territories across the country, prioritized by ENR. These areas were prioritized for their strategic importance for water planning and the development of forest economy as well as for biodiversity. They were selected according to their categorization as having low and very low ecological integrity.[7]12

Current situation in the Colombian Caribbean and Pacific regions.

The project will focus its actions on territories prioritized by ENR in two regions that have areas with low levels of integrity and that are key to biodiversity, ecosystem interaction and social well-being in Colombia: The Caribbean and Pacific regions (see project map; Annex C). The two areas are examples in which in recent years it has been possible to reduce pressures on natural ecosystems and take advantage of ecosystem services for the benefit of the population thanks to the conservation efforts of the Colombian State with the support of international cooperation, civil society organizations (CSOs) and local communities. This has managed to improve the management effectiveness of the extensive protected area systems in both regions [8]13However, without a comprehensive vision of landscape restoration, it will not be possible to control the sources of deforestation and degradation and at the same time, recover the functionality of the landscape in degraded areas and regenerate soil productivity for social well-being. The rural population in these regions continue to suffer from poverty, inequality and disadvantages groups related to gender, indigenous peoples, youth, and limited access to resources and decision making. Given that many men have additional off-farm activities for additional income, much of the day-to-day work in forests and farms (firewood collection, land preparation, planting, harvesting) is done by women and these suffer a double burden of poverty and hard physical work. Therefore, the landscape restoration strategies will be fully participatory, and especially promoting gender responsiveness to include equal participation and promoting healthy, stable benefits for women, as well as for youth and indigenous peoples' engagement.

The Caribbean region has a unique biodiversity with arid, semi-arid, semi-humid and inundated ecosystems (riverine forests, mangroves). At the national level, it is one of the most affected regions by land degradation, which has impacted ecological integrity as well as the well-being of the population. This region includes areas such as the lower basins of the Cauca and Magdalena rivers, the northern foothills of the Andes, the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, the Serranía de San Lucas, the Guajira peninsula and several coastal ecosystems.

Approximately a quarter of the Colombian population lives in this region on one tenth of the national land area and due to this high demographic pressure, it has an accumulated deforestation (2013 -2023) of 164 thousand hectares (IDEAM, 2024), due to the conversion of natural ecosystems to agricultural areas (mostly cattle, but also cropland). Deforestation has impacted the region's ecosystem connectivity and is a factor of concern due to the Caribbean's climate vulnerability, evidenced by floods, droughts, and coastal erosion. In the Colombian Caribbean, the ENR has identified seven of the seventeen prioritized territories, including three of the highest priority territories. These territories cover degraded areas and areas where natural ecosystems have given way to other land use, and their restoration is important not only to provide ecosystem services to society and economy but particularly to generate effective buffers and connection to important protected areas such as the Tayrona, Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta and the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta National Parks. Also, this connects to Paramillo national park that is crucial to connect to the Pacific region.

The Colombian Pacific is one of the most biodiverse regions on the planet and although it does not have large extents of degraded land, according to the ENR these are a high priority for restoration due to their strategic ecosystems such as vast humid tropical forests and mangroves (in the marine-coastal zone); ecosystems of which the local population, mainly indigenous and black [9]14communities, depend for their survival, strengthening local economies, reducing risks from natural disasters and maintaining their biocultural use of the territory. The Colombian Pacific, also known as the Biogeographic Chocó, has a different environmental and social reality from the Caribbean region. The Pacific region comprises the tropical rainforest zone west of the Andes, including the Darien region on the border with Panama and the Atrato River delta in the Gulf of Urabá that flows into the Caribbean Sea. Due to poor accessibility and challenging environmental conditions, it is a region with low population density: less than 3% of the Colombian population lives in this 7% of the national territory, and half of them in three cities (Buenaventura, Tumaco, Quibdó). Despite this low population density and effective conservation in ancestral territories, the region still has a considerable accumulated deforestation in the last 10 years (2013-2023; 141 thousand ha). There are strong threats precisely in the areas where the rural population, mainly Afro-Colombians and indigenous peoples, has settled. In riparian areas, there is environmental degradation caused by deforestation for forest use, poorly planned agriculture (oil palm, coconut), shrimp farming, illegal and informal mining, and the exploitation of tropical forests and mangroves for firewood and construction. In this region, the ecosystems of guandal, catival and other flooded forests have highly valued commercial timbers and therefore, are under threat. On the coastal strip, many communities that live from the artisanal use of mangroves have seen their ecosystem-based livelihoods threatened. In the Colombian Pacific, the ENR has identified three prioritized territories, including the second largest outside the Amazon and Orinoquía (Atrato/North Pacific). These territories are still mostly forested although forest degradation by timber extraction and other activities is widespread; agriculture and infrastructure are encroaching and therefore, there are scattered degraded areas, Restoration activities are crucial to ensure integrity of the Biogeographical Chocó landscape, holding key protected areas such as Paramillo National Park and Katios World Heritage site, and coastal National Parks.

Barriers and alternative scenario

The ENR, as a recently launched institutional management instrument, identifies several **barriers** to the implementation of restoration processes in the prioritized territories. These include:

- Weak local governance for controlling causes of degradation and for developing, executing, and scaling landscape restoration initiatives.
- Limited institutional and community capacities for planning, implementing, monitoring and monitoring actions to reduce deforestation and ecosystem degradation, and for landscape restoration.
- Limited technical, financial and organizational capacities in communities to generate and access best practices and models at the landscape scale that conserve soils, preserve water sources, recover ecosystems, generate connectivity at the landscape level, improve resilience.
- Landscape restoration initiatives do not include improving the livelihoods of its inhabitants.
- Lack of availability of up-to-date knowledge on restoration, based on research, monitoring and validation (proof of concept) at different levels.

This participatory restoration project in Colombia is designed to provide crucial support to the recovery of degraded areas in the country, identified by the ENR. Being closely related to the ENR, the project focuses on the main drivers and barriers to restoration processes in regionally prioritized territories. In addition, alignment with national policies ensures ownership and sustainability of project activities. The project will develop participatory restoration processes at the landscape scale in two key areas for the country's biodiversity that have been affected by land degradation: the Caribbean and Colombian Pacific regions. These processes address both the sources of deforestation and degradation, as well as the recovery of natural ecosystems that connect conserved vegetation and the rehabilitation of productivity through productive (agricultural) reconversion[10][15], considering the support of the livelihoods of the rural population. An enabling environment is created for the scaling up of restoration processes in demonstration landscapes through a system of knowledge generation and management and the promotion of good local and regional environmental governance through the strengthening of community and institutional capacities, social agreements and legal guidelines.

With an approach to mitigate land degradation and promote the conservation of biodiversity and landscape integrity, the project will generate **global environmental benefits**. In addition, it indirectly contributes to aspects of mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The project will directly include 120,000 hectares of degraded and unproductive areas in landscape restoration processes (approximately 15% of the goal proposed by the ENR). This will improve the provision of ecosystem services for approximately 99,500 people in the local population through the recovery of forests, soils and hydrology, agricultural productivity and food security.

The restoration of degraded areas and the transformation of production systems promotes the sustainable use of a diversity of products, both agricultural and non-timber forest products. In the coastal zone, agricultural production systems incorporate a large agrobiodiversity of tubers such as cassava and yams, grains (pigeon pea and sorghum) and fruits (cocoa, banana, mango, coconut and other palm and citrus fruits) threatened by intensive agriculture processes and monocultures. In the Pacific, landscape restoration includes promoting the

sustainable use of non-timber forest and mangrove products (cockle, crab, native fruits, fibers and fruits of palms and trees) and their connection to local and regional markets, such as Acai (*Euterpe oleracea*).

At the same time, through landscape restoration, the project supports the conservation, recovery and sustainable use of globally significant biodiversity in crucial ecosystems. The intervention area covers a large part of the *Global Biodiversity Hotspot* Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena and includes parts of the other *Hotspot* Tropical Andes. The most representative ecosystems on the Caribbean coast are tropical and mangrove dry forests, interspersed with flooded riparian areas and semi-humid and humid montane forests in the foothills of the Andes and the Sierra Nevada. These forests are habitat for valuable trees both biologically and economically, such as different species of Ceiba and Cedar. They are also home to a wide variety of emblematic animal species for the country, such as the cotton-top tamarin, the Magdalena tortoise, the green macaw, the blue-billed curassow, the hawksbill turtle and the palm coral. The Serranía de San Lucas is home to endemic species such as the curassow (Crax alberti) and the critically endangered brown spider monkey (Ateles hybridus). In La Guajira there is a Guaimaro tree *(Brosimum alicastrum);* in areas surrounding the Ciénaga Grande and foothills of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta lives the critically endangered and endemic cotton-top tamarin *(Saguinus oedipus);* and in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta there is the white-faced monkey *(Cebus cesarae)* also endangered and endemic and there is the national tree of Colombia: the wax palm *(Ceroxylon ceriferum)*.

The Colombian Pacific is entirely covered by various types of tropical rainforests and has some of the highest rainfall levels in the world. Apart from tropical rainforest, it has mangroves, alluvial plains, hills, low and middle hills, montane forests and cloud forests on the western slopes of the Andes and the Paramillo Massif. The forests are home to species of flora of biological and economic importance such as the Tagua Palm *(Phytelephas seemannii),* the Chontaduro *(Bactris gasipaes*), Sajo *(Campnosperma panamensis),* Acai *(Euterpe olerace).* There are many species of commercial timber trees, such as *Campnosperma panamensis, Perebea xantochyma, Cedrela odorata, and Carapa guianensis*. The Biogeographic Chocó has 468 species of mammals, 801 of birds and 188 reptiles.

The participatory restoration of degraded landscapes will promote a positive impact on the Pacific territories and their biodiversity, since they are home to different emblematic species. Among the most emblematic (and threatened) species of fauna are the olive ridley turtle *(Lepidochelys ollivacea);* the anteater; the howler monkey, the cotton-top tamarin, the spectacled bear (*Tremarctos ornatus*), and the pink dolphin *(Inia geoffrensis).* The Baudó guan *(Penelope ortoni)* inhabits the tropical rainforest with sightings reported in Buenaventura; the golden dart frog *(Phyllobates terribilis)* inhabits the humid forests of Chocó as well as in the South Pacific; and the Chocó tinamou *(Crypturellus kerriae)* is a bird that inhabits the North Pacific.

