



El Salvador Integrated Landscape Management and Restoration

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10346

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT

NGI

Project Title

El Salvador Integrated Landscape Management and Restoration

Countries

El Salvador

Agency(ies)

World Bank

Other Executing Partner(s)

Executing Partner Type

Other Executing Partner(s)

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area

Multi Focal Area

Taxonomy

Land Degradation Neutrality, Land Cover and Land cover change, Land Productivity, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Land Degradation, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Sustainable Land Management, Wetlands, Rivers, Biomes, Tropical Rain Forests, Focal Areas, Biodiversity, Demonstrate innovative approach, Influencing models, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Beneficiaries, Stakeholders, Participation and leadership, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Community Based Organization, Tropical Dry Forests, Mangroves, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Landscapes, Mainstreaming, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Agriculture, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Civil Society, Private Sector, Large corporations, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, SMEs, Type of Engagement, Participation, Consultation, Information Dissemination, Communications, Behavior change, Awareness Raising, Local Communities, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Capacity Development, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Knowledge Generation, Enabling Activities, Knowledge Exchange

Rio Markers**Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 2

Duration

60 In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

338,356

Submission Date

A. Indicative Focal/Non-Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
BD-1-1	GET	1,344,225	3,419,444
LD-1-1	GET	1,997,789	9,152,778
LD-1-3	GET	96,291	1,752,778
LD-2-5	GET	123,339	2,375,000
	Total Project Cost (\$)	3,561,644	16,700,000

B. Indicative Project description summary

Project Objective

To restore degraded land in El Imposible – Barra de Santiago Conservation Area.

Project Outcomes

Component 1. Enabling conditions for integrated landscape management.

- Strengthened governance for natural resource management at the landscape scale.
- Increased awareness about the costs of ecosystem degradation and the benefits of ecosystem restoration.
- Increased capacity to evaluate and monitor sustainability at the landscape scale.
- Sustainability of financial resources for ecosystem conservation and restoration increased.

Component 2. Ecosystem restoration to secure the flow of ecosystem services within the productive landscape

- Reduced soil degradation and improved biodiversity conservation through the restoration of degraded lands in agricultural landscapes and conservation of riparian forests and mangroves.
- Increased sustainability in sugar cane fields through adoption of improved agricultural practices that mainstream biodiversity considerations.
- Sustainability of financial resources for ecosystem conservation and restoration increased.
- Extension service capacities to promote sustainable practices and technologies strengthened

Component 3. Project monitoring and management

- Effective project management and communication; and Monitoring and evaluation.

Project Component	Financing Type	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
Component 1. Enabling conditions for integrated landscape management	Technical Assistance	GET	800,000	3,333,333
Component 2. Ecosystem restoration to secure the flow of ecosystem services within the productive landscape	Investment	GET	2,592,042	10,533,334
Component 3. Project monitoring and management	Technical Assistance	GET		
		Sub Total (\$)	3,392,042	13,866,667
Project Management Cost (PMC)				
		GET	169,602	2,833,333
		Sub Total(\$)	169,602	2,833,333
		Total Project Cost(\$)	3,561,644	16,700,000

C. Indicative sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Donor Agency	FCPF	Grant	Investment mobilized	2,500,000
Donor Agency	GIZ	Grant	Investment mobilized	6,500,000
Donor Agency	FIAES	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	1,200,000
Donor Agency	WRI	Grant	Investment mobilized	1,500,000
Donor Agency	IKI - German Government	Grant	Investment mobilized	1,000,000
Government	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4,000,000
			Total Project Cost(\$)	16,700,000

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Investment mobilized was identified from the above-mentioned agencies and institutions, that share goals with the proposed GEF 7 Project. Funds from these sources will contribute to scale up activities and outcomes proposed by the Project as follows: FCPF resources will support mainly on analytical work under components 1 and 3 While GIZ's main target is to support restoration efforts under component 2. WRI will support landscape index tool under component 1. FIAES will contribute to component 2 and IKI-German Government will focus the resources in components 1, 2, 3.

