

# GEF-8 REQUEST FOR CEO CHILD ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>GENERAL CHILD PROJECT INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Project Summary .....	3
Child Project Description Overview .....	4
<b>CHILD PROJECT OUTLINE .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>A. PROJECT RATIONALE .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION .....</b>	<b>12</b>
Institutional Arrangement and Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.....	25
Table On Core Indicators .....	28
<b>Core Indicators .....</b>	<b>28</b>
Key Risks .....	34
<b>C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES .....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS .....</b>	<b>40</b>
Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment:.....	40
Stakeholder Engagement .....	41
Private Sector .....	41
Environmental and Social Safeguards .....	41
<b>E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS .....</b>	<b>42</b>
Knowledge management .....	42
Socio-economic Benefits .....	42
<b>ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES .....</b>	<b>42</b>
GEF Financing Table .....	42
Project Preparation Grant (PPG) .....	43
Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation.....	44
Focal Area Elements .....	44
Confirmed Co-financing for the project, by name and type.....	44
<b>ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENT .....</b>	<b>45</b>
Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):.....	46
<b>ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK.....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>ANNEX D: STATUS OF UTILIZATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG) .....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>ANNEX E: PROJECT MAP AND COORDINATES .....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>ANNEX F: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS DOCUMENTS INCLUDING RATING.....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE.....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>ANNEX I: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS .....</b>	<b>62</b>

## General Child Project Information

Child Project Title

Life Amazon: Forest and biodiversity conservation and community-led sustainable management in the Colombian Amazon

Region	Colombia	GEF Project ID	11201
Country(ies)	Colombia	Type of Project	FSP
GEF Agency(ies)	World Bank	GEF Agency Project ID	
Project Executing Entity(s)	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development UNDP	Project Executing Type	Government GEF Agency
GEF Focal Area (s)	Multi Focal Area	Submission Date	9/12/2024
Type of Trust Fund	GET	Project Duration (Months)	60
GEF Project Grant: (a)	24,281,344.00	Agency Fee(s) Grant: (b)	2,185,320.00
PPG Amount: (c)	183,487.00	PPG Agency Fee(s): (d)	16,511.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	26666662	Total Co-financing	182,637,837.00

Project Sector (CCM Only)

AFOLU

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
Principal Objective 2	Significant Objective 1	Principal Objective 2	Principal Objective 2

### Project Summary

Provide a brief summary description of the project, to offer a snapshot of what is being proposed. The summary should include: (i) what is the problem and issues to be addressed? ii) as a child project under a program, explain how the description fits in the broader context of the specific program; (iii) what are the project objectives, and if the project is intended to be transformative,

how will this be achieved? and (iv) what are the GEBs and/or adaptation benefits, and other key expected results. (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

The Project aims to improve biodiversity conservation, connectivity, and forest governance in selected Colombian Amazon landscapes. It will address the existing environmental challenges, namely deforestation and degradation of natural resources, and scale up an integrated pathway of transformation building on previous achievements. This will be done via: i) reinforcing the enabling environment, strengthening governance, and water and land use planning instruments; ii) promoting conservation under different protection regimes, restoring and protecting connectivity corridors, and enhancing a representative high biodiversity area effectively conserved and managed; and, iii) scaling up sustainable community-based forest practices leading to a sustainable and inclusive biodiversity-based economy that improves socioeconomic and cultural well-being, and enhances climate change resilience; and iv) promoting capacity building and generating knowledge exchange and collaborative alliances in the country and with others in the Amazon biome as part of the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes (ASL) integrated program. **The project will achieve the improvement of the management of approximately 8.06 million hectares of terrestrial protected areas, the improvement of practices within an area of 3.92 million hectares and restoration of 8,000 hectares, while benefiting over 48 thousand people, of which 45% identifies as a woman. The actions developed by the project will support the mitigation of GHG, which will result in the 22.4 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e mitigated.**

Within the landscape approach, the Project will intervene on the ground at local and subnational levels focusing on key connectivity corridors that need to be restored in deforestation hotspots and/or maintained in protected areas (PAs) and indigenous territories (IT). Policy and strengthened governance will also influence broader areas in the Amazon and national-level jurisdictions. The project will make a significant contribution to national-level commitments and strategies in relation to deforestation control, restoration, and biodiversity, and promote interventions towards a development model that provides local dividends that unlock green jobs, growth, and equally distributed welfare benefits. In addition, the project will contribute to improved resilience and livelihoods of indigenous people and other local, vulnerable populations, as well as the recognition of traditional and scientific knowledge to be incorporated into key decision-making. The Project's institutional arrangement will build government capacity and improve trusting relationships with local communities, as a key enabling condition for peacebuilding. Through the government's decision to allocate STAR funding to this project, execute it directly, and continue being part of the ASL program, GEF will continue being an essential financing partner to a long-term commitment to integrated conservation and sustainable development in the Colombian Amazon, enhancing and scaling up the approaches, methodologies and pilots established with previous interventions.

## Child Project Description Overview

### Project Objective

To improve biodiversity conservation, connectivity, and forest governance in selected Colombian Amazon landscapes.

The project level objective will be measured through four key indicators:

- Improved management effectiveness of approximately 8.06 to 7.49 million hectares of terrestrial protected areas
- Improved practices within a landscape area of 4.67 million hectares
- Directly benefiting around 48,696 people, of which 45% identifies as a woman.
- 22.4 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e mitigated.

## Project Components

### Component 1: Conservation of high biodiversity areas under different protection regimes

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
5,781,272.00	32,928,791.00

Outcome:

- 1.1. Strengthened management of high biodiversity areas under different regimes
- 1.2. Improved governance of local communities (with gender approaches) and institutions managing areas under different protection regimes

Besides the Relevant PDO level outcomes, progress in component 1 will also be measured by the following indicators included in the Results Framework:

- Terrestrial OECMs supported (751,594.96 ha)
- Community governance schemes or mechanisms supported by the project (35)

Output:

- 1.1.1. Management plans for prioritized protected areas designed and implemented. (also contributes to 1.2)
- 1.1.2. Indigenous people cultural environmental plans designed and/or implemented. (also contributes to 1.2)
- 1.1.3. Areas identified, and management instruments designed and/or implemented for selected OECMs. (also contributes to 1.2)
- 1.1.4. Areas under restoration processes inside PAs, ITs and buffer zones.

### Component 2: Sustainable forest management and restoration

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
9,250,036.00	60,397,585.00

Outcome:

- 2.1. Transformation shifts in high deforestation areas towards forest and biodiversity economies. (overarching outcome)
- 2.2. Increased capacity for and participation in forestry and biodiversity value chains, with special consideration for gender roles
- 2.3. Increased area restored or undergoing restoration in key connectivity areas.

Besides the Relevant PDO level outcomes, progress in component 2 will also be measured by the following indicators included in the Results Framework:

- Area of land and ecosystems under restoration (8,000 Ha) (with the GEF core sub-indicators)
- Level of Compliance to the project's social conservation agreements. (80 %)

Output:

- 2.1.1. Social agreements strengthened and/or developed towards forestry and biodiversity economies. (also contributing to 2.2 and 2.3)
- 2.1.2. Community forestry and biodiversity management plans established and under implementation. (also contributing to 2.2)
- 2.2.1. Technical assistance services for bioeconomy development delivered via forest extension programs and a network of forest community organizations. (also contributing to 2.1)
- 2.2.2. Commercial agreements and partnerships with private sector companies established to guarantee markets for selected products. (also contributing to 2.1)
- 2.3.1. Degraded areas in key corridors under restoration processes, within a restoration value chain. (also contributing to 2.1)

### Component 3: Governance and policies for conservation, restoration and sustainable development in the areas of intervention

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
4,625,018.00	55,359,118.00

Outcome:

- 3.1. Land and water planning with environmental considerations incorporated.
- 3.2. Strengthened governance for integrated landscape management and connectivity.
- 3.3. Strengthened monitoring systems at multiple scales delivering timely data to key decision makers

Besides the Relevant PDO level outcomes, progress in component 3 will also be measured by the following indicators included in the Results Framework:

- Cross-sectoral institutional agreements strengthened and/or supported by the project (15)
- Strengthened capabilities of environmental authorities for forest monitoring according to specific action plans (level 9)

Output:

- 3.1.1 Support provided to the implementation of policies and regulations for territorial planning and sustainable development.
- 3.2.1. Multisectoral dialogue for land and water use planning promoted, incorporating environmental and sustainability criteria. (Also contributing to 3.1.)

3.2.2. Capacity building activities delivered to key stakeholders for natural resource planning (with strategies to promote women and youth participation). (also contributing to 3.1)

3.3.1. Integrated forest, carbon and biodiversity monitoring system at multiple interoperable scales strengthened (also contributing to 3.2)

#### Component 4: Project management, monitoring, knowledge and communications

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
3,006,262.00	17,666,494.00

Outcome:

- 4.1. Strengthened national management institutional capacity.
- 4.2. Increased knowledge management of best practices
- 4.3. Effective dissemination of project's progress and lessons.

Besides the Relevant PDO level outcomes, progress in component 4 will also be measured by the following indicators included in the Results Framework:

- Share of participants with rating response of "satisfied" or above on the effectiveness and relevance of training and knowledge exchange events provided by the project (80%)
- Grievances registered related to delivery of project benefits that are addressed (100%)

Output:

- 4.1.1. Project effectively executed through national systems.
- 4.2.1. Knowledge management -generation and sharing and regional dialogue, delivered.
- 4.3.1. Communication strategy designed and delivered

#### M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
462,502.00	6,332,988.00

Outcome:

Effective monitoring of project's progress and lessons at multiple scales

Output:

Monitoring, evaluation and learning system delivered, timely tracking progress based on quantitative and qualitative data and delivering on supervision missions and reports complying with commitments agreed upon

## Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1: Conservation of high biodiversity areas under different protection regimes	5,781,272.00	32,928,791.00
Component 2: Sustainable forest management and restoration	9,250,036.00	60,397,585.00
Component 3: Governance and policies for conservation, restoration and sustainable development in the areas of intervention	4,625,018.00	55,359,118.00
Component 4: Project management, monitoring, knowledge and communications	3,006,262.00	17,666,494.00
M&E	462,502.00	6,332,988.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>23,125,090.00</b>	<b>172,684,976.00</b>
Project Management Cost	1,156,254.00	9,952,861.00
<b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b>	<b>24,281,344.00</b>	<b>182,637,837.00</b>

Please provide Justification

### CHILD PROJECT OUTLINE

#### A. PROJECT RATIONALE

Describe the current situation: the global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address, the key elements of the system, and underlying drivers of environmental change in the project context, such as population growth, economic development, climate change, sociocultural and political factors, including conflicts, or technological changes. Since this is a child project under a program, please include an explanation of how the context fits within the specific program agenda. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

#### A. Country Context

- Colombia's solid macroeconomic institutional setting, grounded on a rules-based fiscal framework, a flexible exchange rate, and a modern inflation-targeting regime, has been the cornerstone of its macroeconomic stability.** Yet, the pace of economic growth has been slowing down. Colombia has significant potential to grow its GDP by increasing productivity and further diversifying and expanding its exports with goods and services coming from its natural capital. Addressing infrastructure gaps, improving educational outcomes, and strengthening institutions are crucial steps to further boost the country's economic development. The economy recovered well from the pandemic but is now cooling. In 2022, the economy showed signs of overheating, as inflation soared to a record level above 13 percent, and the current account deficit rose persistently. The authorities have addressed these imbalances, but economic growth has still decelerated substantially in 2023, along with limited investment.
- Colombia's vast rural regions, which make up 88 percent of the country's territory, hold enormous untapped potential for development but are facing a range of systemic challenges.** Regions like the Pacific,



Amazon, Orinoquia, and Guajira have been afflicted by violence; a structural underinvestment in education, health, and infrastructure; and limited law enforcement and government presence, resulting in poverty and extreme deprivation of basic needs<sup>[1]</sup>. Despite the efforts made to implement the peace agreement, the government still needs to strengthen its presence in rural areas and deploy resources to transform local economies through nature-based solutions. Close to 9 percent of Colombia's population of 51.6 million self-identify as Afro descendants, and around 6 percent as indigenous. Both groups live predominantly in areas with high ecological and cultural significance but also limited state presence; the highest marginalization and poverty; profound economic and social gaps; limited access to public goods and opportunities for economic development; land tenure insecurity; presence of illegal criminal networks; and illegal economies that perpetuate violence, poverty, and inequality. As stated in the 2024 Colombia Country Partnership Framework (CPF), a Colombian from an indigenous ethnicity has on average over two years less schooling than a non-indigenous; the fraction of indigenous children who are stunted is almost triple the national average; and labor incomes of Afrodescendants and indigenous populations are far below average.

3. **Colombia is one of the world's richest countries in terms of biodiversity.** The country is one of the five mega-diverse nations in the world, ranked third in terms of biodiversity, and is home to almost 15 percent of all known terrestrial species, including the largest number of species of birds, amphibians, and butterflies in the world. Most of its biodiversity is found in the country's close to 60 million hectares of forest, that represent 52 percent of the total land area. Protected Areas (PAs) and Indigenous Territories (IT) represent 34 percent of the country's territory. Despite its natural capital and diversity of ecosystems, Colombia ranks 10th globally in terms of economic risk posed by climate-related hazards, with 84 percent of the population and 86 percent of its assets in areas exposed to climate change risks, such as flooding, landslides, and drought<sup>[2]</sup>. Some of the most pressing challenges that influence inclusive and sustainable growth in Colombia's rural areas are: i) insufficient forest, land and water management, ii) insufficient environmental regulation of extractive activities and land use planning; and iii) inadequate disaster risk prevention, management, and adaptation to natural disasters and climate change.

4. **Sustainable production and conservation of the country's natural capital are key components of Colombia's development agenda.** The National Development Plan (NDP) 2022-2026 "Colombia. Potencia de Vida" has five overarching goals, including the development of land use planning mechanisms around water, and achieving a productive transformation that is in line with climate action. Through the NDP, the government aims to restore and rehabilitate around 754,000 hectares of degraded ecosystems, reduce deforestation by 20 percent, and mitigate 2.14 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> within the transportation sector. To achieve such goals, the country will need to transform from a climate vulnerable to a more climate resilient development pathway, including transitioning to a net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions economy.

## B. Sectoral and Institutional Context

5. **The Colombian Amazon represents 6.5 percent of the biome's rainforest, 42 percent of the country's land mass and 66 percent of the country's forests.** The region's physical and biotic components explain its high levels of biodiversity, as they result from evolutionary, biogeographical, and ecological processes that involve areas of the Guiana Shield (Caquetá State), the Amazonian basin (Caquetá, Putumayo, and Amazonas States) and the Andean foothills (Putumayo and Caquetá States). Home to approximately 1.2 million people, including several indigenous, Afro descendant and campesino communities, the Amazon region holds immense cultural heritage, with languages and traditions dating back to long before the colonization period. Eighty-five percent of the Colombian Amazon is under some form of legal protection with 178 IT, 12 National Natural Parks (PNN), and forest reserves, among other conservation areas. According to data from the Amazon Institute for Scientific Research Sinchi (Sinchi), there may be more than 3,798 species of fauna and about 17,531 species of flora.

6. **Deforestation in Colombia, and particularly in the Amazon[3]<sup>3</sup>, continues to be a major challenge that threatens globally important biodiversity and the ecological landscape connectivity[4]<sup>4</sup> between the Andean, Amazon, and Orinoquian biomes crucial for hydrological regulation, food security, and climate stability.** Besides loss of biodiversity and ecosystem connectivity, deforestation causes changes in regimes of temperature and precipitation, increasing the risk of extreme hydrometeorological events and greenhouse gas emissions, threatening human safety and well-being. Deforestation is the biggest threat to Amazonian ecosystems, fragmenting the landscapes and reducing connectivity. The Colombian Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology, and Environmental Studies (IDEAM) estimates that between 2001 and 2022, Colombia lost over 2.45 million hectares of forest, of which 58 percent occurred in the Amazon. The country witnessed a decrease in deforestation during 2022 and 2023<sup>[5]<sup>5</sup></sup>, including in the Amazon; however, recent reports suggest a 40 percent increase in deforestation in the first quarter of 2024, in comparison to the same period in 2023, which maintains the negative pattern. Forest fragmentation and degradation also affect the Amazon's ecosystems and people's well-being. It has been estimated that to date, 4.9 million hectares of the Amazon region have lost their ecological integrity. Deforestation occurs mostly in areas with large socioeconomic marginalization<sup>[6]<sup>6</sup></sup>, presence of criminal networks, precarious infrastructure and access to public goods and services, and weak state presence. According to IDEAM the main drivers of forest deforestation and degradation are land grabbing, establishment of unsustainable extensive cattle ranching practices, the expansion of unplanned transportation infrastructure, and illegal activities. Environmental crimes, such as illegal gold mining, cultivating crops for illicit uses, wildlife trafficking, and land grabbing, are increasing in the region<sup>[7]<sup>7</sup></sup>.