The remnants of forests in the Caribbean and throughout the Pacific rainforest are key to the Jaguar corridor, connecting its habitat from the Darien (Mesoamerica) to the Orinoquía and the Amazon in the east, and with the coastal forests of South America in Colombia and Ecuador.[11][16] More information on the territories, their

biodiversity and benefits is included in the description of the demonstration landscapes (Annex C). A list of endangered species of both regions is presented in Annex J.

Demonstration landscapes and prioritized territories (see Annex C).

The implementation of the project is based on directly supporting restoration processes in demonstration landscapes, which are representative portions (of 8,000 to 20,000 hectares) of the larger, prioritized by ENR territories (at the scale of 100,000s to millions of hectares), and by creating an enabling environment to scale the process at the regional level**.** To this end, the project has selected three territories that were prioritized in the NRS; three in the Caribbean (Serranía de San Lucas, Guajira/Corredor Minero[12]17, Ciénaga Grande/Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta) and three in the Pacific (Atrato/North Pacific, Buenaventura, and South Pacific). Within the prioritized territories, demonstration landscapes were preliminarily identified (Annex C). The selection of territories is based on their level of ecological integrity, population characteristics (density, land use activities, social organization, ethnicity), diversity of sources of degradation and their level of priority in the ENR. The pre-identification of the demonstration landscapes was made based on the extension, representativeness for the prioritized territory (and potential for scaling), the presence of valuable biodiversity areas (high species richness, habitat diversity, endemism), as well as productive and degraded areas, the presence of institutions and initiatives for potential articulation and the absence of factors that impede the implementation of the project (armed conflict, difficult access, land tenure conflicts). The pre-identification of the prioritized territories and demonstration landscapes was done during the preparation of the PIF in coordination with national stakeholders. During the PPG, the demonstration landscapes that were pre-identified during the PIF, will be assessed, approved or, where necessary, adapted in a participatory manner with regional and national stakeholders during the PPG phase and information on extension, population, territory, threats and opportunities for landscape restoration will be collected in detail.

Stakeholders (see Annex H)

Considered a crucial socio-ecosystem for biodiversity, climate regulation, water resource management and socio-economic development, the restoration of prioritized strategic ecosystems involves the participation of an extensive network of key stakeholders in the implementation of the project, such as civil society, government agencies, technical cooperation, NGOs, research institutions and the private sector. The mapping of these stakeholders, as well as their role in project development and implementation, is summarized in Annex H.

[1] Convention on Biological Diversity, 2023. https://www.cbd.int/countries/profile/?country=co

[2] MinAmbiente (2023) National Restoration Strategy 2023 – 2026. Together to recover lost nature. Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. Bogotá, Colombia.

[3] DNP (2023) National Development Plan. Colombia, World Power of Life 2023 – 2026.

[4] DNP (2021) Policy for the Consolidation of the National System of Protected Areas. CONPES 2050 Document. Bogotá, Colombia.

[5] Landscape restoration is a broad strategy in the management of a landscape (understood as an interactive mosaic formed by natural ecosystems, production systems and spaces intended for social and economic uses). Principles of landscape restoration

include: the diverse goal of restoring multiple ecological functions for multiple benefits; the recognition of the possibility of a range of interventions; maintaining and increasing natural ecosystems in the landscape; adaptation to local conditions and the application of adaptive management for long-term resilience. Landscape restoration include a suite of techniques and strategies (conservation of remnants of natural vegetation, promotion of natural regeneration, rehabilitation of soils and water, revegetation, improved soil, water and biodiversity management in agricultural fields, fauna population management etc) applied to different spatial elements of a landscape.

[6] MinAmbiente (2023) National Restoration Strategy 2023 – 2026. Together to recover lost nature. Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. Bogotá, Colombia.

[7] Ibid, pg 26

[8] The by ENR prioritized territories in the Colombian Pacific are connected to four national Parks, and the territories in the Caribbean to six national parks.

[9] The denomination black communities includes the population that recognizes itself as Afro-Colombian, Palenquera and Raizal.

[10] 'Productive reconversion' is defined as a *strategy that focuses on the efficient management of soil and water, and seeks to comprehensively reduce conflicts over land use, considering the biophysical, ecosystemic, social, economic, cultural and technological dimensions (https://upra.gov.co/es-co/saladeprensa/Paginas/LA-reconversión-productiva-un-camino-hacia-la-seguridad-alimentaria.aspx). In this project, it is understood as a tool to recover the ecological, economic and social functionality of productive areas in a landscape restoration strategy, and thus considered synonymous with productive restoration.*

[11] http://reporte.humboldt.org.co/biodiversidad/2015/cap3/306/#seccion4

[12] In the ENR, the prioritized territories of La Guajira and Corredor Minero de Cesar coincide in the department of Cesar and the project will focus on the part of both territories.

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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 PIF guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

The *Theory of Change* (ToC; Annex I) of the project can be summarized in the following principles: *If different key areas are effectively included in landscape restoration processes that achieve the recovery of degraded areas, conservation and connectivity of natural areas and strengthen the livelihoods of rural communities, and if an enabling environment for restoration is created at the regional level, with participatory environmental governance informed by up-to-date knowledge and participatory monitoring of restoration processes, then it is possible to increase ecological integrity and improve the resilience of the population through the participatory restoration of degraded landscapes in the Colombian Caribbean and Pacific regions.*

To apply this ToC, the project develops two impact pathways:

- Restoration in demonstration landscapes (black arrows in Annex I): In key landscapes within the territories prioritized in the ENR, the project develops and implements participatory landscape restoration plans that target the restoration of the entire demonstration landscape. Landscape restoration combines ecosystem recovery with a vision of conserving and connecting natural areas (protected and not, Outcome 2.1) and productive restoration (or agricultural reconversion) into cultural use areas to recover soil, water, and vegetation cover to generate economic and social benefits for rural people (Outcome 2.2). Support to local land users will be given through the landscape restoration plans, which are a suite of strategies and techniques, that will be supported through training, joint learning, technical support and eventually plan material and equipment. The plans and practice of this

restoration is, in part, informed by knowledge generation and monitoring activities (Outcome 3.1). With the initiation of restoration processes and strengthened and informed participatory governance (see other impact pathway), the project creates an enabling environment for restoration to be applied on a larger scale of prioritized territory.

- Enabling environment (orange arrows in Annex I): the project implements a strategy to strengthen participatory environmental governance, by strengthening the technical and organizational capacities of local governments and land users (Outcome 1.1), creating socio-institutional agreements for conservation and restoration, and proposing legal and fiscal guidelines (Outcome 1.2). Therefore, local and regional stakeholders (public and private institutions) will be supported by training, support to institutional platforms and fiscal/legal incentives). Environmental governance for landscape restoration will be informed by the results of participatory monitoring of ongoing restoration efforts and a strategy for generation, management, and communication of knowledge (advocacy, Outcome 3.1). The improved local and regional environmental governance must address the sources of deforestation and degradation with which an enabling environment is created for the replication and scaling of restoration processes at the landscape scale, which are developed in the demonstration landscapes (see other impact path), thus contributing to the desired impact of achieving ecological integrity and better resilience of the population in degraded landscapes in the Colombian Caribbean and Pacific regions.

Essential and transversal to the project is the leading role of rural communities, especially rural women and youth and members of ethnic minorities, in the processes of capacity transfer, strengthening of local governance and monitoring. The improvement in territorial capacities will have positive effects on gender equity in local communities, especially on the decision-making of rural women and youth. The landscape restoration strategies will target promoting stable and healthy benefits for women, particularly the female population facing double burden of poverty and hard physical work .

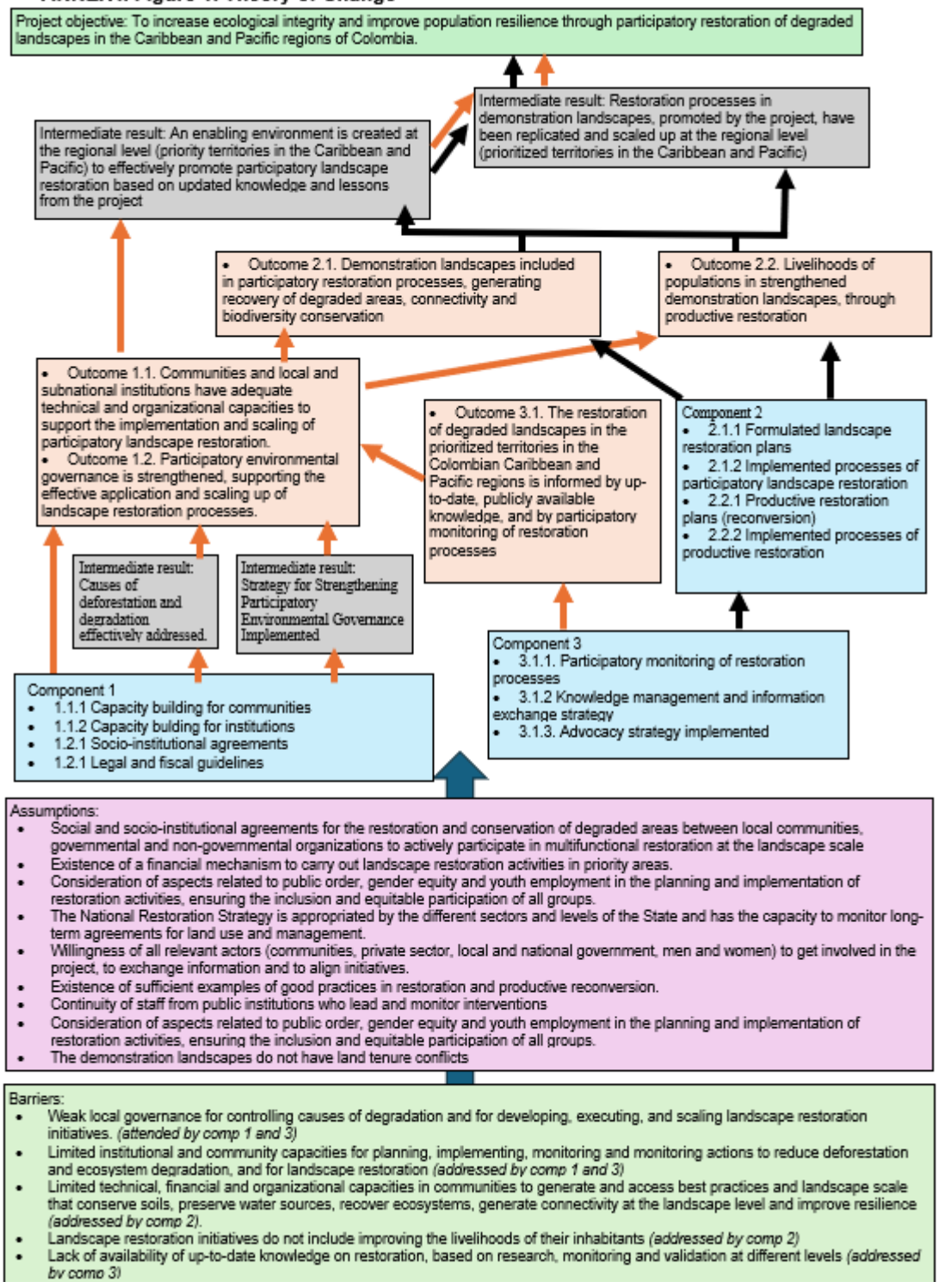
This ToC assumes that:

- The existence of socio-institutional restoration and conservation arrangements among various stakeholders, including local communities, governmental and non-governmental organizations, to actively participate in participatory multifunctional ecosystem restoration.
- The ENR is appropriated by the different sectors and levels of the State and has the capacity to monitor long-term agreements for territorial planning and management.
- There is sufficient willingness on the part of all relevant stakeholders (communities, private sector, local and national government, men and women) to get involved in the project, to exchange information and to align initiatives.
- The existence of a financial mechanism to carry out restoration activities in priority areas (policy guidelines and national payment for environmental services program for peacebuilding - CONPES Document 3886 (DNP, 2017) and the National Payment for Environmental Services Program (MADS, 2021).
- The existence of a critical mass of examples of good practices of restoration and productive reconversion, to be adapted, adopted and included in the demonstration landscapes.
- There is continuity of personnel from public institutions who lead and monitor the interventions.
- Consideration of aspects related to public order, gender equity and youth employment in the planning and implementation of restoration activities, ensuring the inclusion and equitable participation of all groups.

- The demonstration landscapes do not have land tenure conflicts.

The ToC considers the main barriers to participatory landscape restoration. The impact pathway created by the enabling environment for landscape conservation and restoration addresses barriers related to weak local governance, limited institutional and community capacities, and the limited availability of up-to-date knowledge on restoration, which will be addressed by the project. The Demonstration Landscapes impact pathway addresses the barrier of limited capacity of rural producers and landowners to access best practices and landscape-scale models that conserve soils, preserve water sources, and restore forests and mangroves, and the failure to include improved livelihoods in landscape restoration initiatives.

ANNEX I: Figure 1. Theory of Change



The **objective** of the project is to increase ecological integrity and improve the resilience of the population through the participatory restoration of degraded landscapes in the Colombian Caribbean and Pacific regions. To this end, the project has three strategic components: (1) Strengthened local and/or regional environmental governance for participatory landscape restoration, (2) Restoration and recovery of demonstration landscapes, and (3) Knowledge management and communication strategy for development; and a fourth operational component (Monitoring and evaluation of the project).

Component 1. *Capacities and environmental governance for participatory landscape restoration.* The first component has two strongly related expected outcomes that together, create an enabling environment for the effective application and scaling of landscape restoration processes. Outcome 1.1 is that communities and local and subnational institutions have adequate technical and organizational capacities to support the implementation and scaling of participatory landscape restoration. Capacity building in restoration seeks to promote the effective participation of communities and local and subnational institutions in environmental management and ecological restoration projects, through the strengthening of their capacities and the creation of inclusive and participatory processes. To achieve this, the project will strengthen the technical capacities among local community members (Output 1.1.1). To do this, a selection of community participants will be made for the capacity building process. Men and women of the land users in the demonstration landscapes who show willingness and availability to share their knowledge and strengthen their capacities to plan and implement landscape restoration will be selected from the community beneficiaries. Special attention will be paid to the inclusion of gender, ethnicity and age approaches: women heads of household and young people will be particularly included in the selection. Among members of indigenous peoples, local processes of representation and selection of participants will be respected. Individual users (non-organized owners) will also be included in the capacity building program. In addition, strategic and organizational capacities of institutions will be strengthened (Output 1.1.2). The institutional beneficiaries will be selected representatives of local (municipalities) and regional (departmental governments, Regional Environmental Authorities - CAR, for its Spanish acronym) public agencies and local dependencies of sectoral ministries (environment, agriculture, National Parks) including existing technical assistance services (rural extension) related to land management, biodiversity conservation and restoration. With both groups of beneficiaries, a training and capacity building program will be designed, based on an analysis of demand and expectation and including local experiences and knowledge, regional and national experiences and lessons from previous projects. It could include all the technical issues associated with landscape restoration, but also monitoring, organization, communication capabilities, etc. The knowledge generated in Component 3 will also be included in training and capacity building.

The second Outcome (1.2) is strengthened participatory environmental governance[1]18 in the prioritized territories in the Caribbean and the Pacific, supporting the effective application and scaling up of landscape restoration processes. To achieve the expected outcomes of the component, a governance strengthening strategy is developed consisting of strengthening capacities, develop agreements, and legal and fiscal guidelines. This will be generated through the generation of socio-institutional agreements between representatives of the public sector (local governments, CAR, etc.), private sector (NGOs, companies, unions) and social sectors (communities, CSOs) for the conservation, planning and territorial management of concerted territory (Output 1.2.1). They are voluntary agreements, based on common objectives and clear roles to achieve concrete goals. Agreements can result in common plans or collective strategies and should be based on principles of transparency, human rights, inclusion and equity. These agreements must generate local visions of how to implement the approach of conservation, sustainable use – including productive reconversion – and restoration. These voluntary agreements will receive a framework of legal and fiscal guidelines to support the implementation and scaling of landscape restoration processes (Output 1.2.2). This framework builds on existing legislation and regulations at national, regional and local levels and identifies gaps and opportunities to complement them. Guidelines and fiscal and financial incentives will be sought at the local level to formally accompany local and regional plans and strategies for conservation, restoration and sustainable use of the landscape, and for this purpose, decrees, public strategies and fiscal and financial incentives are promoted. It also connects to national policies related to the ENR and the UN Decade of Restoration.

Component 2. *Restoration and recovery of demonstration landscapes*. The second component is the project's main work package, where local impact will be generated through the development and implementation of

innovative restoration processes in demonstration landscapes. The component has two expected outcomes, which are intimately connected within the concept of landscape restoration and are applied in the same demonstration landscapes: (Outcome 2.1) demonstration landscapes included in participatory restoration processes[2]19 led by communities and local institutions, generating recovery of degraded areas, connectivity and biodiversity conservation; and (Outcome 2.2) livelihoods of populations in demonstration landscapes strengthened, through productive restoration led by communities and supported by local institutions. These outcomes are generated with two groups of activities, which plan and implement ecological and productive restoration plans.

Likewise, a comprehensive and coordinated approach is required that involves various government agencies, academic institutions, non-governmental organizations and local communities, which guarantees their participation in the formulation and execution of restoration plans. Therefore, the generation of technical capacities and specialized knowledge is important to guarantee the long-term sustainability of ecosystem restoration and recovery actions in the country.

To generate the outcome of the inclusion of demonstration landscapes in landscape restoration processes, the project will first gather information for project preparation during PPG: closer definition of exact sites, assess the baseline for land use history, gather suitable techniques. Also during PPG goals, targets and overall strategies for restoration will be established in a participatory manner with identified stakeholders. During implementation, additional information generation and continuous updating is needed (Output 2.1.1), including engaging local communities (land users) for incremental interventions, identifying their expectation and knowledge on the sites and further assessing cost/benefit. This will be complemented with technical information on the site (GIS, soil/water/vegetation analysis) to ensure the science basis of the restoration plans in a participatory way (Output 2.1.2). Restoration processes are understood as all the steps associated with the implementation of landscape restoration, including i) the active engagement of stakeholders, ii) continuous capacity building, iii) the execution of monitoring activities for adaptive management, iv) the systematization of lessons learned and v) the dissemination and communication of experiences.

For the development of restoration plans, the first step is the identification of stakeholders (community, private and institutional) of the areas that will be prioritized to understand their expectations and demands. Together, the landscape is analyzed (social and technical mapping/GIS) and the areas that require conservation, ecological rehabilitation or productive restoration are defined (to contribute to outcome 2.2 of this component). Based on the analysis of the landscape, the implementation of these plans is defined, which requires the application of innovative technologies and practices in the recovery of ecosystems, where the factors of deforestation and degradation are identified and the strategies and techniques to control these stress factors and restore degraded areas are defined.

Then, restoration plans are implemented in a participatory way, to contribute to the recovery of environmental functionality through the execution of strategies and techniques (Output 2.1.3). During implementation, there is a continuous process of technical capacity building with the different stakeholders and a punctual monitoring (of individual restoration processes) by local stakeholders of the execution of activities, the result of the activities (better conservation, re-vegetated soil, etc.) and the final impact (better ecological functionality). Based on the results of the monitoring, an adaptive management of the restoration process is applied to take the necessary measures to achieve the objectives of the restoration processes and systematize the lessons learned.

For the second outcome (strengthened livelihoods), the knowledge base will continue its development in a participatory manner to sustain the productive restoration plans; also considered 'productive reconversion' (Output 2.2.1) with the spirit to underpin sustainable livelihoods. Drawing from the baseline information

gathered during PPG and continuing to build the science base, productive restoration plans are formulated in a participatory manner (Output 2.2.1). These plans are implemented in the same demonstration landscapes as the first outcome and come out of consultation and planning with the same local landscape stakeholders. The planning technique is based more on farm plans or community productive areas and on the direct benefit for communities (food security, generation of ecosystem services, diversification of products and income, etc.) with a view to strengthening restoration and biodiversity economies. The sources of degradation are also identified in a participatory manner and strategies and techniques for soil recovery, sustainable agricultural practices (agroecological, agroforestry, fish farming, collection of forest/mangrove products, etc.) are defined.

It is important that the definition of strategies and techniques is based on the dialogue between local knowledge and technical-academic knowledge. After the development of productive restoration plans, these are executed at the level of farm, community or managed ecosystem (Output 2.2.3), to contribute to the recovery of soils, increase of agrobiodiversity and the well-being of communities in agricultural and fishing areas (mangrove). Implementation goes through the same steps as ecological restoration: participatory implementation of strategies and techniques, continuous training and capacity building, and adaptive management based on the results of timely monitoring. In these activities, it is key to empower women in the communities since they have key roles in the management of the farm and forest, which is often little recognized.