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

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
World Bank	GET	El Salvador	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	1,344,225	127,701	1,471,926
World Bank	GET	El Salvador	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	2,217,419	210,655	2,428,074
Total GEF Resources(\$)					3,561,644	338,356	3,900,000

E. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Amount (\$)

91,324

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

8,676

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
World Bank	GET	El Salvador	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	91,324	8,676	100,000
Total Project Costs(\$)					91,324	8,676	100,000

Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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)
Akula National Park	125689	SelectNational Park							

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)
Akula National Park	125689	Select National Park							
Indicator 3 Area of land restored									
Ha (Expected at PIF)			Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)		Ha (Achieved at MTR)		Ha (Achieved at TE)		
2971.00			0.00		0.00		0.00		
Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural land restored									
Ha (Expected at PIF)			Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)		Ha (Achieved at MTR)		Ha (Achieved at TE)		
849.00									
Indicator 3.2 Area of Forest and Forest Land restored									
Ha (Expected at PIF)			Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)		Ha (Achieved at MTR)		Ha (Achieved at TE)		
849.00									
Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and shrublands restored									
Ha (Expected at PIF)			Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)		Ha (Achieved at MTR)		Ha (Achieved at TE)		
Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (incl. estuaries, mangroves) restored									
Ha (Expected at PIF)			Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)		Ha (Achieved at MTR)		Ha (Achieved at TE)		
1,273.00									
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)		
1500.00			0.00		0.00		0.00		

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)
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Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes that meets national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (hectares)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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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)
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1,500.00			
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Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title	Submitted
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Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
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Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)	429799	0	0	0
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Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)	0	0	0	0
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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)
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Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)	429,799			
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Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)				
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Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Anticipated start year of accounting	2020			
Duration of accounting	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)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (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)
Target Energy Saved (MJ)				

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

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	624			
Male	625			
Total	1249	0	0	0

Part II. Project Justification

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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

The proposed GEF project represents a key opportunity to generate enabling conditions and catalyze actions to improve sustainable landscape management and restoration actions through the improvement of technical capacities, local governance, inter-agency coordination (mainly between the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), and the participation of the private sector in El Salvador. GEF funding will allow El Salvador to bring into action the well-developed national restoration plans and the advanced PANSAL to achieve land degradation neutrality employing an innovative approach to incentivize the private sector to invest in land restoration. During the last years, El Salvador has taken important steps for the development of the enabling conditions for the implementation of EN-REP and this project will contribute to bring plans into practice to achieve concrete objectives in terms of reduction of land degradation and biodiversity conservation.

The development of an export oriented agricultural sector resulted in severe degradation of El Salvador natural ecosystems. Today, these pressures persist and the expansion of sugar cane crops and unsustainable production practices continue to exert pressures and are degrading land and biodiversity in ecosystems, including mangroves and riparian forests. In addition, soil is also being degraded within production farms, which reduces productivity over time. Sugar cane expansion has also resulted in the displacement of traditional crops to higher mountain areas which in turn are also degraded and affect the provision of hydrological services for the overall country's economy, and particularly for sugar cane crops themselves. The main factors driving this situation are: (i) the lack of capacities to manage natural resources and ecosystem services at the landscape scale, including lack of coordination between environmental and agricultural policies; (ii) lack of resources (human and financial) to promote sustainable production practices; and (iii) lack of incentives to invest in ecosystem conservation and restoration.

To address the above-mentioned issues, the proposed project will work in the El Imposible-Barra de Santiago Conservation Area (EIBSCA) area of influence, where the environmental challenges and tensions with the agricultural sector of El Salvador are particularly present. The project is expected to have significant impacts in terms of biodiversity conservation and contribute to the country's objectives in terms of land degradation neutrality, becoming an example of Integrated Landscape Management.

First, the Project will contribute to strengthen the governance and technical capacities for natural resource management at a landscape scale. This will be done by improving coordination between government agencies, mainly MARN and MAG, and with local governments, and by engaging the private sector. In addition, it will strengthen a Landscape Sustainability Index and the technical capacities to use it, which will allow to evaluate and monitor different sustainability criteria of the targeted landscape. Second, it will strengthen the capacities to transfer sustainable production practices through strengthening extension services and through demonstrating concrete ecosystem restoration actions. Third, it will work with sugar cane producers to increase awareness about the cost of environmental degradation and provide them with technical assistance to adopt best production practices and farm management plans that mainstream biodiversity conservation criteria. Furthermore, it will use an innovative approach to leverage financial

resources for the conservation and restoration of ecosystems preserve biodiversity, reduce soil degradation, and provide important ecosystem services to sugar cane crops and to society.