7. **The country's Integrated Deforestation Control and Forest Management Plan (IDCFMP) aims to transform 28 active deforestation hotspots into forest and biodiversity development nuclei, with a focus on the Amazon.** The IDCFMP is a multi-sectoral strategy that seeks to contribute to reach zero deforestation by 2030, promote forest management and restoration, improve the well-being of local communities, and foster the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services; contributing to environmental leadership of local communities, and peacebuilding processes in the region, where deforestation is closely associated with illicit economies<sup>[8]<sup>8</sup></sup>. The comprehensive national-level strategy aims to intervene in 28 deforestation hotspots that concentrate 70 percent of the areas with the largest forest loss in the country, of which 22 are in the Amazon region in the departments of Meta, Caquetá, Guaviare, and Putumayo. These areas have also been prioritized based on the following criteria: (i) forest area, (ii) historical deforestation patterns/risks, (iii) presence of indigenous people (IP), afro descendants, and local communities, (iv) ecological connectivity, (v) threats of unplanned road infrastructure, and (vi) historical presence of illicit crops. The goal is to turn these territories, whose boundaries were recently adjusted based on agreements with communities, into development nuclei for community-led forestry economy and biodiversity (NDFyB due to its name in Spanish)<sup>[9]<sup>9</sup></sup>. Developing an economy based on forests and biodiversity will contribute to the country's bioeconomy strategy that aims to have 10 percent of the national GDP dependent on this sector by 2030<sup>[10]<sup>10</sup></sup>.

8. **In parallel to the IDCFMP, the Colombian government has deployed the National Restoration Strategy (NRS), that aims to guide the landscape restoration processes towards recovering ecosystem functionality, increasing climate change resilience, and improving economies and communities' well-being.** The strategy aims to restore around 754,000 hectares of degraded landscapes countrywide from 2023-2026 through alliances with the Ministry of Agriculture, local governments, NGOs, and local communities. The government's commitment to conservation and sustainable development led to the creation of the Fund for Life and Biodiversity (*Fondo para la Vida*

y la Biodiversidad - FVyB), which will channel strategic public and private funding to achieve national-level goals. The fund has already financed projects, framed within the Amazon Strategic Investment Lines Program, for public institutions to deliver activities under an integrated vision. Complementary to these efforts, the government operates the Herencia Colombia financial mechanism<sup>[11]</sup><sup>11</sup>, focusing on areas under some form of protection and ensuring a sustainable flow of funding for achieving key conservation goals for the PA system including the Project's areas of intervention. The Project will align with and complement efforts supported by the government via public resources managed by the FVyB, as well as from other international cooperation supporting the IDCFMP, NRS and Herencia Colombia.

9. **The National Environmental System (SINA) is composed of the public institutions in charge of the country's environmental policy, including the abovementioned strategies and plans.** It is led by the Ministry of Environment (Minambiente) who is the responsible entity for the management of the environment and renewable natural resources, guiding and regulating the country's environmental planning and defining the policies to promote the recovery, conservation, protection, management and sustainable use of renewable natural resources to foster sustainable development. The SINA includes PNN, research institutions like IDEAM and Sinchi, and regional environmental authorities, among others. Minambiente leads the implementation of the environmental policy<sup>[12]</sup><sup>12</sup>, strategy and plans, including NRS and the IDCFMP and hosts the FVyB. In the Amazon, key SINA institutions also include Sinchi and the local environmental authorities of the Amazon: Corporation for the Sustainable Development of Southern Amazonia (Corpoamazonia) and the Corporation for the Sustainable Development of the Northern and Eastern Amazon (CDA). Sinchi leads scientific research in the Amazon and generates essential knowledge, information, and data on biological, cultural, ecological, and social characteristics and trends needed for decision-making. Sinchi has been instrumental in promoting value chains for non-timber forest products, and in the design of key participatory methodologies to foster sustainable production systems, informed by research and the use of technology. IDEAM plays a fundamental role in deforestation monitoring and providing early deforestation warning alerts. These institutions have been at the core of the implementation of previous GEF projects and have built the capacity and collaboration mechanism to deliver the proposed one. The National Council for the Fight Against Deforestation (CONALDEF), which consists of multiple ministries and national security agencies with the mission to address and combat environmental crimes, is a key entity within the institutional context relevant for the Project. One of the strategic components of the IDCFMP is institutional strengthening as a key enabler to contain deforestation. The proposed Project, and its institutional arrangement directly involving the SINA agencies, allows for a strong contribution to such component.

---

<sup>[1]</sup> As an example, the lowest levels of internet connectivity occur in the Amazon, Orinoquia, and Pacific regions.

<sup>[2]</sup> <https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/colombia/vulnerability>

<sup>[3]</sup> According to a study from IDEAM and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (Minambiente), the Amazon region contributed an average of 45.67 percent to the total forest degradation in Colombia (Ramírez-Delgado, J.P.; Galindo, G.A.; Yepes, A.P.; Cabrera, E. 2018. *Estimación de la degradación de bosques de Colombia a través de un análisis de fragmentación*).

<sup>[4]</sup> Degree of interaction and exchange of energy, materials, and ecological processes between distinct habitats or ecosystems within a larger landscape.

<sup>[5]</sup> Approx. 35 percent decrease in the Amazon region in 2023 compared to 2022.

<sup>[6]</sup> Evidence of this is the existing correlation between municipalities in the country with the highest levels of violence and poverty, and deforestation. Municipalities of Macarena, Cartagena del Chairá, San Vicente del Caguán, San José del Guaviare and Mapiripán, concentrate 66 percent of the deforestation and reported a multidimensional index of poverty for 73 percent of their population. Source: DANE, D. N. de E. Geovisor indicadores regionales: Índice de Pobreza Multidimensional. (2018).

[7] According to (Cheston, et al., 2023), “The majority of deforestation events occur within 2.3 km of a road. In addition, the vast majority of deforestation (90 percent) occurs outside of National Natural Parks (PNN) and Indigenous Territories despite the fact that they govern 59 percent of the land area.”

[8] Implementation of the IDCFMP considered the need for compliance to the Supreme Court Sentence (4360 of 2018) that declared the Amazon subject of rights and requires the President’s office and line ministries to prepare a plan to halt deforestation. Its implementation also aligns with the global commitments related to Sustainable Development objectives, conservation of biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation, trade of threatened wildlife species, tropical wood, as well as commitments signed in the Escazu Agreement adopted by the country in 2022, and within the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

[9] The definition of the NDFyB defined by the national government is a territory where local communities with their ancestral and traditional knowledge, and the assistance from the State, implement forest and biodiversity sustainable management activities, generating social, economic, and environmental transformations. By community forest and biodiversity economy, the IDCFMP understands the term as the group of activities by which local communities generate social, economic, and environmental transformative initiatives linked with value chains as part of nature-based solutions and bioeconomy.

[10] In 2023, the participation of the forestry sector in the country’s GDP was 0.8 percent. From the income generated by the forestry value chain 29 percent corresponds to the primary extractive and silviculture activities and 71 percent to the transformation.

[11] Herencia Colombia follows the Program for Permanence approach, and its design was supported by a GEF6 project also with the WB as implementing agency.

[12] Colombia has a regulatory framework that is increasingly strengthened, aimed at the protection and sustainable use of forests and biodiversity. To highlight a few, the first of these is Decree 1454 of 1942, which regulated the production and protected forest areas; and the issuance of Law 2A of 1959, that established the protection of land and wildlife. In 1996, the National Forest Policy was established and in 2000, the National Forestry Development Plan was formulated, adopted through the National Strategy for the Consolidation of the National Forestry Development Plan. In 2018, Minambiente launched the Comprehensive Strategy for Deforestation Control and Forest Management as a REDD+ strategy.

## B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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

Deforestation in Colombia and particularly in the Amazon, continues to be a major challenge that threatens globally important biodiversity and the ecological landscape connectivity between the Andean, Amazon, and Orinoquian biomes that is crucial to hydrological regulation and climate stability. In addition to deforestation, degradation of both land and aquatic habitats, loss of connectivity (forest fragmentation) within the Amazon and with other biomes, and loss of biodiversity, affect the Amazon’s ecosystems, their functionality and integrity, and people’s well-being and cultural heritage. As seen in the graphic representation of the theory of change below, there are multiple drivers for these environmental problems. Main drivers, highlighted by the government of Colombia, are unsustainable practices, including extensive cattle ranching and agricultural practices; illegal activities such as land grabbing, illegal gold mining and illicit crops; and the expansion of unplanned transportation infrastructure without proper environmental criteria. These are all reinforced by the increased variability and alterations due to climate change.

There are barriers that justify scaling up ongoing activities and which impede the transformational change necessary to achieve the project’s short-term outcomes (outcomes per components), midterm outcome (PDO) and longer-term vision (ASL’s objective). These barriers include insufficient capacity towards protected area management; financial and technical gaps to extend restoration services to new degraded and fragmented areas; insufficient technical assistance, research, and community capacity towards SLWM practices and bioeconomy value chains; weak access to markets under fair benefit-sharing mechanisms; and insufficient dialogue and coordination towards coherent water and land use planning at multiple scales. Despite being a megadiverse region, there are still gaps in the development of forest products, markets, and

value chains that can generate productive alternatives for the families that live in the region, under fair benefit-sharing mechanisms. In addition, coordinated multisectoral efforts are still required to provide appropriate incentives for coherence in land use planning, conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of key areas in the Amazon. Further details are included in the project component description, but project has been designed considering the need to address the above barriers under the landscape approach logic, shared by the whole ASL program, that states that a well-conserved, connected Amazon biome, providing livelihoods and economic, social and culturally sound opportunities for indigenous people and local communities, and vital ecosystem services for the planet, will be achieved through:

- Strengthening conservation of high biodiversity areas under different regimes, including strengthened management and improved governance (component 1)
- Enhancing sustainable community-based forest management and restoration, transforming high deforestation areas into nuclei of forest and biodiversity inclusive economies, and restoring degraded areas (component 2)
- Reinforcing governance and policies for conservation, restoration, and sustainable development, incorporating environmental criteria into land and water use planning at different scales, enabled by strengthened governance and data from integrated monitoring systems (component 3)
- Ensuring effective coordination, project monitoring, capacity building, knowledge management and exchange at national and regional levels, and communications (component 4).

The proposed Project will address the existing environmental challenges and scale up an integrated pathway of transformation building on previous achievements and with a vision and particular focus to maintain and restore connectivity within the Amazon and between the other highly important ecosystems such as the Andes and the Orinoquia. Positive accomplishments, like the significant reduction of deforestation in 2023 in the Colombian Amazon, have been due to integrated conservation and sustainable development strategies, such as those financed by the previous and current GEF projects and the implementation of sound public policies. This success provides a guide for the scaling up that is still needed so the positive trend reaches all areas in the region.

As stated by the GoC, deforestation is a complex phenomenon that results from profound social and economic inequalities, lack of attention to communities' basic needs, insecurity in land tenure and access rights, presence of illegal groups, uncoordinated government attention, and lack of economic opportunities. Addressing some of the drivers of the environmental challenges in the Amazon like insecurity in land tenure and access rights, presence of illegal groups and crimes, goes beyond the scope of the proposed Project. However, embracing the current political willingness towards the project, significant contributions will be achieved, and mitigation measures will be in place to address potential risks and uncertainties involving the enabling environment. In addition, collaboration with other projects and initiatives (even regional through the ASL) allows to add in a comprehensive set of interventions that addresses the broader magnitude of the drivers of the environmental issues negatively affecting the region. Project level outcomes will be achieved under some key assumptions, including the following. First, that political and stakeholder commitment remains in line with project and program goals, and this results in conducive and coherent legal multi sectoral frameworks and complementary initiatives being materialized. Also, teams will continue succeeding in mitigation measures to address impacts from illicit crimes and communities will have the voluntary option to transform their practices. Finally, that violence does not prevent interventions or deter communities from participating on a large scale.

The project will have a long-lasting impact on local communities, Indigenous Peoples, women organizations in the Amazon, as it will continue providing support to the strategies needed to contain deforestation, foster sustainable development, support the decarbonization of Colombian economy, among others. For Indigenous

Peoples, the project will provide resources to support the strengthening of their government structures, which will may also impact the managing strategies for their land.

The project will provide multiple socio-economic benefits to the diverse set of stakeholders (including all gender identities), from public institutions, local communities, indigenous people, and afro descendants to the broader public. Key benefits include strengthened governance, capacities, and social capital within local communities and technical offices within the environmental public system; increased food security and livelihoods; increased income and employment through participation in bioeconomy value chains with improved production practices and market access; enhanced recognition and value of traditional knowledge and culturally appropriate management practices. Strengthening and improving the relationship between the State and community organizations is also an enabling condition for improving peaceful processes.

### **Project approach and area of intervention**

Project activities will be highly participatory, ranging from all environmental public and scientific authorities with competence in the territory who will become executing partner entities; other sectors (e.g. transport and agriculture) incorporating environmental considerations; the private sector to support bioeconomy value chains; and the local communities and indigenous people who will be active project partners and beneficiaries of the goods and services provided. The participatory approach is included in the project's stakeholder engagement plan (included in the package for GEF endorsement) that refers to the different mechanisms to guarantee a socially and culturally appropriate relationship with all stakeholders, including proper mechanisms for informed consultation and grievance redress.

In addition, the Project will build on existing gender-sensitive strategies (explained in detail in the project's gender action plan) to address, prevent or mitigate gender gaps involving access to and control of natural resource, participation and decision making in environmental planning and governance, and access to socio-economic benefits and services. This includes not only men and women, but other gender identities; as well as a distinction by age so there will be targeted interventions towards youth and elders. For instance, producer organizations led by women will receive priority attention, youth will have targeted capacity building activities, and management plans with indigenous people will incorporate wisdom and traditional knowledge from elders. The Project will utilize participation and stakeholder engagement mechanisms that have already been established and proven successful in the past with gender and ethnic considerations. The project will promote the participation of women in the design and implementation of the different activities established in each component, ensuring that there are adequate mechanisms for their participation and taking into consideration the role that women play in resource management, conservation, and sustainable development. The project will support the strengthening of the governance of women organizations and women within local communities and Indigenous Peoples, to ensure their voices are heard in planning processes, addressing key issues such as food security, education, and income generation. Through component 1 and 2, the project will ensure that women are part of the ecological restoration processes, with special emphasis on restoration to achieve food security, as well as implementation of the different area-based management plans. Capacities will be built within women's organizations for their integration into value chains, providing them with support in the commercialization of non-forest timber and timber forest products. This includes training and access to financial instruments for women-led businesses. Through component 3 and 4, the project will promote the strengthening of capacities of women in conservation, including: ensuring the participation of women in dialogue processes, improvement of capacities to conduct and monitor project activities, integrating women's traditional knowledge, training women through citizen science processes, to strengthen and contribute to forest monitoring processes, generating gender-sensitive information, among others. Being part of the ASL will allow the Project to benefit from the ASL regional project, and lessons from previous ASL phases, enhancing coordination with others in the program and regional initiatives, as well

as both providing and receiving knowledge on matters involved for conservation and sustainable development.