Component 3. *Knowledge Management, community monitoring, and communication for development.* According to the project's ToC, the third component supports both the outcome of component 1 and component 2 with knowledge. It has the expected outcome (3.1) that landscape restoration will be informed by up-to-date, publicly available knowledge, and by participatory monitoring of restoration processes. This component is not only key for effective and quality restoration processes, but also directly supports the replication and scaling of restoration to the regional level (priority territories). To achieve this outcome, participatory monitoring of the restoration in general is developed (Output 3.1.1), a knowledge management strategy is made (Output 3.1.2), and effective communication is executed to influence larger levels and geographical areas (Output 3.1.3).

Participatory monitoring of restoration activities in general connects with the punctual monitoring of the individual processes of component 2. It develops training and capacity building processes with communities and institutions to, together with regional and national institutions in charge of monitoring the ENR, make a participatory and technical monitoring plan. To this end, protocols are developed for taking abiotic, biotic, social, economic, and cultural data, which include both official indicators (associated with the formal monitoring system of the ENR) and local indicators (important for the stakeholders). This project-level restoration monitoring includes a feedback strategy to inform the adaptive management system with communities and institutions. The knowledge management and information exchange strategy are based on the identification of existing knowledge on restoration of the different landscapes in the Colombian Caribbean and Pacific regions, promotion of research to fill knowledge gaps, inventory and connection of databases and mechanisms of knowledge availability and the analysis and triangulation of information. For knowledge management at different scales for scaling restoration initiatives, the official flow of environmental information repository should be followed. Finally, the project implements an advocacy strategy at larger levels and geographical areas, in support of the replication and scaling up of restoration, through effective communication, the exchange of experiences between regions, environmental education and support for the creation of a social movement around restoration.

Component 4*. Monitoring and evaluation.* The implementation of the project is carried out by a project management unit, supervised by a steering committee (Output 4.1.1). Monitoring and evaluation during the implementation of the project will be governed by the M&E Plan, which will be appropriately budgeted (Output 4.1.2). Through the M&E Plan, the outcomes and outputs of the projects described in the project results framework (see the Project Overview section) will be monitored annually and regularly evaluated to ensure that the results are achieved; these will be further discussed and validated with key stakeholders during the PPG phase. During the PPG phase and during the execution of the project, new indicators may be added as deemed appropriate. In addition, the GEF core indicator targets set out at this project concept stage will be updated during the final project design stages.

The budgeted monitoring and evaluation plan will be developed during the PPG phase in accordance with UNEP and GEF policies and requirements for project monitoring and evaluation. The preparation phase will also include an environmental and social assessment as indicated by the safeguards specialists using the checklist as M&E guide. The implementation of the project will begin with an initial workshop to familiarize key stakeholders with the project strategy and to discuss the poverty reduction framework and the monitoring and evaluation plan, among other elements. The Gender Action Plan, the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and other plans related to social and environmental safeguards will be monitored annually as part of the Project Implementation Report (PIR). Progress in implementation will be monitored and reported on a semi-annual and annual basis, in accordance with UNEP and GEF policies and procedures. An independent mid-term review and an independent final evaluation will be carried out after all the main outputs and activities of the project have been completed (Output 4.1.3).

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[1] Environmental governance and capacity building in restoration seeks to 'promote the effective participation of local and regional communities and institutions in environmental management and ecological restoration projects, through the strengthening of their capacities and the creation of inclusive and participatory processes' (Agrawal, A., 2001; Berkes, F., 2009; Folke, C., Hahn, T., Olsson, P., & Norberg, J., 2005).

[2] By landscape restoration process, we mean all the steps associated with the implementation of landscape restoration plans, including the active inclusion of stakeholders, continuous training, the execution of activities, monitoring of activities and results, adaptive management, extraction of lessons, communication.

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Does the GEF Agency expect to play an execution role on this project?

No

If so, please describe that role here. 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

Coordination with other projects

The project strongly builds on investments made by the Colombian government. Of the 83 million USD cofinancing for the project, two-thirds are public funds. These include the efforts from environmental authorities (Ministry of Environment, Regional Corporations, local governments) to guide and implement restoration processes under ENR. It also includes support by the National Parks Agency to manage the national park system, including its regional subsystems. Public research institutions (IDEAM, IIAP, IAvH) have ongoing research and monitoring relevant for the restoration strategies. Finally, the public Peace Funds (Fondos Colombia en Paz, Fondo para la Vida y la Biodiversidad) contributed with necessary support to good governance in post-conflict areas.

The project will be strategically positioned in the current investment landscape based on existing efforts. The current participatory landscape restoration project will add to the GEF's past and current investments to support landscape restoration in the Caribbean and the Pacific and ensure the alignment of ongoing and new initiatives. There are several initiatives with GEF and other donor funding underway and under development, where project interventions will complement activities, avoiding duplication and maximizing impact, and strengthen regional and transboundary environmental cooperation to address common environmental challenges.

Two important past initiatives funded by the GEF have contributed to the recognition of the environmental and socio-economic importance of the areas prioritized for restoration in the Colombian Caribbean. These are the Palm Landscape Project (GEF ID 4113; Magdalena), the sustainable cattle ranching Project (GEF ID 3574, Lower Magdalena basin) and the Dry Forest Project (GEF ID 4772, La Guajira). Lessons from these projects will be included in the current project and their activities build on previous progress towards landscape restoration.

This project will coordinate its implementation and complement seven GEF-funded projects that are under execution (4 projects) or under development (3 projects) in the Colombian Caribbean and Pacific regions.

- *Contribution to the Integrated Management of Biological Diversity of the Pacific Region of Colombia for Peacebuilding (Biopacifico;* GEF ID 9441). The main objective of this project is to promote the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of natural resources in this region, through local and community initiatives. It focuses on activities such as the protection of natural areas, the restoration of degraded ecosystems, the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices and the strengthening of capacities in local communities for environmental management. The Biopacifico project seeks to contribute to sustainable development and the improvement of the quality of life of the communities that depend on the natural resources of the Colombian Pacific. The present project complements the Biopacifico project because it works in other areas of the biogeographic Chocó and where restoration activities in Biopacifico are limited to some mangrove areas, the current project restores at the level of the larger landscape. At the same time, valuable lessons from mangrove restoration pilots can be scaled up in the current project and the results of value chains for the improvement of quality of life in Biopacifico complement the enabling environment for productive restoration.

- *Conservation of the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta* (GEF ID 10567). This project, implemented by the Inter-American Development Bank, has the following objectives (i) to strengthen the environmental governance of the ecoregion in a participatory manner; (ii) promote the adoption of instruments for the conservation of biological diversity, the improvement of the strategic connectivity of ecosystems and efficiency in the use of water; and (iii) increase the area under sustainable production practices in the Aracataca and Fundación watersheds. This project covers part of one of the prioritized territories in the ENR but is concentrated in the part of the Ciénaga Grande and in other municipalities. The current project is additional because it is located in demonstration landscapes at the connection between the Ciénaga and the Sierra Nevada and complements with landscape restoration.

- *Magdalena Basin Project* (GEF ID 4849). This project, which is nearing closure, focuses on strategic ecosystems throughout the Magdalena River basin. In the Caribbean area, it focuses on the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources in the region of the Ciénaga de Zapatosa, located between the departments of Magdalena and Cesar. There, it aims to protect and restore wetland ecosystems. While the experiences of the Magdalena Basin project could be included in the participatory restoration project, the present project does not focus on fresh-water ecosystem restoration and Zapatosa is not part of ENR's priority territories.

- *Implementation of the Socio-Ecosystem Connectivity Approach for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Caribbean Region of Colombia (GEF ID 5288)* This project (Biocaribe Connection) aims to reduce the degradation and fragmentation of strategic ecosystems in the Caribbean Region of Colombia through the implementation of a socio-ecosystem connectivity strategy that includes inter-institutional articulation, territorial planning, social participation with an intercultural vision, the effective management of existing protected ecosystems, protected areas, the creation of new PAs and the promotion of a sustainable mode of production. This project is about to close and focused mainly on strengthening the management of protected areas and socio-ecosystem connectivity corridors in the regions of Sinú, Bahía de Cartagena and the Gulf of Urabá. The current project will use the lessons on conservation and connectivity of the Caribbean project, but complements restoration, applied in other areas of the Caribbean.

- *Integrated Water Resources Management in Binational Watersheds in Colombia and Ecuador* (GEF Project ID 9566). This project aims to promote integrated water resources management (IWRM) in the Mira-Mataje and Carchi-Guaitara river basins shared by Colombia and Ecuador by strengthening

institutional and management capacities at the regional, local and community levels to achieve environmental and socio-economic benefits. It coincides in the South Pacific area but does not focus on restoration and not directly on the management of landscapes for biodiversity.

- BioSur: The Pacific-Andean-Amazonian Ecological and Cultural Connectivity Corridor (GEF ID 11432). The objective of this project is to strengthen the ecological and cultural connectivity of the BioSur Pacific-Andean-Amazon Corridor through environmental governance and the implementation of sustainable productive landscapes with benefits for biodiversity, climate resilience and communities. This project, currently under development, partially covers the southernmost area of the biogeographic Chocó of Colombia (department of Nariño), where it will focus on the conservation of protected areas in the SIRAP Pacific. This approach complements the current project, as it strengthens conservation and support to the National Parks agency where the current project seeks restoration and connectivity of landscapes and productive areas in major Pacific landscapes.

- Jaguar Corridor (GEF ID 11161): The objective of this project is to improve socio-ecological connectivity for the long-term conservation of jaguar populations through environmental management and restoration, the strengthening of sustainable livelihoods of communities, and the design and implementation of mechanisms and instruments that enhance community and institutional governance capacities. In this way, the project aims to address and reduce direct threats to jaguar populations, such as illegal trade, negative human-wildlife interactions, and habitat loss. The project complements part of the proposed project's conservation objectives but does not include ecosystem restoration activities.

Projects of other donors, with whom the current project seeks articulation are:

- *Protected Areas and Biodiversity* and *Ecosystem-Based Adaptation Program for the control of coastal erosion in a changing climate, whose* co-financiers are Germany –BMU and KfW. Both projects are aligned with the objectives of the ENR Colombia 2023-2026 and contribute to the objectives of the current project.

- The initiative *Restoration for Peace in Colombia* is also considered, which is a multidisciplinary and collaborative program aimed at mitigating the effects of the armed conflict in the country, through the restoration of degraded ecosystems and the promotion of reconciliation and sustainable development in the areas affected by the conflict.