The proposed GEF project represents a key opportunity to implement innovative actions that (i) generate enabling conditions and (ii) catalyze actions to improve sustainable landscape management and restoration. This will be achieved by strengthening governance for natural resource management at the landscape level through inter-agency coordination and the participation of the private sector, which are crucial for the implementation of the project and for ensuring its sustainability and scalability. GEF funding will allow El Salvador to bring into action the well-developed national restoration plans and the advanced PANSAL to achieve LDN employing an innovative approach to incentivize the private sector to invest in land restoration that involves: creation of dialogue spaces; awareness rising about the need to invest in ecosystem services provision; and the facilitation of the establishment of a reciprocal ecosystem services agreement. In addition, it will work to strengthen local extension systems to ensure that sustainable production practices and restoration techniques promoted and implemented by the project are institutionalized and that the capacities to scale up the project actions remain beyond the lifespan of the project.

By working with the private sector to establish innovative financing schemes to invest in ecosystems services, this project is expected to leverage additional resources for the restoration of degraded land and the maintenance of key ecosystem services in a way that is sustainable over time and beyond the lifespan of the project. This project will layout innovative multi-stakeholder structures foundations for integrated landscape management, a concept with little practical application in the country that is expected to be scaled up in other Conservation Areas.

Finally, GEF incremental funding will contribute to biodiversity conservation, to combat land degradation and to mitigate climate change, by taking advantage of the early steps the country has made to improve sustainability in the production of sugar cane, which is one of the main agricultural product in the country and the one that exerts the most severe pressures to the environment. GEF resources will allow to demonstrate the benefits of green harvest and mainstream biodiversity conservation in sugar cane production country in areas that have been identified as critical for conservation, and are expected to provide a sizeable scale and that is replicable in other parts of the country and the region.

Project area description

The EIBSCA is located on the southwest part of El Salvador and is critical ecosystem value for El Salvador. It lies within 7 municipalities of the Departments of Aychapán[1]¹ and Sonsonate[2]², and is part of the coastal plains and coastal mountain ranges of the country. It has a total extension of 90,467 has with an elevation that ranges from 0 meters above sea level (masl) to 1,400 masl. Based on the Koeppen and Sapper-Lauer classification, the average precipitation is of 2,636 mm/year. Average temperature is of 22 °C with fluctuations between 20 °C and 26 °C[3]³.

The EIBSCA hosts the highest concentration of biodiversity in the country making it a priority region for conservation. With more than 400 species of trees, 500 hundred of butterflies, 30 species of big mammals, 279 species of birds and 13 types of fishes, EIBSCA is the Conservation Area with the highest concentration of biodiversity in El Salvador. This condition is due to its unique location and the different types of micro-ecosystems comprising the Area[4]⁴. EIBSCA has 7 types of Life Zones: Subtropical damp forest transition to tropical, subtropical medium damp forest, subtropical damp forest, tropical damp forest, tropical damp forest transition to subtropical, and very damp subtropical forest, very damp subtropical forest transition to damp. Among the ecosystems that can be found in the CA are: Medium evergreen forest, Sub caducifolious forest, deciduous forest, gallery forest, mangroves, palm groves, swamp reeds, ecotone, vegetation and beach vegetation. With 20,241 *ha* of forests, EIBSCA has 17,638 *ha* of forests, 2,603 *ha* of mangroves scattered on 9 protected areas[5]⁵.

The area of intervention is important in terms of agricultural production, with the production of basic grains, coffee, sugar cane, fishing and aquaculture representing the main source of income for the local population. Socioeconomic conditions of the region contribute to the deployment of the natural assets of the area. According to the 2010 census, the EIBSCA is populated by 194,713 inhabitants. The region has the highest poverty rate of the country affecting around 60% of the population living in the area. Education in the region is also poor with region performing the 2nd worst position in terms of school enrolling and the highest rate of analphabetism in the country.

The proposed project will intervene in a context of strong on-going land degradation due to deforestation and the employment of bad agricultural practices such as the heavy use of herbicides and pesticides. Degradation in this region is mainly explained by the expansion of agriculture, unsustainable management of natural resources and the employment of unsustainable agricultural practices leading to erosion, productivity loss and increased sedimentation in water resources. Production of sugar cane expansion has played a central role with most of new plantations having advanced to the Center and West regions of the country spreading into the rich in mangroves coastal territories[6]⁶, while the upper sections of the landscape, the expansion of cattle ranching into gallery forests, and the degradation of shade coffee plantations are major causes of degradation. The alternative scenario involves an improved management of natural resources through an integrated approach at the landscape level; the adoption and scaling-up of practices by the sugar cane sector and the implementation of restoration activities in areas that have been affected by the expansion of agriculture.