The project intervention area has been strategically prioritized to achieve the project goal to improve connectivity in key areas of the Colombian Amazon<sup>[1]<sup>13</sup></sup>. To integrate the different elements of a landscape approach and contribute to a holistic vision of territorial planning, one project component will focus on those high biodiversity areas under different protection regimes (e.g. protected areas, forest reserves, indigenous reserves, among others), strengthening a representative area of the Amazon effectively conserved, connected and managed; and a second component will focus on deforested areas and corridors, prioritized within government strategies, that need restoration and/or maintenance via sustainable production, forestry, nature based practices that improves socio economic and cultural well-being. Some of the areas selected have been supported via GEF previous and current projects with the rationale to give continuity and scaling up, while other new ones are strategic to achieve project goals. The third component supports the enabling conditions for integrated conservation and sustainable development by strengthening governance and multisectoral policy coherence, supporting water and land use planning instruments, and enhancing a monitoring system that tracks the state and threats to the Amazon's natural resources and the impacts of the interventions to address those.

Ecological connectivity is deemed essential for maintaining the stability and integrity of the natural ecosystems, as it allows for the flow of species, genes and ecological functions, interactions, and services at landscape level and which are vital for human well-being. In terms of the Andes-Amazon connectivity, the Andes and Lowland Amazon constitute a two-way coupled system whereby the lowlands export water vapor that feeds rainfall in the Tropical Andes through aerial rivers, while the Tropical Andes export surface waters to the lowlands. The combined flow of the Andean tributaries contributes about half of the Amazon River's annual water flow, and transports massive quantities of sediments, organic matter, and nutrients to the lowlands<sup>[2]<sup>14</sup></sup>. These two biomes share a complex evolutionary history that supports the landscapes' high biodiversity. Connectivity is a key variable that influences territorial planning and priority areas to conserve, restore and promote the shifts from unsustainable to sustainable forest community economies. The Project intervention area has been strategically prioritized to achieve the project goal to improve connectivity in key areas of the Colombian Amazon and is based on an analysis conducted with the current GEF7 project. The Project will intervene on the ground at local and subnational levels focusing on key connectivity corridors and active deforestation hotspots, as well as in the core areas of high biological and cultural diversity; while policy and strengthened governance will influence broader areas in the Amazon and national-level jurisdictions. The project will continue supporting some of the most strategic national and subnational areas established and/or supported by previous GEF projects and will expand its scope to new areas. The Project also acknowledges studies that indicate the most connectivity of terrestrial, seasonally flooded, and aquatic ecosystems is maintained in IT and PA across the Amazon basin<sup>[3]<sup>15</sup></sup>. A map of the area of intervention has been added to the package for GEF endorsement.

Policy and financial transformations, innovation, learning, and behavior change will be crucial for project success, and will be centered, among others, in the shift from deforestation hotspots to development nuclei that promotes the forestry economy and sustainable management of biodiversity. Key behavioral changes are expected at the farm level building over years of work, with GEF support, that has translated into trusting relationships between communities and the state. As stated by the government, the move from deforestation hotspots to areas of community forest and biodiversity development is a socioecological transformation towards peace and social and environmental justice where the main players will be the local communities. At

the policy level, the Project's contributions to comprehensive government plans and strategies to halt deforestation, conserve areas and restore degraded ones, will involve multiple sectors aligned towards common goals. Enhancing country-level systems and allowing for improved coordination of funding through the government mechanisms will contribute to financial levels of transformation. GEF will serve as a partner of public funding and other international cooperation entities jointly supporting transformational shifts. The shift in productive landscapes, paired with continuous conservation efforts in high biodiversity areas, will directly contribute to global environmental benefits such as biodiversity conservation, reduced GHG emissions, and reduced land degradation. Colombia's efforts will add together with those from 7 other Amazon countries to the ASL program's goal to improve Integrated Landscape Management and Ecosystem Conservation in the Amazon Region.

### Lessons learned

The project builds on experiences from past GEF interventions, including project developed under the GEF 5, 6 and 7 (Heart of the Colombian Amazon, the last two as part of ASL1 and ASL2) in Colombia and in the region, including other countries via the ASL program. Past GEF interventions have been strategic in creating know-how, the methodologies towards effective PA management, the incentive mechanisms to encourage families to commit to sustainable practices (with an emphasis on encouraging women's participation), the approaches to enhance connectivity, and the capacity to address multiple environmental and social challenges. GEF has been the strategic financing source for the Government of Colombia, financing the long-term commitment to conservation and sustainable development over multiple presidencies. The proposed Project, by which the government allocated STAR funding and decided to remain part of the ASL program, enhances such commitment, with an integrated intervention towards conservation, restoration, and sustainable development within prioritized landscapes. GEF's incremental value lies in the combination of continuation, scaling up and a landscape connectivity approach. The Project has high political support as it will directly contribute and align with the Integrated Deforestation Control and Forest Management Plan (IDCFMP) that aims to transform active deforestation hotspots into forest and biodiversity development nuclei (NDFyB due to its name in Spanish)<sup>[4]<sup>16</sup></sup>, and the National Restoration Strategy that aims to guide the landscape restoration processes towards recovering ecosystem functionality, increasing climate change resilience, and improving economies and communities' well-being. Some of the lessons and experiences that will be applied effectively include:

- (a) PA management. While the importance of PAs in achieving biodiversity conservation goals is widely recognized and demonstrated, important lessons have been collected to improve management and/or enforcement. The [guide](#) developed by the government of Colombia with GEF funding for management planning of the country's protected area system, has informed the Project's activities as well as the methodologies to track management effectiveness.
- (b) Engagement with indigenous people. Years of experience working with indigenous communities with GEF- and WB-funded projects, recognizing their traditional knowledge and authority, has set up the foundation for further dialogue towards co-management mechanisms in areas where PAs overlap with IT.
- (c) Social agreements towards conservation, restoration, and sustainable development. The approach and methodology to involve local families in the design of land use plans at farm level, and establish social agreements towards sustainable production and restoration efforts, was originally designed and put in practice by Sinchi Institute under the [GEF-5 financed Heart](#) of the Colombian Amazon; then



transmitted to the regional environmental authorities under GEF-6 financed project that became part of ASL1; and scaled up under GEF-7 financed project part of ASL2. This approach informed the national government in the design of the IDCFMP and the establishment of social agreements which will be developed by this Project in the selected NDFyB.

(d) Bioeconomy. The design of the activities involving bioeconomy value chains and restoration has been informed by years of experience and activities delivered by Sinchi Institute and the regional environmental authorities. The institutional expertise in the process to strengthen bioeconomy business, establishment of value chain and transfer of technology and research was included in the study [Amazon Entrepreneurship](#) written by Sinchi. In addition, activities in the NDFyB will be informed by the [evaluation](#) conducted on the forestry value chain and the strategies designed to strengthen it. The Sinchi Institute also developed the [guide](#) on agroforestry systems for participatory productive restoration, identifying 17 agroforestry models that diversity and improve agriculture and forestry production leading to economic profits while conserving biodiversity, and the [publication](#) on integrated techniques for the establishment of nurseries.

(e) Sectoral agreements. These have been achieved so that environmental conservation policies are adopted by other instances (e.g., extractive industries, infrastructure, tourism). The work by the ASL2 current project of conducting analysis, building the narratives, and convincing arguments to mainstream environmental considerations, and achieving specific legislation will serve the proposed project to continue and scale up such agreements.

(f) Selection of areas. The identification of priority areas for the Project was informed by the study developed by the Sinchi Institute under ASL2 Colombian project to identify and assess the status of strategic biological corridors in the departments of Caquetá, Guainía, Guaviare, Meta, and Putumayo. Forest fragments were analyzed to identify their contributions to the flow of species and services and allowed for an informed land use planning starting from farm level. The study resulted in the identification of [key areas](#) to support connectivity within the Amazon and with neighboring biomes. The study included an assessment of drivers of fragmentation that guided the selection of the proposed Project's activities. Participatory approaches and discussions also led to identify the PAs and IT that needs support under this project.

(g) Gender. Drawing on the experience and lessons on gender, the project will incorporate these including the recommendations from the analysis conducted in ASL1: [Solutions for Women: Lessons for Conservation and Development in the Amazon Region, October 2022](#).

(h) Implementation arrangements. Effective coordination between agencies involved in Project activities will be crucial for project success. The current Heart of the Colombian Amazon GEF7/ASL2 project, which is executed by a single institution with direct involvement of all relevant public environmental entities through interinstitutional agreements, has provided key lessons in institutional coordination, management, and governance. The institutional arrangement for the proposed Project builds on such lessons. The establishment of an executive committee will build on the experience from the previous project, ensuring efficient allocation of roles and responsibilities.

(i) Regional and global lessons. International best practices collected by previous phases of the ASL regional technical assistance, through multi country knowledge activities in several topics including implementation of gender strategies, methodologies for sustainable community tourism, establishment, and maintenance of ecological corridors, have informed the government country teams who will also be involved in the proposed Project implementation. Other interventions supported by the World Bank in neighboring biomes like Orinoquia, as well as in other critical forest biomes in the world has informed the project design and will continue during implementation. Potential exchanges of best practices will be sought.

Overall, successful, long-standing interventions supported by the Government of Colombia (GoC), World Bank, and GEF have shown that an integrated landscape management approach promoting sustainable development alongside conservation objectives can effectively curb deforestation in the Amazon region.

This strategic approach focuses on improving protected area management, increasing legally protected areas, promoting land use planning and degraded area restoration, integrating environmental considerations into economic sectors, and establishing collaborative, participatory, culturally appropriate, and gender-sensitive public-private partnerships and governance mechanisms.

## **Project Components**

The Project has been structured along the following components.

**Component 1 – Conservation of high biodiversity areas under different protection regimes (US\$5.8 million).** The Project will finance technical assistance, workshops, goods, minor works, services, sub-projects, and operational costs to overall achieve two key midterm outcome objectives: 1.1 strengthened management of high biodiversity areas under different regimes, and 1.2. Improved governance of local communities (with gender approaches) and institutions managing areas under different protection regimes. The National Natural Parks System (PNN), Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (referred to as Minambiente) Forest and Biodiversity Unit, CDA and Corpoamazonia and will lead the component's implementation and collaboration within these government authorities, local communities and governments, and conservation NGOs will be fostered. This component has been strategic for past GEF interventions leading to important results such as the expansion of the largest tropical protected area in the world, Chiribiquete, the creation of regional protected areas, and the improved management effectiveness of critical areas with local community active involvement. The Project will operate in a representative set of PAs, indigenous territories, wetland sites of global importance, and conservation areas registered or subject to be registered as OECMs. These areas, covering approximately 9.9 million hectares, include habitats of national and global importance for their carbon sequestration potential and biodiversity, and play a significant role in maintaining the connectivity of ecosystems both at national and transboundary scale. Activities will be bundled in the following subcomponents:

**1.1. Management Plans for prioritized areas under different protection categories designed and implemented.** This will include the following activities: (i) design, update, and implementation of management plans for the national and regional protected areas. Investments will depend on each area's management plan and the need to continue ongoing activities, but it will include those that are part of PNN's Prevention and Surveillance strategy<sup>[5]<sup>17</sup></sup>, patrols, flyovers, monitoring with support from community leaders, research, communication, and awareness raising activities, and maintenance of basic infrastructure and equipment; and (ii) development of sustainable economic activities including nature-based tourism.

**1.2. Indigenous people cultural environmental plans designed and implemented - in coordination with PAs authorities.** This subcomponent will include the participatory design (following proper environmental and social framework instruments) of culturally appropriate management plans for indigenous reserves that overlap with PAs. Implementation of the activities in such plans will be achieved through agreements established between the indigenous and national parks authorities and may include activities to promote alternative livelihoods and food security at farm level, medicinal gardens, recovery of traditional knowledge

including native seeds and crops, and those determined to strengthen indigenous governance systems. Subprojects will also be granted to indigenous communities to implement activities of such plans [6]<sup>18</sup>.

1.3. Selected OECMs areas identified, and management instruments design and/or implemented. The project will (i) support the government in the review of the strategies towards registration and support of OECMs in the Amazon, and potentially official registration of new areas; (ii) design and implementation of management plans for selected OECMs with a focus on connectivity with other conservation areas. Activities within the management plans for OECMs may include support to nature-based tourism, strengthening governance systems, environmental education, and biodiversity monitoring. (iii) At the two Ramsar sites of intervention, activities to implement and monitor their management plans will build on previous GEF-funded interventions and will focus on productive value chains for aquatic goods and services including community tourism.

1.4. Areas under active and passive restoration inside protected areas, Indigenous Territories, and buffer zones. Based on participatory land use planning and social agreements to be established, the Project will support activities to restore and recover degraded areas, through both passive and active approaches. The activities will include the establishment of nurseries and seed collection sites. In indigenous territories, restoration will follow culturally appropriate traditions and practices from the communities.

Through component 1, the project will promote and enable the participation of women in the design and implementation of management plans, considering the roles and responsibilities that women play in resource management, conservation, and sustainable development. The project will also enable the participation of women in restoration processes, considering their specific needs, tradition in the nursery work, and ensuring contribution to food security.

**Component 2 – Sustainable forest management and restoration (US\$9.3 million).** This component will finance technical assistance, workshops, goods, minor works, services, sub-projects, and operational costs to promote a sustainable economy based on timber, nontimber, and aquatic goods and services. Mid-term expected outcomes include: 2.1. Transformational shifts in high deforestation areas towards forest and biodiversity economies, 2.2. Increased capacity for and participation in forestry and biodiversity value chains with gender considerations, and 2.3. Increased area restored or undergoing restoration in key connectivity areas. The focus of the component will be in delivering the steps within the comprehensive development intervention methodology set up by the government in the prioritized NDFyB and other strategic areas for connectivity and community development. The main executing partners will be the Sinchi Institute, CDA and Corpoamazonia, and Minambiente's office in charge of the Green Business program. The component will include the following subcomponents.

2.1. Social agreements strengthened and/or developed towards forestry and biodiversity economies. The social agreements with local communities (including mestizo, indigenous and afro descendants) are the starting point of the transformation expected in the NDFyB and other prioritized areas. Agreements reflect the integrated solutions designed to respond to communities own understanding and needs of development, recognizing their traditional and ancestral knowledge, and under the norms and regulations that allow for the sustainable use of the areas' natural resources. The Project will support either new agreements or continuance of already signed ones. Social agreements will result from socialization and dialogue between communities, institutions, and government entities via existing concertation forums set up by the government like the Department Forest Roundtables and local governance committees [7]<sup>19</sup>. The dialogue and participatory meetings will involve discussion and diagnostic of the main social and environmental challenges and

opportunities for sustainable economies. Participating families of the agreements will commit to transforming their productive systems towards forestry and bioeconomy value chains; and the project will provide technical assistance, goods, and services to success in these efforts. Some of the participating families will most likely be the ones that have previously received support from other GEF interventions so activities will scale up their activities; while others will be identified within the participatory process to be delivered by the Project. Lessons from previous projects to foster women participation in the signing of social agreements will be in place. Peer-to-peer knowledge exchanges will be fostered under the Project.

2.2. Community forestry and biodiversity management plans established and under implementation. The agreements will be followed by the participatory design of the management plans in the NDFyB and other areas of intervention prioritized as strategic to maintain/restore connectivity. Such a design will incorporate existing environmental, social, and economic information about the territory, and will inform and align with forest and other lands and use planning instruments in place. Technical studies to assess the amount of forest products in the territory, including market and financial feasibility analysis may be required in case they have not been developed previously. The design of such plans will be supported by communities' traditional knowledge and science-based technology and will result in a portfolio of interventions with an action plan, budget, and monitoring protocol. Active socialization and consensus-building of the designed management plans will be supported.

The project will support the implementation of activities to operationalize the designed plans promoting bioeconomy value chains. The project will provide goods, services, and grant subprojects<sup>[8]<sup>20</sup></sup> towards landscape management practices, sustainable production practices, transformation techniques and infrastructure to add value, commercialization, marketing, and business management, as well as alternative livelihood activities that translate into increased food security. By strengthening the capacity of the FVyB to execute funds from different sources, the project will facilitate the identification of opportunities to channel funds from international cooperation and private sector towards subsequent implementation of the plans and through different mechanisms as payment for environmental services and other forest incentives.