- *WFP Binational Project 'Building capacities for adaptation to climate change through food and nutrition security actions in vulnerable Afro-descendant communities'.* This project focuses on strengthening capacities to adapt to climate change through food and nutrition security strategies aimed at vulnerable Afro-descendant communities. The project seeks to implement specific measures that address challenges related to food security and nutrition in the context of a changing climate environment, using specialized technical and methodological approaches to promote the resilience and well-being of these vulnerable communities.

Coordination mechanisms will be established with all these and other ongoing initiatives to maximize the impact of the project and establish linkages with other national and local initiatives. Previous experiences have shown that these mechanisms are successful in empowering local stakeholders, strengthening institutional capacity for implementation and monitoring, and fostering opportunities for sustainability.

Core Indicators

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)
52800	0	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)
Cropland	3,000.00			
Rangeland and pasture	7,000.00			

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)
40,000.00			

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	2,800.00			

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)

Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
67200	0	0	0

Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares, qualitative assessment, non-certified)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
30,000.00			

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
37,200.00			

Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value or other forest loss avoided

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

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

Name of the OECMs	WDPA-ID	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)

Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

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)
Female	49,750			
Male	49,750			
Total	**99,500**	**0**	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)

Indicator 3. Areas in the process of restoration in the preliminarily identified demonstration landscapes (Annex C). This will be done through sustainable management practices, including the restoration of ecosystems themselves, the implementation of agroecological practices, and the enhancement of agrobiodiversity. This indicator will be measured by continuous monitoring of areas under restoration in the country, assessing progress in ecosystem recovery, improved connectivity between habitats, and resilience of restored landscapes.

Indicator 4. Landscape areas under improved productive practices (excluding protected areas) in the preliminarily identified demonstration landscapes (Annex C). It will be expressed as the number of hectares of landscapes that have been subjected to sustainable and improved management practices, such as the implementation of productive reconversion (productive restoration) through agroecological practices and proper soil management. This indicator will be measured by continuous monitoring of agricultural, forest, and other landscape landscapes in the country, assessing the degree of implementation of improved practices and their contribution to ecosystem restoration and resilience.

Indicator 11. Number of persons, disaggregated by gender and age, who are living in the demonstration landscapes and will directly benefit from the GEF investment. A methodological process will be carried out that will include the exhaustive identification of the direct beneficiaries, which will be done through a detailed analysis of the activities related to restoration and social participation. This information will then be differentiated by gender, using appropriate data collection methods to

determine how many men and women will benefit directly from the project. The approach will ensure gender inclusion and equity in the benefits generated by the GEF investment, thus allowing for a more comprehensive analysis of the results and co-benefits obtained in terms of social participation and gender empowerment. Indicators with the economic and social impact of these practices are considered, such as the increase in sustainable agricultural productivity, the generation of employment in local communities and the added value through biodiversity conservation and landscape restoration.

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Moderate	Climate change represents a multidimensional threat to Colombia's diverse ecosystems. In coastal regions in Colombia, the gradual but constant rising sea levels put marine biodiversity and coastal ecosystems at risk, while ocean acidification and rising sea temperatures generates coral reefs bleaching processes and affect the reproduction processes and the distribution of some marine species. In the tropical forests (both dry and humid) of the Pacific and Caribbean regions of Colombia, as well as in coastal ecosystems such as mangroves, biodiversity loss associated changing temperature and precipitation conditions are intensifying, affecting endemic species, as well as carbon absorption processes, ultimately contributing to carbon release. In addition, variations in rainfall and extreme temperatures impact agriculture and food security. These risks translate into impacts on the resilience capacity of ecosystems and populations that demand urgent adaptation and mitigation measures to protect ecosystems and ensure environmental and socio-economic sustainability. Considering the above, the risks associated with climate change and vulnerability for the implementation of the project are the potential for landslides, flooding of coastal areas in the Pacific and the Caribbean that may affect access to the territories, as well as the impact on the restoration processes implemented. This will be managed by selecting relatively well accessible regions and good temporal planning of activities, taking into account potential weather anomalies. For this, the project will have the support of entities that monitor the state of the weather and generate early warning.
Environmental and Social	Moderate	In the Colombia Pacific and Caribbean regions, the environmental and social risks associated with its various production systems are notable and multifaceted. A social risk is evidenced by the incipient consolidation of community organizations, specializing in the development of restoration process. In agricultural areas, land degradations, accelerated by climate variability and extreme events such as droughts and floods threaten food security and livelihoods of the ethnic and peasant communities settled in the Colombian Pacific and Caribbean regions, leading to social conflicts and migration. In the Pacific and Caribbean coastal zones, sea-level rise and coastal erosion directly impact communities that depend on fishing and tourism, increasing socioeconomic vulnerability. In the natural ecosystems of the coastal landscape, loss of biodiversity and of the ecosystem services (e.g. diminishing water resources) affect the livelihoods of local communities that depend on these ecosystems. These environmental risks are linked to social challenges such as poverty, inequality and exclusion, increasing the vulnerability of marginalized groups. The levels of conflict are acute in the

		Pacific and Caribbean regions. There are empowered community organizations, but the armed conflict threatens these leaderships and the projects, and the presence of cooperation ends up supporting the management that these organizations lead in terms of conservation and ecosystem recovery. Addressing these risks requires comprehensive policies and actions that promote adaptation to climate change, the protection of natural resources, and social inclusion in the country's different production systems.
Political and Governance	Moderate	Restoration projects in Colombia face a number of political and governance risks that can significantly impact their execution and success. One of the main political risks is political instability and variability in government policies related to the environment, sustainability and conservation. Changes in management and policy agendas can result in modifications in regulatory and financing frameworks, affecting the continuity and viability of restoration projects. In addition, moderate levels of corruption and lack of transparency in bidding and contracting processes can lead to delays, transaction costs and, in some cases, complete paralysis of projects. In terms of governance, the still weak of coordination between government entities at the national, regional, and local levels, and territorial actors, can hinder the effective implementation of restoration projects. A lack of clarity in the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders, partners, and stakeholders can also lead to conflicts and tensions that negatively affect the progress of projects. In the Pacific and Coastal regions, these risks on the current project implementation are mitigated through collaboration (and using similar governance structures) of other initiatives, such as the GEF funded Programa Chocó Biogeográfico and BioCaribe.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Low	Because the current project has a national context (ENR) but is implemented at subnational level, there is a (low) risk of inadequate or non.aligned strategies and policies between government levels. This however, is mitigated by the national environmental system (SINA) which is a coordinating body between the different national and subnational environmental authorities. Also, the project emerged as a result of Colombia's core commitments under International Environmental Agreements (IMAs), including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). These agreements have been ratified and implemented in the country through the enactment of different instruments such as strategies, policies and regulations, among which are the following: the NBSAP, the National Programme for LDN Targeting, the Climate Change Strategy and NDC. These strategies and agreements are directly aligned with national regulations and legislation, such as the the Organic Environmental Code and the Organic Law for Rural Lands and Ancestral Territories. This alignment is a residual risk due to the presence of legal loopholes and inconsistencies with other related sectors, especially in mining, agriculture, infrastructure and energy, which could cause conflicts with planning for the

		conservation, restoration and sustainable use of the environment. In addition, Colombia is currently working on updating the country's biodiversity action plan for 2030, which may have an impact on plans, programs and policies related to the project, but are expected to be positive.
Technological	Low	In the Colombian context, restoration projects face certain risks in their design and execution. On the one hand, there is a risk in the availability of areas for restoration and for the establishment of nurseries, as well as in terms of technical capacity to carry out these tasks. This is particularly in the coastal regions, because until now, most restoration experience has been developed in the Andean and Amazon regions of the country. Likewise, there is a low risk that government partners at the national or territorial level will modify the objectives and goals of the project in ways that are incompatible with its original design, especially after changes in policies and strategies at the national, territorial and local levels. To mitigate this risk, the project has included activities to generate more knowledge for restoration in the project regions, and the UNEP Environment Programme and FAO will participate in the Project Steering Committee to ensure compliance with the GEF conditions, and work plans and budgets will be approved by this committee.
Financial and Business Model	Low	Entities including the Ministry of Environment, and others at the national and regional levels, have experience in the good financial management of GEF projects. The variation of the exchange rate will be mitigated by constantly monitoring the financial commitments according to market dynamics and the exchange rate assigned for the UN, in order to make timely decisions that allow the fulfillment of the project activities. In this context, UNEP will provide oversight on these matters from the early stages of the project start-up phase, with the aim of mitigating the impacts of a potential revaluation of the national currency that would have an impact on the initiative's resources.
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Low	In the context of the selected demonstration landscapes, the project will link the relevant local, regional and national partners to articulate the actions that are being developed in the territory and those proposed by the project, to enhance both the work to be carried out during the implementation of the project, as well as its sustainability. The project will include a Stakeholder Engagement Plan for indigenous peoples, black and rural communities, under the framework of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). The implementation of the plan will ensure the active participation and local ownership of the communities involved. Additionally, a project closure strategy will be designed and developed based on a participatory methodology that allows greater appropriation and sustainability of the actions carried out during the implementation of the project. Finally, both UNEP and FAO have sufficient and recent experience in the implementation of projects in the selected territories, as well as in the sustainability of actions derived from them.

Fiduciary	Low	Financial management in relation to GEF resources will be carried out in accordance with the guidelines, policies, manuals, standards and procedures of the GEF as donor, UNEP in its role as implementing agency and FAO as executing agency. Based on the activities foreseen in the workplan and budget of the project, the procurement and contracting processes will be carried out according to the annual operational plans approved by the Steering Committee.
Stakeholder	Low	In the Colombian Pacific and Coastal regions, local stakeholders are geographically dispersed and culturally and ethnically diverse. This is a risk for fair and represntative engagement. Therefore, starting at the formulation phase, all stakeholders will be clearly identified with attention to ethnicity, gender, age and cultural characteristics. This mapping will allow the involvement of thematically and territorially strategic and relevant stakeholders, which will guarantee their participation in the implementation of the project and the establishment of agreements with partners. Tools and methodologies are available for the participatory construction of project actions. In addition, the project will have a governance scheme with spaces for participation and debate with the project partners through different mechanisms and participatory committees where representatives of the different stakeholders can be present. In this regard, it is important to mention that it is foreseen to generate instances at different levels: local (Technical Committees for Demonstration Landscapes), regional (Technical Committee) and national (Steering Committee). In addition, these bodies are not only in charge of planning but also follow up to propose pertinent adjustments in the process or in the development of the project. The project will keep the partners' representatives informed about the progress, achievements, benefits and difficulties of the project. The key partners of the project will commit to co-financing the project, to materialize their interest in it.