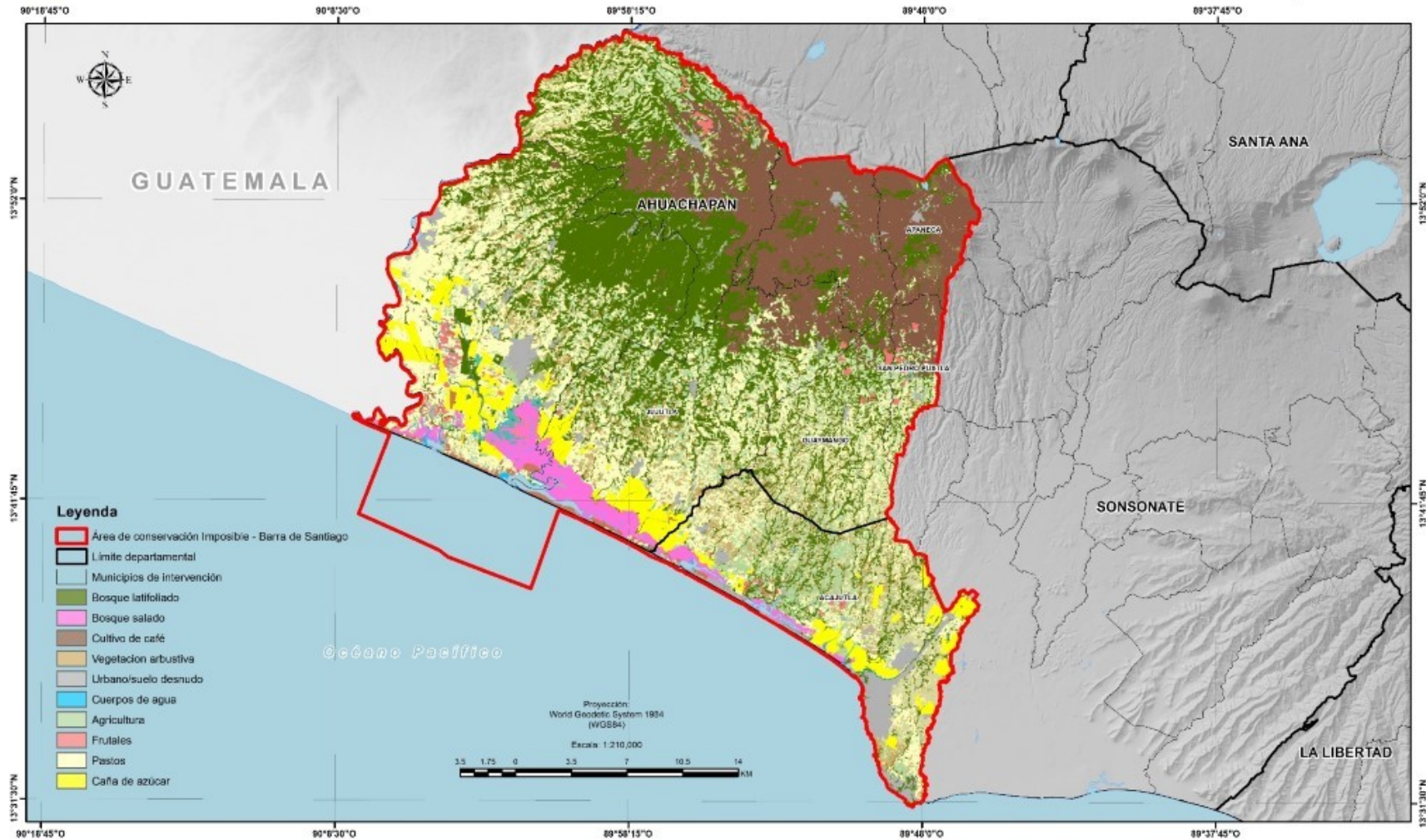
To build on previous implemented GEF projects and other projects under implementation in the country, during preparation the MARN will ensure coordination among the activities of those projects and the proposed project. Lessons learned from outcomes of previous projects and those under preparation during the early stages of implementation will be incorporated in the design of this proposed project and activities will be articulated to promote synergies between projects.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates. Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention will take place.