2.3. Technical assistance services for bioeconomy development delivered, via forest extension programs and a network of forest community organizations. The Project will support forest extension programs to strengthen capacities of key stakeholders and transferring of technology for the development of sustainable productive systems. To ensure sustainability and strengthen forest governance, the project will support the establishment of the regulatory framework for providing technical assistance on bioeconomy. Networks of forest community organizations will be created or strengthened to facilitate exchange of knowledge. Towards implementation of the forest and biodiversity management plans, the Project will finance capacity building activities along the value chain. The Project will support capacity building of forest community organizations, including ones supporting women entrepreneurs and women-led organizations. Practical and hands-on training will be provided in multiple topics such as entrepreneurial planning and management, market development, transformation of products, among others. Provision of forestry assistance services could be provided by consulting services provided with expert organizations.

2.4. Commercial agreements and partnerships with private sector companies established to guarantee markets for selected products. The project will also support the development of business plans adjusted to the existing market and scale of the bioeconomy chains. It will also support events with potential buyers aiming to sign commercial alliances. This will be achieved with support from the Green Business government program. The Project will build on previous experience that executing partners have established with enterprises in the food and cosmetics sectors (Natura Cosmetics, Botanique and Naissant) to develop innovative and differentiated

products using natural ingredients from the Amazon. Support towards licensing and other required registrations and certifications will be provided to the selected value chains.

2.5. Degraded areas in key corridors under restoration processes, within a restoration value chain. The project will finance restoration of key areas with the purpose of restoring connectivity and water recharge areas, as well as increasing areas with agroforestry systems that will bring income to families, as well as food security and alternative livelihoods. The project will finance socialization and participatory planning to identify areas and select the best suitable restoration practices. The type of restoration, recovery and rehabilitation activities will respond to a characterization and analysis, both at a landscape and farm level. Restoration will be conducted under an integrated participatory approach that incorporates beneficiaries' food security, employment, and economic welfare considerations as well as conservation benefits. Active and passive restoration activities will incorporate specific species apt for commercialization and food security, as well as species that favor soil and watershed conservation. Restoration will also happen in Farmer Reserves Zones that are strategic for connectivity. For these zones, support will also be provided by the project to the environmental component of their existing sustainable development plans. The Project will support a restoration value chain approach including the strengthening of nurseries with a gender and income generating perspective; provision of required seedlings and tools; and monitoring by communities and institutions of compliance and success restoration rates. Capacity building for organizations managing nurseries and delivering the restoration activities, will be supported. A network of nurseries will be strengthened, following existing experiences to promote exchange of knowledge lasting beyond project duration.

**Component 3 - Governance and policies for the conservation, restoration, and sustainable development of the project intervention areas (US\$4.6 million).** The Project will finance technical assistance, workshops, goods, services, and operational costs to achieve the following mid-term outcomes: 3.1. Land and water planning with environmental considerations incorporated, 3.2. Strengthened governance for integrated landscape management and connectivity, 3.3. Strengthened monitoring systems at multiple scales delivering timely data to key decision makers. The main executing partners for this component will be all the SINA institutions involved, including several directorates within Minambiente namely Forests and Biodiversity, Sectorial Affairs, and Territorial Planning. This component will include:

3.1. Support to the implementation of policies and regulations for territorial planning and sustainable development. Continuing with previous interventions, support is required to ensure key decision makers incorporate environmental criteria and key information in land use planning instruments. Support will include the operationalization of the Environmental Technical Roundtable in charge of establishing and endorsing recommendations to the development of infrastructure and agricultural activities in the Amazon. In addition, the project will support several of the SINA entities with the responsibility to design and implement planning measures that comply with the Supreme Court Sentence of 2018<sup>[9]<sup>21</sup></sup> that declared the Amazon region as subject of rights.

3.2. Promotion of multisectoral (agriculture, mining and energy, transport infrastructure and tourism) and multilevel (national, subnational, and local) dialogue for land and water use planning incorporating environmental, social and sustainability criteria. This subcomponent will include support to intersectoral working groups, committees, round tables and the like (fostering women and youth participation) to systematize and share knowledge and know-how on land use planning of areas of environmental relevance. Dialogue will be guided by a strategy that will map and characterize key institutional and community stakeholders and identify the proper communication channels to reach the audience needed. These activities will aim to result in agreements on land uses with environmental and sustainability considerations for specific

jurisdictions. The Project will strategically support collaboration and alliances between the communities, forest institutions, local, regional, and national entities fostering dialogue between authorities and local initiatives. Supporting the development of the Department Forest Roundtables will be a key Project activity, scaling up what has been done with the Guaviare department, as they have been designed by the government as the ideal spaces to promote regional and local coordination with key participation of communities, and to design multisectoral agendas towards conservation and sustainable bioeconomies in forest reserves.

**3.3. Strengthening the capacities to key stakeholders for natural resource planning at sub-basin level.** This will include the design and implementation of a capacity building effort aiming to create and strengthen competencies of national sectoral entities, environmental authorities, territorial entities, consulting firms, contractors, productive associations, and the community in general, in terms of sectoral and environmental regulations, strategic planning instruments, land use planning good practices and methodologies, with a priority to those sectors that can potentially drive deforestation. Expert advisors will be secured by the Project to provide the training as well as building capacity of institutions to formulate project proposals that will allow implementation of the legal and policy frameworks designed.

**3.4. Strengthening an integrated forest, carbon, and biodiversity monitoring system at multiple interoperable scales.** The system will support the delivery, systematization and integration of data and analysis at different scales to provide sound monitoring of forest, carbon, and biodiversity status. The scales will include: geo-referenced national data and analysis of the state of the forests, carbon emissions and drivers of deforestation, through IDEAM's national forest and carbon monitoring system; data that show results from community-level agreements for sustainable production and restoration at farm and landscape level, through Sinchi's Mascal system; data on drivers of deforestation in PAs through the prevention and vigilance strategy; and, data coming from community biodiversity monitoring initiatives. The Project will support strengthening the mechanisms for official reporting and dissemination of information related to sustainable forest management, restoration and carbon mitigation; generation, analysis and dissemination of information related to drivers of forest transformation, including community monitoring practices; support operation of monitoring sites; implementation of technological innovations (open access software, mobile applications, artificial intelligence and Big Data) that allows for the creation, use and exchange of information within required standards; establishment of a regional network for information exchange; strengthen a community monitoring system (enhancing the strong existing women leadership) with support from the environmental authorities, providing data to be incorporated in official systems; and, capacity building towards Interoperability between monitoring systems at multiple scales and jurisdictions.

#### **Component 4 – Project management, monitoring, knowledge, and communications (US\$4.6 million).**

This component aims to: 4.1. strengthen national management institutional capacity; 4.2. Increase knowledge management of best practices; 4.3. Deliver effective dissemination of project's progress and lessons. includes the following activities: and, 4.4. Deliver effective monitoring of project's progress and lessons at multiple scales. Component 4 will achieve the following outputs via subcomponents:

##### **4.1. Project execution through national systems, including the establishment of the PIU in charge of ensuring compliance with all legal and technical commitments, conducting fiduciary management and auditing.**

Operation of the Project's governance structures, e.g. the Project Steering Committee and project technical committees, will be included under this component. Besides a core team within Minambiente, the Project will support hiring of focal points to work closely on the field with the key executing partner organizations.

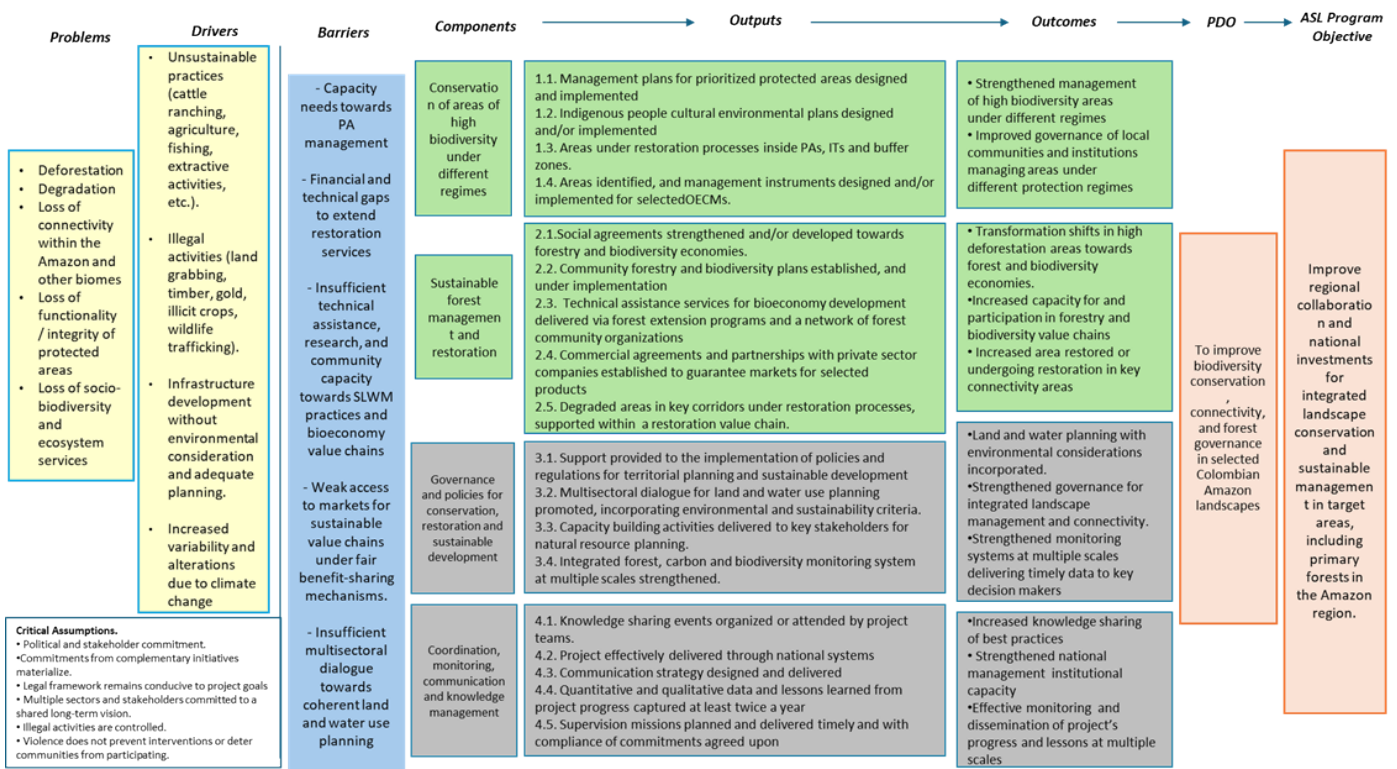
Project execution also entails compliance with environmental and social standards, including the commitments established in the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan and operationalization of the Grievance Redress Mechanism.

4.2. Knowledge management -generation and sharing- and regional dialogue delivered. The project will improve the capacity of key stakeholders through participation in national and regional knowledge-sharing events; design of joint solutions for issues of regional interest; and develop culturally appropriate mechanisms to mainstream protection of traditional knowledge systems. The knowledge management component will include both virtual and in-person study tours, training, mentorships, courses, workshops, and systematization/sharing of Project's lessons. The project will also support training to local communities provided by higher education institutions in environmental topics. Support will be provided to Minambiente to lead the environmental agenda in national and international fora. The Project will support events organized for beneficiaries, as well as co-finance and facilitate participation of project's stakeholders in regional events organized by the ASL regional coordination project.

4.3. Communication strategy. A communication strategy will include activities for internal communication within project stakeholders and executing partners, external for broader audiences, as well as community activities, strengthening networks of young students, education institutions, and professionals interested in learning and putting in practice communications skills. The strategy will acknowledge and incorporate messaging and content such as the ones that contribute to reduce gender imbalances and acknowledge gender differentiated roles in conservation and sustainable development.

4.4. Project monitoring, evaluation, and learning system. A dedicated member of the PIU will oversee collecting information from executing partners to allow timely monitoring and evaluation based on quantitative and qualitative data. Gathering and disseminating lessons from Project's activities will be an essential part of the system. Preparation of bi-yearly technical reports and quarterly ones for the ASL program will be part of this subcomponent as well as preparation and timely delivery of the implementation support missions, midterm and completion reviews, with compliance of commitments agreed upon. The Project's team will also participate in the analysis of the transformational changes expected by the project and ASL program that will be delivered by the ASL regional project.

### Results Chain:



[1] The project has incorporated the results from a GEF financed study to prioritize connectivity areas while also contributing to the national restoration, deforestation control and conservation strategies. The project also acknowledges studies that indicate that most connectivity of terrestrial, seasonally flooded, and aquatic ecosystems is maintained in ITs and PAs.

[2] McClain, M. E. & Naiman, R. J. Andean influences on the biogeochemistry and ecology of the Amazon River. *BioScience* 58, 325–338 (2008).

[3] Josse, C., Futada, S. de M. & von Hildebrand, M. The state of conservation policies, protected areas, and Indigenous territories, from the past to the present. *Nobre Al C Ed. Amaz. Assess. Rep.* (2021).

[4] The national-level strategy aims to intervene in 28 deforestation hotspots that concentrate 70 percent of the areas with the largest forest loss in the country, of which 22 are in the Amazon region in the departments of Meta, Caquetá, Guaviare, and Putumayo. These areas have been prioritized based on the following criteria: (i) forest area, (ii) historical deforestation patterns/risks, (iii) presence of indigenous people, afro descendants, and local communities, (iv) ecological connectivity, (v) threats of unplanned road infrastructure, (vi) historical presence of illicit crops. The goal is to turn these territories into development nuclei for community-led forestry economy and biodiversity. These NDFyB will become territories where local communities with their ancestral and traditional knowledge, and the assistance from the State, implement forest and biodiversity sustainable management activities, generating social, economic, and environmental transformations.

[5] Under the 2012 Resolution 0363, the national system of PAs follows the Strategy of Prevention, Vigilance and Control (PVC). The exact activities within the strategy that the Project will finance within the prevention and vigilance areas will depend on the management plans prepared for each PAs and will be included in the



AOP. However, these may include monitoring activities by park rangers, flyovers, and satellite imagery to identify areas vulnerable to deforestation and fires; as well as community monitoring.

[6] Specific activities for the subprojects, eligibility and selection process will be determined and included in the POM, in compliance with social and environmental standards.

[7] These include different committed and councils, known in Spanish as Asojuntas, Juntas de Acción Comunal, cabildos indígenas, concejos comunitarios, consultivas afrodescendientes, among others.

[8] Specific activities for the subprojects, eligibility and selection process will be determined and included in the POM, in compliance with social and environmental standards.

[9] In the 2018 Sentence 4360, the Supreme Court declared that “for the sake of protecting this vital ecosystem for the future of the planet,” it would “recognize the Colombian Amazon as an entity, subject of rights, and beneficiary of the protection, conservation, maintenance and restoration.” In consequence it ordered the relevant authorities to formulate a series of action plans, including an intergenerational pact, to combat deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions, and climate change with respect to the Colombian Amazon.

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

Please describe the Institutional Arrangements for the execution of this child project, including framework and mechanisms for coordination, governance, financial management and procurement. This should include consideration for linking with other relevant initiatives at country-level (if a country child project) or regional/global level (for coordination platform child project). If possible, please summarize the flow of funds (diagram), accountabilities for project management and financial reporting (organogram), including audit, and staffing plans. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

The Project will be executed by Minambiente through the Fund for Life and Biodiversity (FVyB). This Fund was created as an autonomous patrimony to constitute a mechanism to receive funding from different sources, including the national budget, taxes, donations, and cooperation, to then be sub-granted or allocated via contracts to public institutions, or directly spent in environment project activities. This autonomous patrimony is currently administered by the trustee “Fiduciaria Colombiana de Comercio Exterior S.A. - Fiducoldex. The Fund provides funding to different government entities to support integrated conservation and sustainable development efforts with activities involving ecosystem restoration, forestry economies, payment for environmental services, monitoring, territorial planning along watersheds, environmental justice, restoration, and productive transformations, among others.