Other		

Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	The overall risk rating is being set at Moderate, despite most discrete risks being low. This is consequent with the expert guidance from the Safeguards assessment for projects dealing with a multiplicity of stakeholders and in particular IPLC and minorities.

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

Describe 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.

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this.

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. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

The initiative presented is formulated within the framework of the programmatic strategies promoted and financed by GEF 8, especially Land Degradation and Biodiversity. The proposed project is fully aligned with GEF-8 LD-2 objective (Reversing land degradation through landscape restoration) because it supports both the restoration of agro-ecosystem services and avoids the reduction of trees and vegetation cover, as well as the restoration of forests, while avoiding forest loss and degradation. The project also contributes directly to GEF-8 objective BD-1 (to enhance the conservation, sustainable use and restoration of natural ecosystems) through all project components. The project applies the GEF-8 management approach, investing in an area-based investment strategy that has an entry point to support integrated landscape management approaches that use multiple tools and strategies to respond to the drivers of biodiversity loss within large mosaics of landscapes and seascapes. In particular, component 2 of the project fully implements the GEF-8 approach of combining restoration activities with strategies to conserve natural ecosystems within landscape approaches that integrate conservation, restoration and improved use of agricultural land. This includes cost-effective restoration activities that improve the status of biodiversity and are part of integrated landscape management approaches.

The project is aligned with the *United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021* – 2030, and with the 2030 targets of the Global Framework of the Kunming-Montreal Convention on Biological Diversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity, mainly (1): plan and manage all areas to reduce biodiversity loss, (2): restore 30% of all degraded ecosystems, (3): conserve 30% of soils, waters and seas; (4): halting species extinction, protecting genetic diversity, and managing human-wildlife conflicts; (8): minimizing the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and building resilience; (10): promoting biodiversity and sustainability in agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry; (11): restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people; (14): integrate biodiversity into decision-making at each level, and (23): ensure gender equality and a gender-sensitive approach to biodiversity action.

Colombia`s National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) is currently under revision to reflect the GBF goals. The project contributes directly to Colombia´s current NBSAP's target I.5. for 2030 (The country will reach 1,000,000 ha in the process of restoration, in susceptible areas defined by the National Ecological Restoration Plan. The country will have evaluated the contribution of restoration processes to mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and to the fight against desertification).

By restoring 52,800 hectares of degraded land, the project contributes to the national voluntary target 7 for Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) of restoring at least 100,000 hectares within the framework of the national goal under the LAC20x20 initiative. Additionally, the project will contribute to including criteria and measures into territorial planning instruments to ensure the proper use of land and the preservation of its ecosystem functions and services (target 8). At the subnational level, by including 58,000 hectares in restoration processes and sustainable use practices in the Caribbean region (20,000 in Guajira), the project covers the voluntary targets for LDN, which by 2030 aim to: (target 1) restore at least 9,000 hectares of pastureland in forests in the Caribbean region, and (target 6) restore at least 3,200 hectares of dry forest in the Guajira region.

At the national level, the current project is aligned with the transformations and catalytic axes of the current National Development Plan 2022 – 2026 'Colombia, Global Power of Life'. The project is framed in the *productive transformation, internationalization and climate action*; mainly in the catalysts of *living nature: revitalization with social inclusion* that promotes the implementation of nature conservation programs and its restoration with participatory initiatives in strategic ecosystems, protected areas and other environmentally strategic figures.

In the context of the national legal and policy framework of the environmental sector in Colombia, the participatory restoration project is a main instrument for the ENR 2023-2026. In this sense, it is also aligned with Law 2243 of 2022 that orders the protection of mangrove ecosystems, planning their management, use, conservation and restoration, The project is linked to the *National Code of Renewable Natural Resources and Environmental Protection* (Decree – Law 2811 of 1974), to *the Political Constitution of 1991* in its article 80, the project attends to and is framed by (i) Law 99 of 1993 that structures the environmental sector, (ii) the *Program for the Sustainable Use, Management and Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystems in Colombia* (2002); (iii) the *National Policy for the Integrated Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services* (PNGIBSE), established in 2012; (iv) the *National Restoration Plan*, (v) the *Comprehensive Strategy for the Control of Deforestation and Management of Forests – Forests Territories of Life* 2019; (vi) to the CONPES 4021 document of 2020 that defines the *National Policy for the Control of Deforestation and the Sustainable Management of Forests*.

The Regional and Sustainable Development Autonomous Corporations (CAR) play a fundamental role in environmental management since their main objective is the protection and sustainable management of natural resources and the environment in their respective jurisdictions. The CARs set specific priorities for biodiversity conservation, such as the creation and management of protected areas, the control of deforestation, the restoration of ecosystems, and the promotion of environmental education. Likewise, the Watershed Planning and Management Plans (POMCAS, for its Spanish acronym) are planning instruments designed for the comprehensive management of watersheds in Colombia. These plans contemplate strategies for the conservation of ecosystems and, in coordination with other stakeholders, guide initiatives for the restoration of degraded areas, the protection of water sources and the promotion of sustainable land use practices. The different planning instruments play a key role in the definition and execution of actions for the conservation of biodiversity at the regional and local level in Colombia.

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

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

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

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

Yes

Were the following stakeholders consulted during project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities: Yes

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector: Yes

Provide a brief summary and list of names and dates of consultations

A description of stakeholders and their potential role in the project is included as Annex H. During the last months of 2023 and the beginning of 2024, the concept of the project was discussed within the different dependencies of the Ministry of Environment and entities attached to the entity (IDEAM, INVEMAR, INAP, IAvH). With them, inputs from earlier regional meetings organized by MinAmbiente in cooperation with the Regional Corporations (CAR) were taken. This included representations of indigenous peoples and local communities who earlier participated in the regional conversations on the development of ENR and others, who collaborated in current GEF projects in the area (GEF ID 9441, 10567).

In May 2024, a workshop in Bogotá discussed the proposal, its ToC and activities with a group of national and local institutions previously defined by the Ministry. In this, the areas of intervention were also defined (Annex K).

During the PPG phase, the project and its areas of intervention will be validated directly in the field with the communities of land users. For this consultation with partners, the protocols and guidelines of the manual for *Free, Prior and Informed Consent* carried out by FAO will be applied if ethnic communities are present in the places.

(Please upload to the portal documents tab any stakeholder engagement plan or assessments that have been done during the PIF development phase.)

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

We confirm that we have provided indicative information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed project or program and any measures to address such risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex D).

Yes

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate			

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described in the Project Description (Section B)

Yes

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

Indicative 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 ($)
UNEP	GET	Colombia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	5,431,071.00	488,795.00	5,919,866.00
UNEP	GET	Colombia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-2	Grant	12,672,498.00	1,140,525.00	13,813,023.00
Total GEF Resources ($)						**18,103,569.00**	**1,629,320.00**	**19,732,889.00**

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount ($)

300000

PPG Agency Fee ($)

27000

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	PPG($)	Agency Fee($)	Total PPG Funding($)
UNEP	GET	Colombia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	290,000.00	26,100.00	316,100.00
UNEP	GET	Colombia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-2	Grant	10,000.00	900.00	10,900.00
Total PPG Amount ($)						**300,000.00**	**27,000.00**	**327,000.00**

Please provide justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total($)
UNEP	GET	Colombia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	19,432,585.00
UNEP	GET	Colombia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	627,304.00
Total GEF Resources					**20,059,889.00**

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Co-financing($)
LD-2	GET	12,672,498.00	57868016
BD-1-4	GET	5,431,071.00	24800578
Total Project Cost		**18,103,569.00**	**82,668,594.00**

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount($)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MinAmbiente)	Grant	Investment mobilized	2703724
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MinAmbiente)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	500000
Recipient Country Government	National Park Service (PNNC)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1300000
Recipient Country Government	Institute of Environmental Research of the Pacific (IIAP)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	870000
Recipient Country Government	Institute of Marine and Coastal Research (INVEMAR)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	870000

Recipient Country Government	National Biodiversity Institute (IAvH)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4000
Recipient Country Government	International Groundwater Resources Assessment Center (IDEAM)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1800000
Recipient Country Government	General Maritime Directorate (DIMAR)	Grant	Investment mobilized	520000
Recipient Country Government	National Services of Learning (SENA)	Grant	Investment mobilized	850000
Recipient Country Government	Colombian Corporation for Agricultural Research. (Agrosavia)	Grant	Investment mobilized	500000
Recipient Country Government	Departmental Government of Caribbean - Guajira, Magdalena, Bolivar y Antioquia	Grant	Investment mobilized	5030000
Recipient Country Government	Municipalities Caribe	Grant	Investment mobilized	500000
Recipient Country Government	Departmental Government of Pacific. Choco, Valle del Cauca, Nariño	Grant	Investment mobilized	6930000
Recipient Country Government	Municipalities Pacífico	Grant	Investment mobilized	500000
Recipient Country Government	Fondos Colombia en paz, fondo para la vida y proyectos de regalías	Grant	Investment mobilized	21000000
	Agricultural sector (ADR, AUNAP, ART, ANT, ICA)	Grant	Investment mobilized	2500000
Recipient Country Government	RAP Caribe and RAP Pacífico	Grant	Investment mobilized	1000000
Others	Public and private aqueduct companies	Grant	Investment mobilized	650000

Private Sector	Private Sector - Cerrejón, Federación de Cafeteros, Fundaciones de Bananeros, Empresas pesqueras, Empresas de turismo	Grant	Investment mobilized	7070000
Recipient Country Government	Regional Autonomous Corporation of Caribbean. Corpoguajira, Cormagdalena, CSB y Corantioquía	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4335000
Recipient Country Government	Regional Autonomous Corporation of Pacific CVC, Codechoco, Corponariño	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4335000
Others	Other institutions	Grant	Investment mobilized	4850870
Civil Society Organization	Civil Society Organization	Grant	Investment mobilized	1500000
Beneficiaries	Civil Society Community	Grant	Investment mobilized	6000000
Others	Universities	Grant	Investment mobilized	1730000
Donor Agency	USAID	Grant	Investment mobilized	2500000
Donor Agency	GIZ	Grant	Investment mobilized	500000
GEF Agency	FAO	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1730000
GEF Agency	UNEP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	90000
Total Co-financing				**82,668,594.00**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

- The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, based on its capacities in policy orientations and inter-institutional coordination of the SINA, will contribute 500,000 in-kind to the project in order to strengthen the participatory restoration processes in the prioritized areas and under the established components. The Ministry will also contribute 2,703,724 in investment mobilized with royalty projects or other related types that the ministry is executing.
- The National Parks Agency, will contribute 1,300,000 through their territorial presence and their expertise in propagation, establishment and monitoring in areas for restoration.
- IDEAM will contribute 1,800,000 in kind by strengthening the transfer of technologies in innovations that allow monitoring of participatory restoration processes, the connectivity and resilience of ecosystems through the inclusion of georeferenced national data and analysis,

- The IIAP, INVEMAR, IAvH research institutes will jointly contribute 1,744,000 of co-financing resources that will be allocated to strengthen the transfer of technologies in innovations that strengthen not only governance in local communities, but also participatory restoration processes, connectivity and resilience of ecosystems, and the implementation of biodiversity economy and restoration models in the areas terrestrial and marine-coastal degradations.

- DIMAR will contribute 520,000 in-kind to the project with the aim of accompanying the implementation of the project as a maritime authority and in coordination with government entities and local communities to ensure compliance with regulations and protocols established for the preservation of strategic areas in favor of the restoration of marine-coastal ecosystems.

- The Governorates, the Administrative and Planning Regions and the municipalities (19 in the Caribbean and 22 municipalities in the Pacific, in the departments of the Colombian Caribbean and Pacific Region) will direct their co-financing efforts of 13,960,000 to institutionally support participatory restoration in the prioritized areas, based on the sum of efforts and technical capacities to improve the impacts of the implementation of the project and generate restoration capacities participatory in the territories.

- The private sector, with a co-financing contribution of 7,070,000 to the project, will not only be able to transfer its innovations and advances in biodiversity, but also to link local communities and their members to productive reconversion initiatives and value chains associated with the economies of restoration and biodiversity. The private sector represents mining companies such as Cerrejón in La Guajira, coffee, banana and mango companies, as well as the tourism sector in the Sierra – Ciénaga corridor. These companies also have foundations and research centers linked to environmental initiatives.

- The CARs of the Pacific and Atlantic Region will contribute as co-financiers to the project with in-kind resources of 8,670,000, from joining efforts and capacities in the implementation of the restoration project in the prioritized areas, and to the transfer of instruments and methodologies that strengthen the knowledge of local communities in participatory restoration. Corpoguajira, Cormagdalena, CSB and Corantioquía, CVC, Codechoco, Corponariño.

- Civil society organizations and communities will provide an in-kind co-financing of 7,500,000 from the dissemination of lessons learned, exchange of experiences, and transfers of practical knowledge to local communities related to restoration processes, local governance, and capacity building.

- Universities and academic centers will contribute to the project with a counterpart of 1,730,000 in-kind that will be aimed at systematizing the knowledge and experiences generated by the project, as well as the academic and technical production of the results of the project for dissemination.

- The agricultural sector together with its attached and related entities ADR, AUNAP, ART, ANT, ICA contribute with their expertise in reconversion and their research for the inclusion of biodiversity criteria in crops in 2,500,000.

- Taking into account that the areas prioritized in the proposals are also prioritized for other national funds, it will seek to articulate with existing proposals and formulate proposals for such initiatives such as Fondos Colombia en Paz, Fondo para la Vida y la Biodiversidad worth 21,000,000.

- FAO will contribute 1,730,000 in-kind to the project in order to strengthen governance approaches and capacity transfers in local communities. FAO will also make its tools and methodologies to mitigate land degradation available to the project, promote agroecology and value chains of restoration and integrated landscape management.

- UNEP will provide 90,000 in-kind co-funding to transfer methodologies, techniques, knowledge and lessons learned related to participatory restoration, biological connectivity, and protection of strategic ecosystems.

- Finally, other public, private, and civil society institutions will join the project with an in-kind co-financing of 4,850,000 that through their initiatives, strategies, methodologies, instruments, and learnings will technically strengthen the components of the restoration project.

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email

Project Coordinator	Robert Erath	9/12/2024	Robert Erath		robert.erath@un.org
GEF Agency Coordinator	Ersin Esen	9/12/2024	Ersin Esen		ersin.esen@un.org

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Maria Teresa Becerra	GEF Operational Focal Point, Head of the International Affairs Office	Ministry of Environmental and Sustainablel Development	8/27/2024
Maria Teresa Becerra	GEF Operational Focal Point, Head of the International Affairs Office	Ministry of Environmental and Sustainablel Development	10/15/2024

ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

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

The proposed demonstration landscapes are:

Prioritized territory	***Demonstration landscape (representative for the prioritized territory)***
Buenaventura: In this territory, strategic ecosystems are represented, such as the tropical rainforest ecosystem in the landscape of the hills and hills of the Calima and San Juan river basins and the mangroves in the Pacific alluvial plain. This is one of high biological value, because it forms the connectivity of the Andes to the Pacific and, between the different areas of the Chocó biogeographic and coastal ecosystems with all the known ecosystem services, such as nutrient cycling, refuge for marine fauna, coastal protection, provision of various food resources, chemical woods, etc. This territory was prioritized for the development of restoration processes within the framework of the ENR, it has an area of 490,948 ha. 2% of the territory has a very low ecological integrity, and 9% a low ecological integrity. For the Buenaventura area, a birdlife of approximately 360 species is estimated. The most important group of mammals is that of bats, which has the greatest diversity in the country. Species such as the jungle tapir, the deer and the opossum, as well as the sloth bear and several felines still very numerous in the region, such as the jaguar, the puma, the ocelots and the jaguarundi, are characteristic.	The demonstration landscape within this territory is 8,000 hectares, made up of tropical rainforest and mangroves between the basins of the lower Calima and Naya rivers. The population that is potentially benefited is approximately 28,000 people, including indigenous populations, black communities with legal recognition of collective ownership of the land and mestizo communities. The area is easily accessible by road, river and sea. The demonstration landscape corresponds to an area of low and very low ecological integrity. The sources of deforestation and degradation are coastal erosion; deforestation as a result of illegal mining due to the high value of minerals, indiscriminate logging for timber extraction, expansion of the agricultural frontier and the presence of illicit crops and contamination by solid waste. The project will apply a range of techniques within a landscape restoration strategy including the protection of intact areas, enrichment, passive and active restoration processes and the implementation of agroecological and agroforestry production systems as a conservation strategy and sustainable use for restoration. In the landscape, there are ongoing initiatives of the Fund for Life of MinAmbiente (Pacific program) and conservation initiatives of international NGOs (WCS; WWF). Local authorities include the Valle de Cauca governor's office, municipalities and the agencies of the

	National Environmental System (SINA), particularly the Valle de Cauca Corporation.
South Pacific Forest and Biodiversity Development Nucleus. The prioritized territory has an area of 624,481 ha, located on the fans of the Pacific coast, southwest of Cauca and northwest of Nariño. It has ecosystems of tropical humid forest, flooded forest (guandal), and mangroves located on the marine plain and the fans of the Nariño foothills. 1% of the territory has a very low ecological integrity, and 39% a low ecological integrity. Among the most important forest species in the area, many of which are in some degree of threat, are cedar *(Cedrela odorata)*, granadillo *(Swietenia macrophyla),* pandala *(Thalauma nariniensis)*, sajo *(Campnosperma panamensis),* chapul *(Humiriastrum procerum),* and achapo *(Cedrelinga catenaeformis),* which are the woods used for construction and carpentry.	Within this territory, the proposed demonstration landscape is located in the region between Timbiquí (Cauca) and Sanquianga (Nariño), with an area of 17,000 ha. Ecosystems of tropical humid forest, inundated forest (guandal) and mangroves are represented. The population that inhabits the landscape and that is directly benefited is 22,000, including the Afro-Colombian population and the Eperara-Siapidara and Awá indigenous communities, which have the legal recognition of collective ownership of the land. There are also peasant communities and mestizo population, individual owners. The landscape has a low ecological integrity. The sources of deforestation and degradation in this landscape are erosion associated with the transfer of watersheds, intensive deforestation for construction and charcoal production and overexploitation of resources; such as tropical forest and mangrove. For the Guandal area and humid forest, intensive deforestation for the trade of timber in the national market. The Pacific coast region has been the main supplier of wood in the national market for various uses, with an accumulated of more than 70 years of overexploitation of these forests, in addition to contamination by solid waste. Finally, the advance of the agricultural frontier for illicit crops is present in the landscape. The project will develop an enabling environment in the demonstration landscape by improving governance and strengthening local capacities and deforestation control. It will apply a range of techniques within a landscape restoration strategy including the protection of intact areas, enrichment, passive and active restoration processes and the implementation of agroecological and agroforestry production systems.
Atrato/North Pacific Forest and Biodiversity Development Nucleus: This territory is very large (1,983,706 ha) occupying a large part of the biogeographic Chocó in the departments of Chocó and the northwest of Antioquia. It is the connectivity between the Pacific and the Caribbean. It includes the swampy complex of the middle Atrato, the Atrato-Darién border and the alluvial terraces of the Atrato delta. Representative ecosystems include flooded forests (cativales), tropical rainforest and mangroves (in the delta). 4% of the territory has a very low ecological integrity, and 18% a low ecological integrity. Cativo (*Prioria copaifera)* forests are assemblages found in fertile soil, on alluvial plains periodically flooded by fresh water. This ecosystem has been strongly affected by logging and the cativo is now considered endangered. (*López and Montero 2006*). Closely linked to the soil and water ecosystems described, the Atrato River is located on the banks of the Atrato River, the Arracachal (dominated by *Montrichardia arborescens),* which is considered the habitat of the flagship species of the Atrato, the bocachico (*Prochilodus magdalenae).*	The demonstration landscape has an area of approximately 37,000 hectares of the middle Atrato between the municipalities of Boyajá and Murindó. This area, in the heart of the territory, is occupied by tropical rainforest and flooded forests (cativales; dominated by *Prioria copaifera*). The population directly benefiting is 17,500, who are inhabitants of the landscape between Afro-Colombian communities and Embera indigenous communities, who have the legal recognition of collective ownership of the land. The landscape has medium and low ecological integrity. The sources of deforestation and degradation in this territory are: i) the loss of river connectivity, (ii) deforestation due to the expansion of the agricultural frontier, illegal mining and monocultures of oil palm, banana and other musaceae, (iii) deterioration of soils and productivity due to poor agricultural practices, high incidence of forest fires, and pollution due to the effects of mining. The project will develop initiatives in the landscape for the improvement of governance, based on spatial information, territorial planning and capacity building. Apply a range of