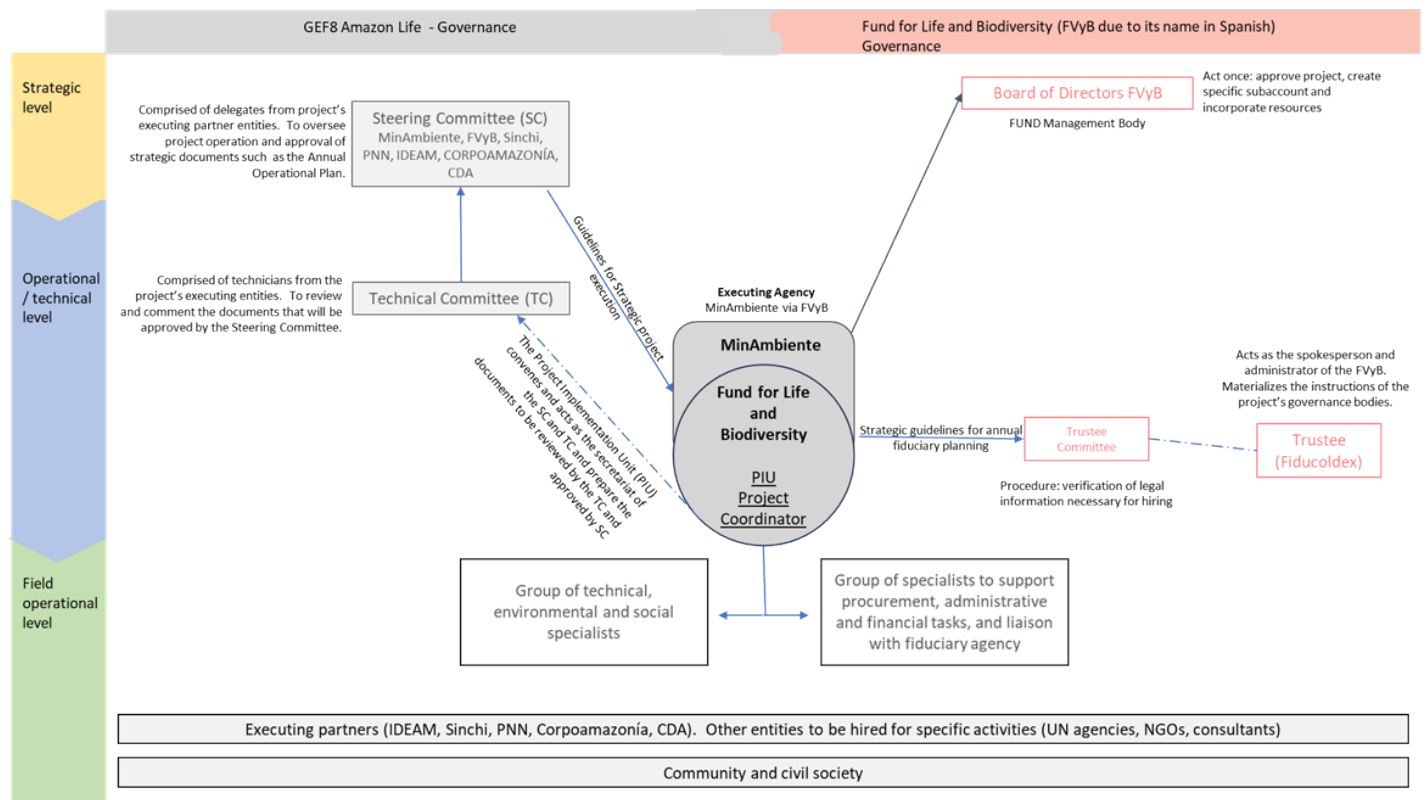
Project implementation will happen in partnership with key environmental public institutions with a clear role, legal mandate and jurisdiction at subnational level in the conservation and sustainable management of the Amazon. Executing partner entities include: IDEAM, SINCHI, PNN, Corpoamazonia and CDA who will sign a single inter-institutional agreement with Minambiente to commit to specific activities to lead according to their technical area of expertise and mandate, and responsibilities as partners on the ground. Minambiente, as the Project implementation agency, will have the overarching responsibility for carrying out the overall institutional coordination within its own departments and the SINA executing partner entities to implement project activities. A partnership-based arrangement for executing the project on the ground at subnational level will consider the different roles and added value of the relevant environmental entities, building on previous projects where collaboration mechanisms have succeeded, and contributing in turn to strengthening forest governance beyond project duration. Other agencies (UN agencies, NGOs, and consultancy firms) may contribute with the delivery of specific outputs and/or provision of services, following agreed WB procedures.

A Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will be established in Minambiente, ensuring coordination within all key technical departments. The PIU will be responsible for the project management, monitoring and evaluation, and contract

management for fiduciary and procurement processes<sup>[1]22</sup>. The PIU will chair the Project’s governance committees, prepare all planning and reporting documents and instruments, conduct monitoring and evaluation, and be the key counterpart with the Bank. A project operational manual (POM) will be prepared by Minambiente for Bank approval with details on operationalization of the Project’s procedures and arrangements, with specific one for operation of subprojects. A project executive committee comprised of Minambiente, delegates from partner executing entities and Fiducoldex will be established for general oversight and key decision making. A technical committee will also be established for the Project. This will consist of the technical focal points within the partner executing entities, chaired by the project coordinator, and will act as an extended implementation unit. Representatives from other institutions involved in the Project, as well as beneficiary communities, may be invited as needed.

**Fiduciary.** Fiducoldex will be responsible for managing grant funds acting as fiduciary agent for the FVyB, under the provisions of the fiduciary agreement in force entered between Minambiente (acting as FVyB’s Trustee) and Fiducoldex. GEF funds will be received as advances to a designated account to be set at Fiducoldex. The PIU will prepare annual budget and operational plans for the Project which will be reviewed and approved by the project’s executive committee. Fiducoldex will keep accounting records and issue periodic financial reports and statements. Financial reporting arrangements will ensure that total Project investment is incorporated in the Project financial reports and audited financial statements. An independent audit firm acceptable to the World Bank will conduct the project audits, under acceptable audit terms of reference. Procurement under the Project will adhere to the World Bank’s Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (fifth edition, dated September 2023), with Minambiente serving as the executing agency responsible for the procurement activities and Fiducoldex as the management of the project's procurement, contracting, and payment processes.

### Institutional Arrangements Organigram:



---

[1] Terms of reference for key members of the PIU has been included in the GEF package. This will be refined, submitted and approved by the World Bank as per procurement policies and guidelines.

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

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

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

Addressing the challenges facing the Colombian Amazon requires a collective effort involving a wide range of stakeholders and other initiatives and projects. Project design has taken, and future implementation will take into consideration complementarities with other programs led by World Bank and its partners, avoiding overlaps and establishing synergies. This will be the case, particularly for those partners supporting interventions in other NDFyB that have been prioritized by the government. Other institutions with public and international cooperation funding are supporting the implementation of the government's deforestation control plan in other active deforestation hotspots following the mandated approach, and so it's expected that Minambiente will promote exchange and cooperation between executing and implementing agencies as well as community stakeholders to share best practices and approaches. In addition, several institutions finance the protected area system in the region as well as activities in indigenous territories. The Project's institutional arrangement where the main environmental public institutions are the ones delivering activities on the ground, will enable cooperation as they are also involved in most of the other initiatives and projects. The institutions' technical expertise will then flow between projects.

It is worth mentioning the REDD Early Movers (REM) project, Vision Amazonia, financed by Germany, Norway, and the United Kingdom and with whom complementarities have been sought with previous GEF-financed interventions. Complementarity with Visión Amazonía is straightforward as the program seeks to reduce deforestation emissions in the Colombian Amazon, through a sustainable development model, which promotes forest protection strategies and the sustainable use of natural resources, while empowering local communities and indigenous people for low deforestation development and will also intervene in selected NDFyB[1]<sup>23</sup>. Complementarities with this program, that initiated in 2015, have been secured with previous GEF-financed interventions and will continue with the proposed Project in activities related to the NDFyB as well as other components related to indigenous governance, capacity building and multisectoral planning. Also, both projects will continue supporting the Forest and Carbon Monitoring System. In addition, the Interamerican Development Bank (IDB), with whom the World Bank has a memorandum of understanding to enhance collaboration to jointly scale up financing for development and fight climate change in the Amazon region, is also supporting one NDFyB. Ongoing conversations with the Bank's International Finance Corporation, may result in opportunities for bringing private sector support to the proposed value chains. GCF also financed a project to be implemented by FAO supporting deforestation control in the Colombian Amazon. Among other partners, Frankfurt Zoological Society and Germany with its Legacy Landscapes Fund, recently launched a financial mechanism to fund the management plan of Chiribiquete National Park for at least 30 years, complementing the Project's activities in this area. The Project will also coordinate with the collective effort to support Herencia Colombia, a strategy designed with support from GEF6 funding to provide financial sustainability to the protected area system. Synergies will be established with the project being prepared in Colombia under the GEF-8 financed Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program. Minambiente and particularly the office of international cooperation, has

the role to promote coordination between cooperation agencies and public institutions, and will facilitate identification of additional complementarities and synergies.

Finally, together with the IDB, the WB leads a donor working group in the country with multilateral and bilateral agencies supporting interventions in the Colombian Amazon. This recurring space for dialogue and exchange, which also receives technical advice from the Banks's ASL regional team, will facilitate identification of complementary activities among partners. Coordination will also happen with other GEF-funded projects like the one from the Global Program for Wildlife and Conservation and others within the Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program.

[1] Amazon Vision Program is structured along five pillars that fully align with the Project's components: a) Forest Governance; b) Sectoral Agreements; c) Agro-environmental Production Systems and Agreements with Farmer Associations; d) Agreements with Indigenous Communities; e) Enabling conditions, including the Forest and Carbon Monitoring System, National Forest Inventory, communications, and operability.

## Table On Core Indicators

### Core Indicators

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
7320637	8063882.92	0	0

#### Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

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

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
----------------------------	---------	---------------	----------------------------	--	----------------------------	---------------------------

#### Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
7320637	8063882.92	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
----------------------------	---------	---------------	----------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------	---------------------------	--	------------------------------	-----------------------------

Orito Ingi Ande Flora Sanctuary	555511938	Wilderness Area	10,204.00	10,424.70			81.00		
Picachos National Park	134	National Park	447,740.00	447,740.00			66.00		
Alto Fragua Indi Wasi National Park	303541	National Park	68,000.00	76,094.00			67.00		
Cerritos, Capricho, Mirolindo Forest Protection Reserve		Others	6,947.00	6,947.00			34.00		
Distrito de Conservación de Suelos Bajo Guayabero		Others		58,961.00			36.00		
Distrito de Conservación de Suelos Serranía de Los Churumbelos		Others		3,505.50					
Distrito de Conservación de Suelos y Aguas del Caquetá	555745272	Others		255,972.00					
Estrella Fluvial del Inírida (Ramsar Site)	555624139	Others		250,159.00					
La Paya National Park	9400	National Park	422,000.00	440,101.00			62.00		
Lagos de Tarapoto (Ramsar site)	555637342	Others		45,464.00			47.00		
Micro watersheds in Inírida municipality		Others		76.00			48.00		

Nukak National Reserve	19992	National Park	874,799.00	874,891.00			56.00		
PNN Amacayacu	135	National Park	267,481.00	267,480.32			73.00		
PNN Serranía de Chiribiquete	19984	National Park	4,265,548.00	4,259,805.40			77.00		
Regional PA Laguna Brujas		Others		529.00			34.00		
Regional PA Miraflores Picachos	555697776	Others		106,554.00			42.00		
Serranía de Churumbelos Auka Wasi National Park	555511941	National Park	97,819.00	97,404.00			62.00		
Serranía de la Lindosa Forest Protection Reserve	555697727	Others	28,224.00	28,224.00			36.00		
Sierra de la Macarena National Park	130	National Park	630,000.00	619,547.00			58.00		
Tingua National Park	19995	Strict Nature Reserve	201,875.00	213,793.00			57.00		
Wetland complex in Mitu municipality		Others		211.00					

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
8000	8000	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	4,000.00	4,570.00		
----------	----------	----------	--	--

### 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)
2,500.00	2,523.00		

### 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)
Natural grass	500.00	623.00		

### 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)
1,000.00	284.00		

### 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)
5350427	4667379.8	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)
3,601,011.00	2,909,964.80		

### 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)
1,749,416.00	1,757,415.00		

### 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)

Aduche		192,303.00		
Areas to be supported to be determined (as per review of government strategy)			200,000.00	
Bajo Guayabero Regional Protected Area	555745272	255,892.00		
Caqueta Land and Water conservation District	555745272		255,972.00	
Complex of indigenous reserves overlapping La Paya		43,952.00		
El Itilla		8,482.00		
Estrella Fluvial del Inírida	555624139	248,824.00	250,159.00	
Lagos de Tarapoto	555637342	44,119.00	45,463.96	
Llanos del Yará -Yaguará		146,500.00		
Mesay		7,072.00		
Mirití Paraná		1,577,949.00		
Monochoa		416,970.00		
Nunuya de Villa Azul		264,470.00		
Parque Municipal Natural Andakí	555721603	26,826.00		
Puerto Zábalo - Los Monos		623,544.00		

#### Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

#### Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (direct)</b>	11100000	22409633.2825151	0	0
<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (indirect)</b>	0	0	0	0

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (direct)</b>	11,100,000	22,409,633.2825151		
<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (indirect)</b>				
<b>Anticipated start year of accounting</b>	2024	2024		
<b>Duration of accounting</b>	20	20		

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

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



Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

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

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

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

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)

**Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments**

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
<b>Female</b>	8,000	21,957		
<b>Male</b>	12,000	26,739		
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>48,696</b>	0	0

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

During project preparation, the Project targets within the Core indicators were reviewed taking into consideration realistic estimates of the activities and costs to deliver.

CI 1: The target corresponds to the sum of 21 intervention areas including National Parks and regional PAs: Chiribiquete, Alto Fragua Indiwasi, Churumbelos, Orito Ingiande, Paya, Nukak, La Macarena, Tinigua, Cordillera de los Picachos, Amacayacu, Miraflores-Picachos, Cerritos-Capricho-Mirolindo, Serrania La Lindosa-Angosturas II, Distrito de Conservación de Suelos Bajo Guayabero. Distrito de Conservación de Suelos Serranía de Los Churumbelos, Wetlands Complex in Mitu, Laguna Brujas.

No new protected areas will be created or expanded with the Project funding. The project will continue improving management effectiveness in prioritized national and regional PAs considered strategic for their connectivity with other PAs, increased deforestation risks and the pristine conservation status that requires protection. Collection of individual METT scores will allow tracking of individual PA progress and provide the needed information to track this indicator. Tracking of overall progress acknowledges the fact that the project's PAs have distinct degrees of consolidation, which depend inter alia on governance aspects and institutional capacity of their management authority. Also, the expected METT score improvements are greater at lower effectiveness levels than at relatively higher levels. Maintaining the same METT score is considered a positive outcome as it reflects positive containment of pressures over the PAs. The Project team will undertake METT measurements annually to check performance with respect to set targets, and report the core indicator for the areas of those PAs whose effectiveness has improved within target. The Government of Colombia has set up (with GEF funding support) its own system to track management effectiveness which, if needed, will be adapted to the METT metrics to report.

Table 1 presents the baseline scores and annual targets estimated for each PA. Reports from the PIU will provide further information, qualitative analysis and reasoning about the improvements accomplished and reflected in the METT.

Table 1: Target METT scores for the Areas of intervention attached in the project roadmap.

CI 3. Passive and active restoration activities will be supported within PAs and in key corridors for connectivity, farmer reserve zones and productive landscapes in the vicinity of PAs, following established restoration protocols. Executing partner entities will support monitoring of hectares under restoration with follow up visits to ensure plants are growing properly. The project will maintain areas restored with financing by the GEF7 project as well as restoring new areas. The total amount of 8,000 hectares restored include all the different ecosystems as indicated by GEF as sub-indicators: degraded agricultural lands, forest and forest land, natural grass and woodlands, wetlands.

CI 4: The target measures, in hectares, the land area with new and/or improved sustainable landscape management practices outside of protected areas. Includes the areas supported by the project’s Component 2 and the indigenous reserves where management plans, through Component 1 activities, have been designed and implemented. The 4.67 million hectares include Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (which in turn also include the 0.75M of OECMs) and Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems.