	techniques within a landscape restoration strategy including the protection of intact areas, enrichment, and other active restoration processes and the implementation of productive systems based on non-timber products and environmentally friendly agroforestry systems.
Serranía de San Lucas: This prioritized territory (1,073,697 hectares) is part of the transition between the northern area of the Central Cordillera and the plains of the Caribbean, between the departments of Bolívar and the Northeast of Antioquia. It is covered by semi-arid forest, tropical rainforest and low montane forest ecosystem. 13% of the territory has a very low ecological integrity, and 27% a low ecological integrity. The Serranía de San Lucas presents strategic ecosystems at the landscape level because it provides ecosystem services as a water source for several municipalities and presents biogeographic characteristics for the regional connectivity of several species including large mammals such as the jaguar (*Panthera onca*), puma (*Puma concolor*), lowland tapir (*Tapirus terrestres*), Andean bear (*Tremarctos ornatus*). It is also home to several species of birds, primates and endangered plants such as *Crax alberti, Ateles hybridus brunneus, Aniba perutilis, Astrocaryum malybo, Cariniana pyriformis. Finally,* it is considered a center of endemism due to its characteristics of geographical isolation and for all of the above, considered a biodiversity hotspot.	The demonstration landscape covers 25,000 hectares, in the municipalities of Segovia and El Bagre in Antioquia and Montecristo, San Pablo and Santa Rosa del Sur de Bolívar. These are sectors that are part of a proposal to declare a National District of Integrated Management by National Natural Parks. The demonstration landscape is naturally covered by tropical rainforest and low montane forest. In biogeographic terms described as Tropical Humid Forests of Nechí and San Lucas. The approximate population in this landscape is 20,000 people. The cultural composition is mixed. Mestizo, Afro-descendant and indigenous population. Among them are victims of the armed conflict. There are grassroots agro-mining organizations and Community Action Boards, which are linked to the route of declaration of the National District of Integrated Management The land tenure is mostly untitled land, given that a large part of the Serranía is part of the Magdalena River Forest Reserve (Law 2 of 1959) and titling requires a process between the Ministry of Environment and ANT. The prioritized area within the landscape has semi-natural transformed cover conditions, leading to low and very low ecological integrity in these sectors of the landscape. There is traditional, non-technical agriculture, with livestock and transitory crops such as cassava, banana, rice, beans and sugar cane. The area is also affected by illegal logging, and mainly by illegal mining extraction of sinkholes and alluvial and legal mining (gold and silver) of small scale (artisanal) leaving contamination in water bodies by the use of mercury and cyanide in gold mining and land degradation points. In the landscape, the project will develop initiatives for the improvement of governance, based on strengthening local capacities and the legal-institutional framework. It will apply a range of techniques within a landscape restoration strategy and the creation of corridors to forest patches, the recovery of native vegetation, the enrichment of forests and other active and passive restoration processes. A large part of the sectors to be intervened will be subject to productive reconversion through the implementation of production systems based on agroecological and agroforestry systems, and the regeneration of soil and water.
Guajira: The territory in the south of La Guajira (1,539,879 hectares) covers a unique area in Colombia and South America, as it is located on a peninsula with ecosystems that are both humid (low montane forest, mangrove, coastal swamps) and desert (beaches, dunes). However, most of it is covered by xerophytic forests. This area generates connectivity between the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta National Natural Park, Serranía del Perijá and the Fauna and Flora Sanctuary. Los Flamencos. 11% of the territory has a very low ecological integrity, and 24%	The demonstration landscape covers 20,000 hectares between the municipalities of Albania and Hatonuevo. It is mainly covered by dry forest ecosystems in plains and low hills. The population consists of approximately 8000 people, belonging to individually owned mestizo communities and recognized collectively owned Wayuu indigenous peoples. Ecological integrity is low and very low. The main problems are the loss of water resources and soil,

a low ecological integrity. This landscape has a direct connection with the Cesar Mining Corridor landscape, with very low ecological integrity. As for mammals, the representation is 6% of the national total. Amphibians represent 29% of the species recorded for the Caribbean region. In the group of birds, the presence of three endemic species stands out: *Colinas cristatus continentes, Columba corensis and Habia rubica perijana;* and the green macaw *(Ara militaris),* a species listed in the category of vulnerable to extinction (VU). At the level of large mammals, felines such as the puma *(Puma concolor),* and the jaguar *(Pantera onca)* are recorded. Occasionally, deer *(Mazama rufina),* which unfortunately are in danger of being exterminated locally by hunting. Other mammals such as guartinajas, armadillos and two species of monkeys *(Cebus albifrons and Alouatta seniculus) are reported.*	degradation of dry forest and xerophytic vegetation cover, loss of riverbanks from water sources. These problems are due to the change in land use and the expansion of the agricultural frontier. Environmental deterioration and the impacts of climate change have had a negative impact on the living conditions of communities, in addition to the loss of traditional knowledge and food knowledge based on biodiversity and agrobiodiversity. In the landscape, the project will develop initiatives to improve governance, based on strengthening local capacities, the legal-institutional framework and socio-institutional agreements, between communities, the private and public sectors. A range of techniques would be applied within a landscape restoration strategy including the recovery of native vegetation, forest enrichment and other active and passive restoration processes. A large part of the area will be subject to productive reconversion through the implementation of production systems based on agroecological and agroforestry systems, and the regeneration of soil and water.
Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta/Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta - western side: The western area of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta has 3 basins that flow into the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta, Fundación, Aracataca, Sevilla and Frío. This area forms the connection between the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta National Natural Park and the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta Fauna and Flora Sanctuary. The area is a Biosphere Reserve and Forest Reserve, and a Second Law Reserve. The original vegetation is tropical rainforest, dry forest, low montane forest, flooded riparian forests and mangroves. 16% of the territory has a very low ecological integrity, and 24% a low ecological integrity. The CGSM ecoregion is home to many terrestrial and aquatic plants and organisms, of which 276 species of terrestrial plants, 12 of aquatic plants, three of mangroves, 300 types of phytoplanktonic algae, 144 species of fish, 102 species of molluscs, 26 species of reptiles, 19 species of mammals and about 199 species of birds have been identified. Of the latter, 35 are migratory birds that use the wetlands of the CGSM lagoon complex to feed and reproduce (Corpamag, 2008)	As a demonstration landscape, 13,000 hectares are prioritized in the middle and lower basins of the Sevilla and Frío Rivers in the municipality of Ciénaga and banana production zone of the Magdalena department. It has ecosystems of mangrove, dry forest, humid forest, low montane forest and agroecosystems. The beneficiaries are 4,000 people living in the landscape, including peasant communities, fishermen and indigenous population. In the middle and lower basins of the Sevilla and Frío rivers, integrity is low and very low, and the water flows that maintain the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta Ramsar Site have been lost, there are intercultural conflicts over land, food systems and family economy have been lost. There is a growth of the agricultural frontier. The production systems are coffee, palm, bananas, palm, mango and buffalo cattle. In the landscape, the project will develop initiatives for the improvement of governance, based on strengthening local capacities, socio-institutional agreements and the legal-institutional framework. It will apply a range of techniques within a landscape restoration strategy including the conservation of intact areas and the creation of corridors to protected areas, the recovery of native vegetation, the enrichment of forests and other active and passive restoration processes. A large part of the area will be subject to productive reconversion through the implementation of production systems based on agroecological and agroforestry systems, and the regeneration of soil and water.

Map 1. Areas of intervention of the participatory restoration project

Source: MinAmbiente (2023)[1]20

Georeferenced points for demonstration landscapes

N°	Shape	Name	Longitude W	Latitude N
1	Point	Guajira Corredor Minero	-72,940091	11,209863
2	Point	Cga. Santa Marta-Sierra Nevada	-74,250616	10,850111
3	Point	Serranía San Lucas	-74,314857	7,792221
4	Point	Pacifico Norte-Atrato	-76,807423	6,944235
5	Point	Buenaventura	-77,218568	3,423807
6	Point	Pacifico Sur	-78,374913	2,28031

[1] MinAmbiente (2023) National Restoration Strategy 2023 – 2026. Together to recover lost nature. Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. Bogota, Colombia.

ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

(PIF level) Attach agency safeguard screen form including rating of risk types and overall risk rating.

Title
SRIF Colombia Restoration safeguards

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

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

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Influencing models	- Transform policy and regulatory environments. -		
	- Strengthen institutional capacity/decision-making.		
	- Convene multi stakeholder partnerships		
Stakeholders	- Type of Engagement	- Information Dissemination	
		- Participation	
		- Consultation	
	- Local communities	-	
	- Private sector	- Large corporations	
		- Capital providers	
		- SME	

	- Civil society	- Community Based Organizations	
		- NGOs	
		- Academia	
	- Communications	- Awareness Raising	
		- Education	
		- Behavior Change	
	Indigenous Peoples		
	Beneficiaries		
Capacity, Knowledge and Research	- Learning	- Theory of Change	
		- Adaptive management	
		- Indicators to measure change	
	- Capacity Development	-	
	- Knowledge Exchange	- Conference	
		- Field Visit	
		- Peer-to-Peer	
	- Knowledge Generation	- Training	
		- Workshop	
	- Targeted research		
	- Learning	- Theory of Change	
		- Adaptive Management	
Gender Equality	- Gender integration	- Beneficiaries	
		- Sex-disaggregated indicators	
		- Gender-sensitive indicators	
	Gender results areas	- Capacity Development	
		- Awareness Raising	
Focal Areas/themes	- Land Degradation	- Land Degradation Neutrality	- Land Productivity - Land Cover and Land cover change - Carbon stocks above and below ground
		- Sustainable Land Management	- Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques - Community-Based Natural Resource Management - Sustainable Pasture Management - Sustainable Fire Management - Sustainable Livelihoods

			- Drought Mitigation - Ecosystem Approach - Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands - Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach - Sustainable Agriculture - Income Generating Activities - Sustainable Forest
		- Food Security	
	- Biodiversity	- Biomes	- Wetlands - Tropical Rain Forest - Tropical Dry Forest - Rivers - Mangroves
		- Finance and Accounting	- PES - Conservation Finance
		- Mainstreaming	- Forestry – Including HCVF and REDD+ - Tourism - Fisheries - Agriculture and agrobiodiversity
		- Landscapes	- Productive Landscapes, - Community-Based Natural Resource Management
		- Species	- Threatened Species
Level 1	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**