CI 6: The Colombian Forest and Carbon Monitoring system will be the main source of information. The 22.4 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e of GHG mitigated were calculated using the EX-ACT tool (Version 7 – multilanguage edition), considering the following parameters: area of interest of 9.87 million natural forest under some form of protection (National and regional parks and reserves, indigenous territories, Ramsar sites, and other areas for conservation), and 8,000 hectares of forest and other ecosystems restored in the active deforestation hotspots. Reference period: 2012-2022, average annual deforestation: -0.204%, reporting period: 5 years of project implementation plus additional 15 years). The reference period provides the indication of deforestation in a scenario without project, -0.204%: 30,408 hectares. These are then estimated as the hectares of deforestation avoided in a scenario with project. This reference period is the same one as the one included in the most recent report submitted by Colombia to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

CI 11: The calculation of beneficiaries is based on number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment. This indicator captures the number of individual people who receive targeted support (monetary and non-monetary) from the GEF project and/or who use the specific resources that the project maintains or enhances. It includes farmers, indigenous people and members of organizations and public agencies that will directly benefit from the project including those signing conservation, non-deforestation and restoration agreements.

## Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		

Climate	Moderate	<p>Expected higher temperature (mainly in Amazon department) may affect agroforestry and restoration investments by reducing survival rates of seedlings when planted, reducing expected growth rates or increasing area loss rates. Anthropogenic drivers of damage to forest ecosystems may moderately increase in the future. In addition, planting project activities could be impacted by flooding events mainly in the early years of establishment. Although some project areas may be impacted by floods and increase in temperature, project design has addressed the relevant hazards directly in order to reduce the level of risk to its outcome/service delivery. Project activities (Policy implementation, conservation, restoration and non-deforestation agreements, incentive structures, multisectoral strategies and agreements, land use planning, capacity building, knowledge exchange, prevention, vigilance, monitoring and control strategies, among others) contribute to this purpose, while directly influencing context. In addition, sustainable forestry and livelihoods, and restoration investments aimed at increasing connectivity between protected areas, together with gender sensitive ecosystem-based approaches have also been designed to reduce deforestation and degradation rates in the Amazon, increasing the region's resilience</p>
Environmental and Social	Substantial	<p>Social risk is rated substantial. Risks include: a) contextual risks related to safety and security for IPs and local communities and project workers; b) recent environmental projects, including those associated with carbon markets, have generated tensions among the indigenous communities involved; c) potential restrictions of access to natural resources used by communities possibly affecting their livelihoods during the transition to new sustainable practices. Environmental risk is moderate. Significant benefits to forest conservation in high biodiversity areas are expected from project activities stemming from the strengthening of PAs, forest conservation and restoration agreements, and sustainable use of natural resources, contributing towards ecological connectivity and sustainable landscape management. Potential temporary, localized, and reversible risks and impacts may arise from investments in bioeconomy value chains (timber from community forestry, non-timber and aquatic goods and services), community tourism, pest management in agriculture and reforestation activities, eventual construction of small structures in remote areas for PA vigilance and control or facilities for product transformation. Most of these impacts are expected to be prevented or minimized through the adoption of best practices and preventive and mitigatory measures. Environmental and Social standard instruments are to be prepared, following the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan to be signed during project negotiations.</p>
Political and Governance	Moderate	<p>The GoC's commitment to the Project is high as it contributes to strategic government programs and plans for the region. As the project contributes with key public sector strategies and policies, even some lasting beyond government periods, and will strengthen the financial mechanism created by the government to channel public and international cooperation sources of</p>

		financing there is moderate political risk of impacts on the project's objectives.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Moderate	The proposed project scales up interventions approved by the Bank and under implementation since 2015 that have been considered satisfactory and include appropriate mitigation measures for the risks. The project will align and support implementation of policies conducive to integrated conservation and sustainable development. The project is built with the solid grounds of the environmental institutional arrangements in the region
Technological	Low	The project is deemed technically sound. It builds on the experiences from previous projects and the technical capacity of key implementing partners. Investments in sustainable management practices and transformation of forestry value chains will be based on technology, local and traditional knowledge, and methods that have proven successful. To support technically sound implementation, the Project will utilize – and feed into – existing knowledge systems, such as the Territorial Environmental Information System of the Colombian Amazon coordinated by SINCHI (SIAT-AC, by its Spanish acronym) and IDEAM's SMBByC. Knowledge sharing will happen at local, subnational, and national levels and with peers from 7 other Amazon countries involved in the ASL program. In addition, all investments will be designed in consultation with communities to respond to local conditions.
Financial and Business Model	Moderate	The project is expected to provide three benefit streams: (i) ecosystem services from biodiversity conservation and avoided deforestation, (ii) carbon storage and sequestration from integrated management effectiveness; and (iii) landscape restoration and transitioning to sustainable, productive value chains of forestry goods and services that have positive social and private returns. If project implementation is effective and efficient, project-supported investments will bring substantial financial and economic benefits to local communities in the project area and Colombian society in general. Value chains for bioeconomy products will be supported based on business models.
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Substantial	Minambiente does not have experience directly coordinating similar projects under WB policies and procedures. Special attention and support will be required by the WB team to build the capacity. For mitigation measures, Minambiente has been involved in previous WB projects and thus there is some knowledge that is expected to be shared within the institution's staff. Also, the arrangements for implementation on the ground include the involvement of other institutions within SINA that have capacity and experience from previous projects. Finally, the project will provide support and technical assistance to strengthen the institutional capacity of Minambiente and the partner executing agencies.
Fiduciary	Substantial	Grant funds will be disbursed to the Trust of Foreign Trade (Fiducoldex), acting as fiduciary agent of Minambiente. Considerations to assess the risk

		include: (i) institutional arrangements with multiple entities and executing partners will require coordination efforts across government institutions; (ii) Minambiente and Fiducoldex’s lack of experience in implementing Bank-financed projects; (iii) limited experience of the Life Fund to adequately manage grant funds to ensure that they are properly utilized to finance eligible activities and expenditures within the scope of the Project, and adequately recorded and accounted for; (iv) the contract between the Minambiente and Fiducoldex expires before the proposed Project implementation period ends. This could jeopardize the continuity of the Project. The mitigation measures to address these risks will be informed and designed during project preparation and will depend on the full Financial Management (FM) and a Procurement capacity assessment that is being conducted for Minambiente and Fiducoldex. Mitigation measures to ensure project funds are used economically and efficiently, and for the purpose intended, may include: (i) providing to the PIU to be hired with project funding training and capacity building in World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers and the Bank fiduciary requirements for IPF operations; (ii) including provisions in the grant agreement to ensure Project implementation with proper fiduciary services for the FVyB are not interrupted. The fiduciary risk rating will be updated as needed during Project preparation
Stakeholder	Low	Stakeholder Participation Risk is rated Low. Almost 10 years of engagement in the Amazon in the areas of intervention with previous projects, establishing community-level agreements, will facilitate promoting stakeholder participation and active dialogue with all key stakeholders.
Other	Substantial	Security: Unstable political conditions, environmental crimes, and social unrest could weaken governance in the Project’s intervention areas. Illegal armed groups and threats to social and environmental leaders are present in some target areas, thereby increasing risks to project teams and community leaders. Conflict and social unrest are not new to the region, and despite difficult circumstances, projects on the ground have achieved their objectives. Enhancing the capacity of state agencies and institutions at the departmental and at the national level under previous projects and the proposed one has and will help increase state presence in critically underserved areas improving engagement with civil society, which is key for sound peace processes. That said, insecurity does create challenges to project implementation and affects all institutions, regardless of their capacity levels. To mitigate the risk, the Project management team will develop a security risk management protocol, that requires monitoring of reports issued by relevant security agencies, and restricting field visits when information is received about military activities in the intervention areas. The protocol will build on existing ones prepared for other Bank projects and the executing agencies, with recommendations from the Bank’s security team.

Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	
---------------------	----------	--

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

Explain how the proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies, including the specific integrated program priorities, and country and regional priorities, Describe how these country strategies and plans relate to the multilateral environmental agreements, such as through NDCs, NBSAPs, etc.

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)

Colombia is party to several international environmental agreements, including the CBD, the UNFCCC, the Paris Agreement, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the CITES, the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, and the Convention on Migratory Species. Colombia has committed to reduce GHG emissions by 51% by 2030 and to meet the new Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) targets. The Project will support compliance with these conventions and agreements. Through the activities and specific outcomes, the Project will contribute to multiple GBF targets; namely, Target 1 (land planning), Target 2 (restoration), Target 3 (30X30), Target 4 (wildlife and threatened species), Target 5 (sustainable harvesting), Target 6 (reduction invasive species), Target 8 (climate change mitigation), Target 9 (wildlife management), Target 10 (sustainable forestry, fisheries, agriculture), Target 11 (nature’s contribution to people), Target 13 (benefit sharing), Target 14 (biodiversity at decision-making level), Target 16 (waste and overconsumption), Target 18 (positive incentives towards conservation), Target 19 (Mobilize funding), Target 20 (technical cooperation), Target 21 (access to information), Target 22 (Participation and justice).

The Project is aligned with international and national strategies to conserve the Amazon region and stop deforestation and biodiversity loss, support the development of sustainable economies, reduce GHG emissions, among others. The Project is aligned with the GEF’s Strategy on Forests, whose overarching goal is to “maintain, preserve, and restore the integrity and functioning of forest biomes, primarily in tropical areas” through investments and governance strengthening. The proposed project will support a pathway for conservation, restoration and sustainable development that leads to an equitable, nature-positive and carbon neutral Amazon region. The project will ensure GEF funding addresses drivers of environmental degradation, protects major global environmental assets, helps promote needed transitions in economic systems, and support enhancement of policy coherence. In particular, the Project will contribute to this GEF8 forest strategy and directions by:

- Protecting intact forests that are found within protected areas. This will be done at a national and subnational level through monitoring, prevention and control of deforestation, preventive actions to stop the expansion of illegal and/or ill-planned infrastructure, strengthening indigenous people and local communities’ governance, among others.
- Strengthening OEMCs and other conservation regimes, including Ramsar sites, other conservation strategies and farmer reserve zones.
- Maintaining and restoring ecological corridors that connect the Amazon with other ecosystems.

- Developing sustainable economies around bioeconomy and forestry management with indigenous people, local communities and governmental entities.
- Having cross-cutting actions derived from the SEP and Gender Action Plan, ensuring adequate engagement and participation of different stakeholders.
- Developing capacities towards better planning of sectoral development and in the prevention of ill-planned infrastructure.
- Strengthening multi-scale and multi-stakeholder governance.

At the regional level, Colombia is a party to and active member of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and its Organization (ACTO), which works to promote the harmonious development of the signatories' Amazonian territories. At the national level, the National Development Plan (NDP) 2022-2026 "Colombia. Potencia de Vida" has five overarching goals, including the development of land use planning mechanisms around water, and achieving a productive transformation that is in line with climate action. Through the NDP, the government aims to restore and rehabilitate around 754,000 hectares of degraded ecosystems, reduce deforestation by 20 percent, and mitigate 2.14 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> within the transportation sector. To achieve such goals, the country will need to transform from a climate vulnerable to a more climate resilient development pathway, including transitioning to a net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions economy. The country's Integrated Deforestation Control and Forest Management Plan (IDCFMP) aims to transform 28 active deforestation hotspots into forest and biodiversity development nuclei, with a focus on the Amazon. The IDCFMP is a multi-sectoral strategy that seeks to contribute to reach zero deforestation by 2030, promote forest management and restoration, improve the well-being of local communities, and foster the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services; contributing to environmental leadership of local communities, and peacebuilding processes in the region, where deforestation is closely associated with illicit economies<sup>[1]</sup><sup>24</sup>. The comprehensive national-level strategy aims to intervene in 28 deforestation hotspots that concentrate 70 percent of the areas with the largest forest loss in the country, of which 22 are in the Amazon region in the departments of Meta, Caquetá, Guaviare, and Putumayo. These areas have also been prioritized based on the following criteria: (i) forest area, (ii) historical deforestation patterns/risks, (iii) presence of indigenous people (IP), afro descendants, and local communities, (iv) ecological connectivity, (v) threats of unplanned road infrastructure, and (vi) historical presence of illicit crops. The goal is to turn these territories, whose boundaries were recently adjusted based on agreements with communities, into development nuclei for community-led forestry economy and biodiversity (NDFyB due to its name in Spanish)<sup>[2]</sup><sup>25</sup>. Developing an economy based on forests and biodiversity will contribute to the country's bioeconomy strategy that aims to have 10 percent of the national GDP dependent on this sector by 2030<sup>[3]</sup><sup>26</sup>.

In parallel to the IDCFMP, the Colombian government has deployed the National Restoration Strategy (NRS), that aims to guide the landscape restoration processes towards recovering ecosystem functionality, increasing climate change resilience, and improving economies and communities' well-being. The strategy aims to restore around 754,000 hectares of degraded landscapes countrywide from 2023-2026 through alliances with the Ministry of Agriculture, local governments, NGOs, and local communities. The government's commitment to conservation and sustainable development led to the creation of the Fund for Life and Biodiversity (Fondo para la Vida y

la Biodiversidad - FVyB), which will channel strategic public and private funding to achieve national-level goals. The fund has already financed projects, framed within the Amazon Strategic Investment Lines Program, for public institutions to deliver activities under an integrated vision. Complementary to these efforts, the government operates the Herencia Colombia financial mechanism<sup>[4]</sup><sup>27</sup>, focusing on areas under some form of protection and ensuring a sustainable flow of funding for achieving key conservation goals for the PA system including the Project's areas of intervention. The Project will align with and complement efforts supported by the government via public resources managed by the FVyB, as well as from other international cooperation supporting the IDCFMP, NRS and Herencia Colombia. No known policies will contradict intended project outcomes.

---

[1] Implementation of the IDCFMP considered the need for compliance to the Supreme Court Sentence (4360 of 2018) that declared the Amazon subject of rights and requires the President's office and line ministries to prepare a plan to halt deforestation. Its implementation also aligns with the global commitments related to Sustainable Development objectives, conservation of biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation, trade of threatened wildlife species, tropical wood, as well as commitments signed in the Escazu Agreement adopted by the country in 2022, and within the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

[2] The definition of the NDFyB defined by the national government is a territory where local communities with their ancestral and traditional knowledge, and the assistance from the State, implement forest and biodiversity sustainable management activities, generating social, economic, and environmental transformations. By community forest and biodiversity economy, the IDCFMP understands the term as the group of activities by which local communities generate social, economic, and environmental transformative initiatives linked with value chains as part of nature-based solutions and bioeconomy.

[3] In 2023, the participation of the forestry sector in the country's GDP was 0.8 percent. From the income generated by the forestry value chain 29 percent corresponds to the primary extractive and silviculture activities and 71 percent to the transformation.

[4] Herencia Colombia follows the Program for Permanence approach, and its design was supported by a GEF6 project also with the WB as implementing agency.

## D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

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

Yes

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

Yes

---



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

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes

### Stakeholder Engagement

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

Yes

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

Consulted only;

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

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor; **Yes**

Other (Please explain)

### Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the Child project?

Yes

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

Yes

### Environmental and Social Safeguards

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

Yes

Please provide overall Project/Program Risk Classification

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
	High or Substantial		

## E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

### Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described during Project Preparation in the Project Description and that these activities have been budgeted and an anticipated timeline for delivery of relevant outputs has been provided. This includes budget for linking with and participation in knowledge exchange activities organized through the coordination platform.

Yes

### Socio-economic Benefits

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

The project will provide multiple socio-economic benefits to the diverse set of stakeholders (including all gender identities), from public institutions, local communities, indigenous people and afro descendants to the broader public. Key benefits include strengthened governance, capacities, and social capital within local communities and technical offices within the environmental public system; increased food security and livelihoods; increased income and employment through participation in bioeconomy value chains with improved production practices and market access; enhanced recognition and value of traditional knowledge and culturally appropriate management practices.

Please see PAD and ESS documents for additional information.

## ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

### GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
------------	------------	---------------------------------	------------	-------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------	-----------------------------

World Bank	GET	Colombia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	Grant	13,692,661.00	1,232,339.00	14,925,000.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	Grant	4,564,220.00	410,779.00	4,974,999.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	Grant	2,711,009.00	243,991.00	2,955,000.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Climate Change	CC IP Matching Incentives	Grant	903,669.00	81,330.00	984,999.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: IPs	Grant	1,807,339.00	162,661.00	1,970,000.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Land Degradation	LD IP Matching Incentives	Grant	602,446.00	54,220.00	656,666.00
<b>Total GEF Resources (\$)</b>						<b>24,281,344.00</b>	<b>2,185,320.00</b>	<b>26,466,664.00</b>

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Was a Project Preparation Grant requested? true

PPG Amount (\$) 183487

PPG Agency Fee (\$) 16511

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	68,808.00	6,192.00	75,000.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	41,285.00	3,715.00	45,000.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: IPs	27,523.00	2,477.00	30,000.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	22,936.00	2,064.00	25,000.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Climate Change	CC IP Matching Incentives	13,761.00	1,238.00	14,999.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Land Degradation	LD IP Matching Incentives	9,174.00	825.00	9,999.00

<b>Total PPG Amount (\$)</b>	<b>183,487.00</b>	<b>16,511.00</b>	<b>199,998.00</b>
------------------------------	-------------------	------------------	-------------------

Please provide Justification

### Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	15,000,000.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	3,000,000.00
World Bank	GET	Colombia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	2,000,000.00
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>20,000,000.00</b>

### Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
CFB Amazon IP	GET	24,281,344.00	182637837
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>24,281,344.00</b>	<b>182,637,837.00</b>

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

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (Fund for Life and Biodiversity)	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	20000000
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	507943
Recipient Country Government	IDEAM	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	1159813
Recipient Country Government	Sinchi Institute	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	53329880
Recipient Country Government	Humboldt Institute	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	150000

Recipient Country Government	Corpoamazonía	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4011677
Recipient Country Government	Corpoamazonía	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	10161053
Recipient Country Government	CDA	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	546924
Recipient Country Government	CDA	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	13528525
Recipient Country Government	National Park Authority	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5142022
Recipient Country Government	National Park Authority - HeCo	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	6000000
Civil Society Organization	Frankfurt Zoological Society	Grant	Investment mobilized	5000000
Donor Agency	Norway/UK/ Germany (REDD+ Early Movers II)	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	20000000
GEF Agency	World Bank	Loans	Investment mobilized	42300000
Donor Agency	FAO (GCF)	Grant	Investment mobilized	800000
<b>Total Co-financing</b>				<b>182,637,837.00</b>

### Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

Investment mobilized corresponds to 62% of the total cofinancing. This has been secured mostly with bilateral/multilateral sources that have ongoing and potential interventions in the region, as well as public investment channeled via the Life and Biodiversity Fund that includes resources from the carbon tax and from the country's general budget. The REDD Early Movers (REM) Vision Amazonia project, financed by NICFI- KFW-GIZ-UK (Defra), will be an important co-financier and partner, as in previous GEF interventions. Investment mobilized has also been secured by the National Parks Authority towards the Chiribiquete National Park from the Legacy Fund granted to the Frankfurt Zoological Society. FAO received a grant from GCF and an estimate of cofinancing has been established based on the agreements they have achieved with local communities and indigenous people in the region. Finally, US\$43 million in co-financing is being mobilized from a WB Program for Results (PforR) to Scale up Multipurpose Cadaster. This project is a continuation of previous ones, focusing on interventions in municipalities with protected areas and/or affected by high deforestation rates. More cofinancing could be secured for instance once IDB allocates funding received from the GCF bioeconomy project to the Colombian Amazon and the intervention planed in one NDFyB gets approval from their Board.

## ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENT

### GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Coordinator	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	9/12/2024	Elif Kiratli		ekiratli@worldbank.org
Project Coordinator	9/12/2024	Ana Maria Gonzalez Velosa		vgonzalez3@worldbank.org

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

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

Name of GEF OFP	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

## ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Please indicate the page number in the Project Document where the project results and M&E frameworks can be found. Please also paste below the Project Results Framework from the Agency document. For the Integrated Programs' global/regional coordination child project, please include the program-wide results framework, inclusive of results specific to the coordination child project. For any country child project, please ensure that relevant program level indicators are included.

## VII. RESULTS FRAMEWORK AND MONITORING

### PDO Indicators by PDO Outcomes

Baseline	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Closing Period
<b>Improved biodiversity conservation, connectivity, and forest governance</b>					
<b>Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness (Hectare(Ha))</b>					
Apr/2025	Apr/2026	Apr/2027	Apr/2028	Apr/2029	May/2030
7,074,400	7,225,036	7,313,323	7,528,222	7,736,622	7,490,398
<b>Area of landscapes under improved practices (Hectare(Ha))</b>					
Apr/2025	Apr/2026	Apr/2027	Apr/2028	Apr/2029	May/2030
1,642,693.8	2,041,544.8	2,399,107.8	2,646,782.8	2,510,103.8	3,915,784.8
<b>People benefiting from GEF-financed investments (Number)</b>					
Apr/2025	Apr/2026	Apr/2027	Apr/2028	Apr/2029	May/2030
0	14,354	28,791	42,802	45,473	48,696
<b>&gt; People benefiting from GEF-financed investments disaggregated by Gender (Percentage)</b>					
Apr/2025					May/2030
0					45
<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric tons of CO2e) (Metric ton)</b>					
Apr/2025					May/2030
5,381,649					22,409,633.3

### Intermediate Indicators by Components

Baseline	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Closing Period
<b>Conservation of high biodiversity areas under different protection regimes</b>					
<b>Terrestrial OECMs supported (Hectare(Ha))</b>					
Apr/2025	Apr/2026	Apr/2027	Apr/2028	Apr/2029	May/2030
295,622.96	295,622.96	551,594.96	611,594.96	701,594.96	751,594.96

Community governance schemes or mechanisms supported by the project (Number)					
Apr/2025	Apr/2026	Apr/2027	Apr/2028	Apr/2029	May/2030
8	18	28	34	35	35
Sustainable forest management and restoration					
Area of land and ecosystems under restoration (Hectare(Ha))					
Apr/2025	Apr/2026	Apr/2027	Apr/2028	Apr/2029	May/2030
3,370	3,893	5,000	6,000	8,000	8,000
Level of Compliance to the project's social conservation agreements. (Percentage)					
Apr/2025	Apr/2026	Apr/2027	Apr/2028	Apr/2029	May/2030
0	80	80	80	80	80
Governance and policies for conservation, restoration and sustainable					
Cross-sectoral institutional agreements strengthened and/or supported by the project (Number)					
Apr/2025	Apr/2026	Apr/2027	Apr/2028	Apr/2029	May/2030
7	3	6	9	12	15
Strengthened capabilities of environmental authorities for forest monitoring according to specific action plans (Number)					
Apr/2025	Apr/2026	Apr/2027	Apr/2028	Apr/2029	May/2030
0	5	7	7	9	9
Project management, monitoring, knowledge and communications					
Share of participants with rating response of "satisfied" or above on the effectiveness and relevance of training and knowledge exchange events provided by the project (Percentage)					
Apr/2025	Apr/2026	Apr/2027	Apr/2028	Apr/2029	May/2030
0	60	60	70	80	80
Grievances registered related to delivery of project benefits that are addressed (Percentage)					
Apr/2025	Apr/2026	Apr/2027	Apr/2028	Apr/2029	May/2030
94	96	98	100	100	100

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

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

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed
Inception mission - involves consultant services, travel expenses and workshops	36,349.00		
Preparation documents (Operational Manual, procurement strategy, among others) - involves consultant services and travel expenses	24,569.00	0.00	0.00
Participatory preparation of environmental and social standard documents required for project effectiveness - involves consultant services, travel expenses and workshops	43,265.00	0.00	0.00
Project consultation/socialization workshops - involves consultant services, travel expenses and workshops	79,304.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>183,487.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## ANNEX E: PROJECT MAP AND COORDINATES

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

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
PNN Serranía de Chiribiquete	0.79350619	-73.0189018	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
La Paya National Park	0.15497188	-75.2332823	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Alto Fragua Indi Wasi National Park	1.42300372	-76.0983759	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Serranía de Churumbelos Auka Wasi National Park	1.29369373	-76.3567334	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
PNN Amacayacu	-3.43952329	-70.1442113	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Nukak National Reserve	1.93780046	-71.5059033	

Location Description:



Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Orito Ingi Ande Flora Sanctuary	0.7604729	-77.0951857	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Sierra de la Macarena National Park	2.65505011	-73.6030778	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Picachos National Park	2.82967333	-74.6104968	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Tinigua National Park	2.49449675	-74.1445885	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Serranía de la Lindosa Forest Protection Reserve	2.519	-72.754	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID

Cerritos, Capricho, Miro lindo Forest Protection Reserve

2.3767

-72.8096

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Distrito de Conservación de Suelos Bajo Guayabero	2.352	-73.074	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Wetland complex in Mitu municipality	1.2523	-70.22801	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Regional PA Laguna Brujas	3.84982	-67.94278	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Micro watersheds in Inírida municipality	3.87055	-67.92806	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Distrito de Conservación de Suelos Serranía de Los Churumbelos	1.09369	-76.60876	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Distrito de Conservación de Suelos y Aguas del Caquetá	1.578	-75.476	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Regional PA Miraflores Picachos	2.37745917	-75.2225859	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Estrella Fluvial del Inírida (Ramsar Site)	4.032453601	-67.8766431	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
RAMSAR TARAPOTO	-3.7679	-70.5751	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
UOF Mecaya-Sencella	0.909072592	-76.3064477	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
UOF Yarí Caguán	1.571802855	-74.5712418	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
DMI Macarena Norte	2.910328003	-73.5767331	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Corredor Transición Caqueta Andes Amazonia	2.471510294	-75.2215188	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Corredor Putumayo_Andes_Amazonía	0.729582877	-76.6321173	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Zona de Reserva Campesina Cuenca Rio Pato y Valle de Balsillas	2.695151711	-74.9460291	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Zona de Reserva Campesina Guejar Cafre	2.879123662	-73.3758324	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
---------------	----------	-----------	------------

Zona de Reserva Campesina Losada Guayabero

2.373837724

-74.4170886

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Zona de Reserva Campesina Perla Amazónica	0.337954704	-76.0455857	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Núcleo de Desarrollo Forestal y de la Biodiversidad Paraíso Amazónico	0.005841695	-74.4469606	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Núcleo de Desarrollo Forestal y de la Biodiversidad Chuapal - Manavires	2.222170455	-73.0689716	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Núcleo de Desarrollo Forestal y de la Biodiversidad Las Perlas	0.852325476	-76.1831874	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Núcleo de Desarrollo Forestal y de la Biodiversidad Mecaya	0.541274006	-75.284262	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Núcleo de Desarrollo Forestal y de la Biodiversidad Miraflores	1.603800428	-72.0336085	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Núcleo de Desarrollo Forestal y de la Biodiversidad Solano	0.769231495	-74.8669647	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Núcleo de Desarrollo Forestal y de la Biodiversidad Angoleta	2.214442949	-73.467064	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Núcleo de Desarrollo Forestal y de la Biodiversidad Charras	2.666636445	-72.1919446	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Área de Ordenación Forestal Guaviare	2.716533524	-72.0856376	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
RI Mirití Paraná	-1.502226934	-70.5706077	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
RI El Itilla	1.607449344	-72.7445526	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Agua Negra	-0.065335649	-75.3656889	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Tukunare	-0.142601077	-74.8723103	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Lagarto Cocha	-0.106627079	-74.8443877	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Jirijiri	0.024862292	-74.747853	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID

El Progreso	-0.036719684	-74.7185019	
-------------	--------------	-------------	--

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Witora o Huitora	0.2652	-74.6253	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Consará - Mecaya	0.41433	-75.26571	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Cecilia Cocha	-0.126273315	-74.9446642	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
La Paya	-0.027457151	-75.2694255	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
La Perecera	-0.074551892	-75.2879653	

Location Description:

Activity Description:



Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Bajo Casacunte	0.105393109	-75.011751	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
El Hacha	0.010328175	-75.5184207	

Location Description:

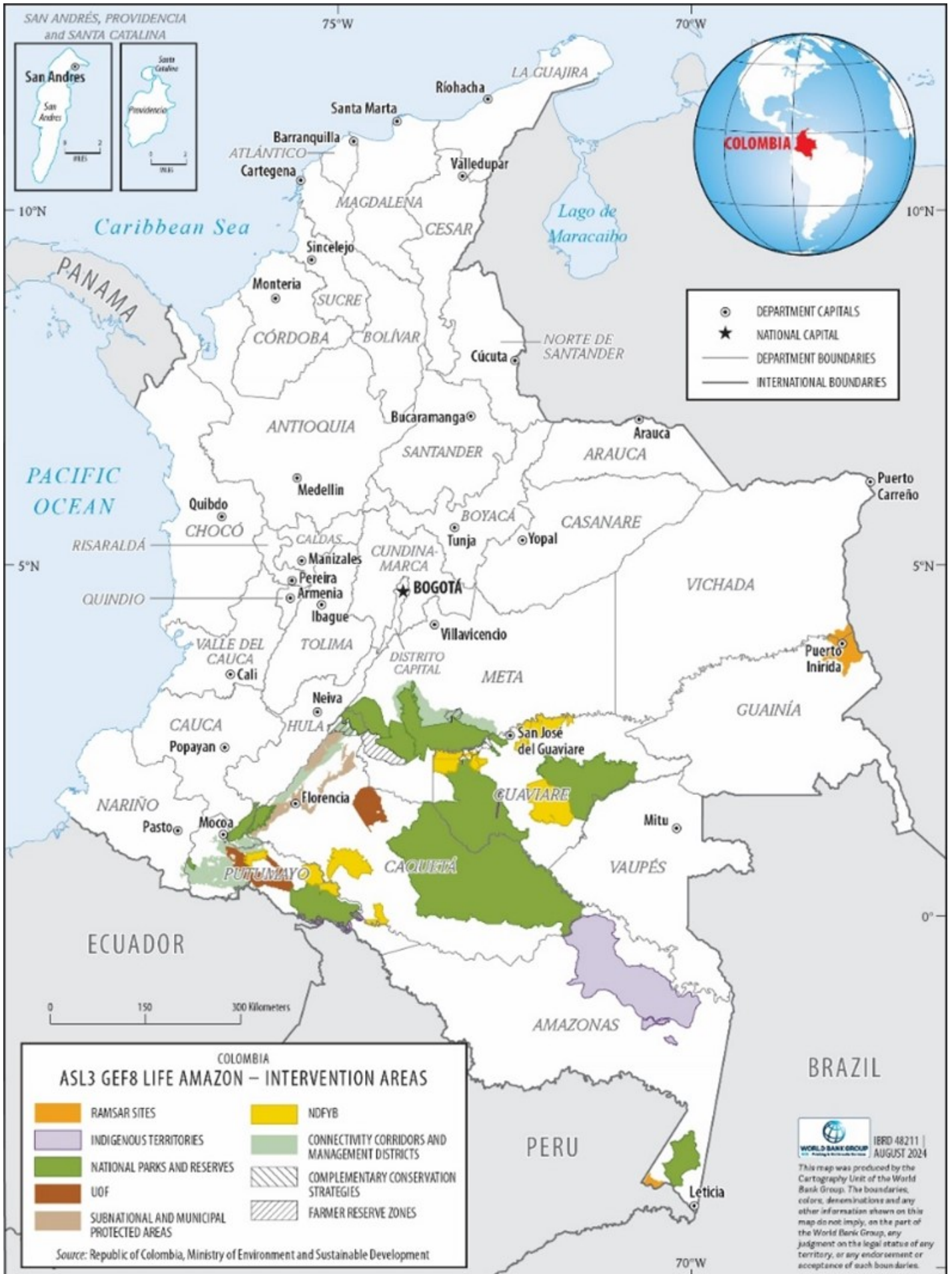
Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
RI Nukak	2.565	-71.374	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

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



## ANNEX F: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS DOCUMENTS INCLUDING RATING

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

Title

Draft ESRS-A P500481 Forest Colombian Amazon landscapes Life Amazon\_13Aug2024 clean

## ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Please upload the budget table here.

### Indicative Project Budget Template

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USD eq.)							Total (USD eq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1 Protected Area Connectivity	Component 2 Sustainable Forest and water management and use	Component 3 Governance, Policies and Incentives	Component 4 Knowledge management, monitoring and cooperation	Sub-Total	M&E	PMC		
Works	Minor works: small transformation plants for non-timber forest products, small community monitoring and rangers stations and infrastructure of indigenous communities will be adapted for tourism.	\$43,835	\$ 555,002			\$598,837			\$598,837	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development

Goods	Field equipment (camera traps, binoculars), equipment (including computers, printers for research and biodiversity monitoring) for partner executing institutions and community leaders	\$ 702,517	\$ 92,500	\$ 416,252	\$1,211,269	\$1,211,269	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
	Goods for community led activities (community led tourism and sustainable livelihoods)	\$ 304,670		\$ 138,751	\$443,421	\$ 443,421	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
	Equipment and machinery for community transformation centers for forestry management (timber and NTFP)		\$ 1,480,006	\$ 508,752	\$1,988,758	\$1,988,758	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
	Goods provided to signatories of the conservation and restoration social agreements (plants, seeds, tools, posts, organic agriculture and food security kits)		\$ 1,850,007		\$1,850,007	\$1,850,007	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
	Procurement of images from remote sensors to monitor program interventions			\$ 277,501	\$277,501	\$ 277,501	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development

										Develop ment
<b>Grants/ Sub- grants</b>	Subprojects: Subsidiary agreements with producer/com munity organizations	\$ 1,236,61 3	\$ 2,127,50 8				\$3,364, 121		\$3,364, 121	Ministry of Environ ment and Sustaina ble Develop ment
<b>Contra ctual Services – Individu al</b>	Technicians providing extension services, technical focal points, technical specialists	\$ 2,063,64 4	\$ 1,757,50 7	\$ 1,387,50 5	\$ 632,457	\$5,841, 113	\$186, 996		\$6,028, 109	Ministry of Environ ment and Sustaina ble Develop ment
<b>Contra ctual Services – Compan y</b>	Feasibility studies, auditing, project evaluation	\$ 198,459				\$198,4 59	\$71,8 99		\$ 270,35 8	Ministry of Environ ment and Sustaina ble Develop ment
<b>Local Consult ants</b>	Community leaders involved in extension services, community monitoring, participatory research	\$ 597,055	\$ 832,503	\$ 555,002		\$1,984, 560			\$1,984, 560	Ministry of Environ ment and Sustaina ble Develop ment
<b>Salary and benefits / Staff costs</b>	Administrati ve, fiduciary, legal and coordination staff					\$ -		\$751, 565	\$ 751,56 5	Ministry of Environ ment and Sustaina ble Develop ment
<b>Training s, Worksh ops, Meeting s</b>	Training, meetings and consultation workshops with beneficiaries in areas of intervention	\$ 409,929	\$ 416,251	\$ 878,753	\$ 789,266	\$2,494, 199	\$121, 276		\$2,615, 475	Ministry of Environ ment and Sustaina ble

	(accommodati on, travel, food, etc)									Develop ment
	Regional and national Knowledge exchange as part of ASL program				\$ 735,214	\$735,214	\$33,035		\$ 768,249	Ministry of Environ ment and Sustaina ble Develop ment
<b>Travel</b>	Travel for project team and executing partners	\$ 148,383	\$ 138,751	\$ 462,502	\$ 223,678	\$973,313	\$49,296		\$1,022,609	Ministry of Environ ment and Sustaina ble Develop ment
<b>Other Operati ng Costs</b>	Operational costs (office, administrative expenses)					\$ -		\$ 404,689	\$ 404,689	Ministry of Environ ment and Sustaina ble Develop ment
	Communicat ion materials (posters, publications, banners, website)	\$76,168			\$ 625,647	\$701,815			\$ 701,815	Ministry of Environ ment and Sustaina ble Develop ment
<b>Gran d Total</b>		<b>\$5,781,272</b>	<b>\$ 9,250,036</b>	<b>\$ 4,625,018</b>	<b>\$ 3,006,262</b>	<b>\$22,662,588</b>	<b>\$462,502</b>	<b>\$1,156,254</b>	<b>\$24,281,344</b>	

Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

## ANNEX I: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS

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

ASL3

**Forest Connectivity, Conservation and Sustainable management in Colombian Amazon landscapes - Life Amazon (P500481)**

**Matrix of responses to STAP and Council comments (PFD stage)**

Source of comment	Comment	Response by ASL3 Colombia project team
Nicola Millen, Senior Policy and Programme Manager, Climate Funds and Institutions Team, Energy, Climate and Environment Directorate (ECED), UNITED KINGDOM, Council, made on 7/7/2023	If possible, can there be more explicit consideration of political economy? And detail of how such factors will be identified and managed across a diverse range of social and economic contexts?	The Project appraisal Document includes the country and sectoral context that provides information on the political economy that enables the project.
Yoko Yamoto, Alternate GEF Council Member, Deputy Director Ministry of Foreign Affairs, JAPAN, Council, made on 7/21/2023	On projects related to supply chain of tropical timbers, we hope that the implementing agencies can leverage lessons learnt from comparable projects conducted by the International Tropical Timber Organization, which is a focal agency for supply chain management under Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF). Since ITTO is providing relevant data for FAO, utilizing its expertise would be beneficial for the multi-stakeholder dialogue as part of knowledge management and learning, while eliminating duplication of effort.	The Project will support the development of the Forest Development and Biodiversity nuclei which are part of the National Deforestation Containment Strategy. The activities that will be undertaken within the NDFyB could entail community forestry and timber supply chains, as well as the use of non-timber forests products (NTFP). The project will intervene on already transformed forests and won't be sourcing timber from protected areas and/or primary forests. This intervention will be based on lessons from previous years and national forest institutions. In addition, the national project will benefit from engagement that the regional ASL team with other regional and global expertise including ITTO. The FAO has already been contacted by the regional Project, its aware of the activities that will be developed and will be part of the technical discussions, so that lessons learned will be incorporated into the national Project.
Annette Windmeisser, GEF Council Member, Head of Climate Finance Division, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, GERMANY, Council, made on 7/11/2023	We recommend not to leave aside the landscapes prioritized in ASL1 and ASL2 to consolidate the progress and achievements of those phases.	The Colombian ASL project will intervene in some of the areas already supported with ASL1 and ASL2 programs, to consolidate existing efforts, as well as in new areas prioritized by government. Lessons from previous ASL projects in these landscapes will be included in the ASL3 intervention, with the special emphasis to ensure connectivity between landscapes.
	For an efficient and effective delivery, the program needs to work with local and regional governments and strengthen their capacities to implement their legal mandates. When programming activities at the local level, it is important to consider the local	The project and particularly via component 3, will support subnational governments in land and water use planning that mainstreams environmental considerations. Besides the governments, the project will be partially executed on the ground by local environmental

Source of comment	Comment	Response by ASL3 Colombia project team
	<p>authorities' capacities, in terms of time and personnel.</p>	<p>authorities whose capacities will be enhanced (Amazon Institute for Scientific Research - SINCHI, the Corporation for Sustainable Development of the North and East of the Amazon - CDA and the Corporation for the Sustainable Development of the Southern Amazon – CORPOAMAZONIA). The Ministry of Environment will sign an interinstitutional agreement with the government agencies involved in the project's implementation including these regional authorities.</p>
	<p>Germany appreciates that the program seeks to increase investments for sustainable landscapes. We recommend including a long-term strategy to secure investments beyond program duration.</p>	<p>By strengthening capacities of local communities, the Project will provide the necessary tools so that there is a continuation in the long-term of sustainable management practices. Having the Ministry of Environment as the direct executing agency will enhance its capacity to receive and coordinate interventions with both international cooperation and public investments via the Life and Biodiversity Fund as the long-term mechanism.</p>
	<p>We understand that indicators are based on the GEF-8 results measurement framework. However, some indicators need to in addition consider:</p> <p>(1) How will improved protected area management be measured (e.g. via METT)?</p> <p>(3) and (4): What is the difference between land "under restoration" and with "improved practices"? How will the program ensure that improved practices have a positive impact on conservation and biodiversity?</p>	<p>(1) It is a GEF requirement to measure improved protected area management through the METT, at least at start, mid-term and final evaluation stages. Specific annual METT scores targets have been defined for each one of the PA that will be measured, to recognize their distinct degrees of consolidation. The Colombian government has established its own methodology for measuring management effectiveness for all PAs in the country. Scores from such methodology will be transferred to the corresponding METT values. Information of METT scores per PA will be provided annually.</p> <p>(3) and (4) The Colombian project will use the GEF definitions provided in GEF/C.62/Inf.12/Rev.01 from June 30, 2022 "Guidelines on the implementation of the GEF-8 Results measurement framework" to measure the GEF Core indicators and ensure that improved practices have a positive impact on conservation and biodiversity.</p> <p>Land under restoration is the total area of land and ecosystems directly undergoing</p>



Source of comment	Comment	Response by ASL3 Colombia project team
		<p>restoration in terms of ecosystem function and/or ecology. Restoration is defined as the process of repairing and/or assisting the recovery of land and ecosystems that have been degraded, damaged, destroyed, or modified to an extent that the land and/or ecosystem cannot fulfill its ecological functions and/or fully deliver environmental services. Activities may include (i) ecosystem restoration that reduces the causes of decline and improves basic functions; and (ii) ecological restoration that enhances native habitats, sustains ecosystem resilience, and conserves biodiversity.</p> <p>Land under improved practices refers to total area of landscapes under improved practices (outside of protected areas), including in production sectors (e.g., agriculture, rangeland, forestry, aquaculture, tourism, extractives [oil and gas]) that lead to improved environmental conditions and/or for which management plans have been prepared and endorsed and are under implementation. This also includes areas in indigenous reserves under improved management that benefit biodiversity.</p>
	<p>Germany welcomes the emphasis of IPLC participation in decision making and the recognition of their important role in ecosystem conservation. We recommend that IPLCs are included in all four components of the program, and that structural problems are also addressed (particularly land titling, threats of displacement and illicit activities).</p>	<p>The Project will ensure the adequate engagement and participation of indigenous people and local communities across the Project. Most of the activities proposed will be developed within Indigenous Territories or other areas inhabited by local communities, and will entail transferring resources, hiring, building capacities of, and working side by side with them. The Project acknowledges the importance of a bottom-up approach and the need to respect indigenous people's autonomy, ancestral knowledge, governance schemes and decision making. In addition, the Project will be guided by a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) which will provide de guidelines for the participation of relevant stakeholders.</p>
	<p>Given the multitude of donor initiatives on conservation and landscapes management in the Amazon, thorough coordination and alignment is of utmost importance. We recommend using established channels (e.g., national donor coordination roundtables) where possible.</p>	<p>The ASL has a technical Amazon Donor Working Group created since 2019 in which Germany is actively participating. This is the only channel that exists that includes bilateral, multilateral, and philanthropic entities for all Amazon countries. Facilitation is done with Regional ASL project funding.</p> <p>The Regional ASL team also participates in other donors' groups to strengthen coordination, such as the A2BC and one for</p>

Source of comment	Comment	Response by ASL3 Colombia project team
		<p>Colombia where Germany also participates (especially considering its financing to REM Vision Amazonia).</p> <p>These relations and coordination will translate into the Colombian Project, ensuring the adequate alignment between the different initiatives. Furthermore, the Project has engaged donors through co-financing mechanisms.</p>
<p>The decision with respect to project review for UNDP projects (Decision 08/2023) will apply to all UNDP projects in the June 2023 Work Program, as approved during the 64th GEF Council Meeting and 34th LDCF/SCCF Council Meeting., Agency, UNDP made on 6/29/2023</p>		<p>The WB team notes that Decision 08/2023 (point 6) states: “Following previous Council decisions related to UNDP GEF Management, all projects included in the Work Program implemented by UNDP shall be circulated by email for Council review at least four weeks prior to CEO endorsement/approval. Project reviews will take into consideration the relevant findings of the external audit and management responses and note them in the endorsement review sheet that will be made available to the Council during the 4-week review period.”</p> <p>This does not apply to the Colombian Project, which is implemented by the WB. As part of project preparation, it was determined that UNDP will not be an executing agency for the project, but only the Ministry of Environment. National public capacity provides reassurance of good experience for execution.</p>
<p>Emily Simmons, Senior Advisor, Global Programs and Initiatives, Environment Division (MSS), Global Affairs CANADA, Council, made on 7/27/2023</p>	<p>The current core indicators can show only the positive impacts of the Programs (e.g. CI3, CI4, CI5 ad CI6) but fail to consider any negative change such as deforestation leakage (I.e. improved protection/conservation in one area leading to more deforestation in other or new areas), which may be directly or indirectly related to policy reforms, a whole-of-government strategy, integrated approaches or others that the GEF Programs try to achieve.</p> <p>GEF should consider including a new core indicator for the two Programs, or at least a project level-indicator for the projects that aim to halt and reverse deforestation:</p>	<p>As part of one of ASL Program’s pillars, the Colombian project will support policy reforms and land use planning that consider an integrated strategy to address and prevent deforestation leakages. The landscape approach with a focus on connectivity plus the coordination with other projects working in active deforestation areas will contribute to strengthen implementation and enforcement of policies, work with different sectors, and engage with stakeholders to avoid that such negative impacts happen. That said, it’s important to note that some of the forces behind deforestation are beyond the project’s control and scope (e.g. actions against illegal armed forces).</p> <p>If requested by GEF, the Colombian institute in charge of the Forest and Carbon monitoring system could provide information on changes in forest area, within the areas of intervention. This is tracked annually and allow for the</p>

Source of comment	Comment	Response by ASL3 Colombia project team
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a net change in forest area (considering both forest gain and loss) in the target landscapes, or</li> <li>a change in area affected by deforestation in the target landscapes</li> </ul> <p>Supporting smallholder farmers through the Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program (CFB IP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We want to underscore that supporting smallholder farmers is critical for halting deforestation and inclusive transition toward deforestation-free supply chains. And, this Program must ensure that smallholder farmers in deforestation-risk commodity chains receive as much attention as other local community groups receive through this IP. In particular for the private sector engagement, we recommend the projects under this IP reinforce technical, financial and legal support for smallholder farmers within deforestation-risk commodity chains in order to help them adopt innovative, low-cost biodiversity-friendly practices and secure their legal rights (ToC 3).</li> </ul>	<p>tracking the tons of carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector.</p> <p>The Project will support farmers in the adoption of sustainable farming/agroforestry techniques. To achieve the adoption of these practices, the Project will develop social agreements towards improved conservation, restoration and sustainable production practices.</p>
<p>STAP comments, October 2023</p>	<p><u>Specific points to be addressed, and suggestions</u></p> <p>-</p> <p>1) Several activities in the PFD have the potential for broader uptake in the GEF and to better support aspects of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. These include exploring the development of OECMs on indigenous lands, integration of scientific and indigenous knowledge systems, and the development and testing of indicators for transformative change across the four levers set out in the GEF-8 programming document. It will be important to design the Regional Coordination project and other child projects in such a way that these aspects feed into other GEF-wide initiatives and ensure that effective solutions are identified as early as possible during project implementation and then shared more broadly in the GEF.</p> <p>2) Areas of innovation should be more clearly identified in the next phase of the regional coordination and country-level child projects to ensure they are designed to properly test innovative solutions, identify pathways for scaling and facilitate rapid learning.</p>	<p>(1) The Project will directly support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework by strengthening the management of PAs, including ITs, OECMs, sub-national reserves, among others. On OECMs the Project will support the Colombian government in the review of its strategy. The Knowledge management component ensures the integration of scientific and indigenous knowledge systems throughout all project activities, for instance those of designing and implementing management plans in areas where protected areas overlap with indigenous territories.</p> <p>The project will incorporate the ASL recommendations to assess transformational changes in the four levers set up by the GEF.</p> <p>(2) There are several key areas of innovation for the project. The support to the Life and Biodiversity Fund innovates in the financial mechanism for the Colombian government to channel and coordinate within a whole-of-government strategy the projects and initiatives present in the Amazon. This GEF project will be the first international cooperation project to be included in the Fund. Also, innovation will be a key part of</p>

Source of comment	Comment	Response by ASL3 Colombia project team
		component 2 in the establishment of value chains that result from R&D and the merging of scientific and traditional knowledge.