MUNICIPIOS DE INTERVENCIÓN Y USO DE SUELO ÁREA DE CONSERVACIÓN IMPOSIBLE - BARRA DE SANTIAGO



MINISTERIO DE MEDIO AMBIENTE Y RECURSOS NATURALES



[1] Tacuba, Concepción de Ataco, San Francisco Menéndez, Jujutla, Guaymango, San Pedro Puxtla

[2] Acajutla

[3] Plan de Desarrollo Local Sostenible del Área de Conservación El Imposible-Barra De Santiago, El Salvador. GIZ.

[4] FIAES. Information available at: <https://fiales.upmakeapps.com/el-imposible-barra-de-santiago/>

[5] Plan de Desarrollo Local Sostenible del Área de Conservación El Imposible-Barra De Santiago, El Salvador. GIZ.

[6] Domínguez et al. 2018

2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities No

Civil Society Organizations No

Private Sector Entities No

If none of the above, please explain why: Yes

MARN will lead project preparation and implementation, and the process will involve multiple stakeholders. Coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture (MAG) will be key for the project design and implementation, and this Ministry is expected to have key role within the institutional arrangement of the project. Integrated landscape management will be based on the recognition of the diverse array of stakeholder needs and will require coordination among sectors and government institutions, mainly MARN, MAG and local governments. During project design the private sector, donor and financial partners, and civil society organizations will be invited to participate in the project preparation process to define the scope of specific project activities. Civil society organizations and private sector entities will be engaged in project preparation through consultations and through governance bodies, such as the Restoration Boards.

MARN will develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) during preparation to outline and guide the timing and methods of engagement with stakeholders, describing the range and timing of information to be communicated to and consulted with project-affected stakeholders and other interested parties. The SEP will include dedicated measures to remove obstacles to participation and to allow the effective engagement of those identified as disadvantaged or vulnerable. Table 1 presents a list of key actors expected to participate to some extent in project preparation. Prior to appraisal, the following measures will be implemented: (i) stakeholder identification and analysis; ,(ii) planning how the

engagement with stakeholders will happen; (iii) consultation with stakeholders and other groups already identified, as well as those not listed that might become relevant; and (iv) the disclosure of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, information about the project, and its environmental and social assessment and management instruments as well as draft Environmental and Social Commitment Plan. The Borrower will propose and implement a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) (with dedicated procedures for project-contracted workers) to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances.

Table 1. Stakeholders Stakeholder Expected Roles Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN) The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN) will be in charge project preparation and implementation. It will guide, strategically, the territorial and inter-institutional intervention that can lead to achieving stable restoration processes. It is expected that MARN will be in charge of monitoring and evaluation. Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG) The active involvement of this Ministry will be key for the effective design and implementation of the three components of the project. In particular, it will be key for the engagement with the sugar cane sector. It is expected that three MAG Directions will be involved in the technical design of the project during project preparation and also in the project implementation. These are: 1. Directorate of Forestry, Watersheds and Irrigation, 2. Directorate of Rural Development, and 3. Directorate of Plant Health. Municipalities Municipalities are responsible for overseeing land-use management at local level, within their areas of jurisdiction. Municipalities also provide support and technical assistance to agricultural producers. The involvement of these local governments will be very important for the design and implementation of the project. In particular, the project aims to strengthen their capacity to mainstream biodiversity and LDN considerations. Municipalities can contribute to promote, from Municipal Environmental Units and in some cases Agricultural Units, good agricultural practices and the conservation of the key ecosystems, besides contributing with municipal instruments, such as agreements and ordinances, to the territorial ordering of the municipality. National Council for Environmental Sustainability and Vulnerability (CONASAV) Serve as a multistakeholder engagement space at the national level. It is expected that CONASAV will help promote good agricultural practices, using sugar cane as a contributing factor towards restoration processes. Local Advisory Committees on Protected Natural Areas (COAL) Contribute to define restoration actions around protected areas and engage with local landowners FIAES Environmental investment fund that manage and invest resources for environmental sustainability. FIAES will serve as a cofinancer for restoration activities. Inter-American Institute for Agriculture Cooperation (IICA) IICA can serve to promote the dialogue between government institutions and agricultural producers; and to provide technical assistance. National Agricultural and Forestry Technology Center (CENTA) CENTA is expected to provide technical assistance and extension services to promote the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices and land restoration activities. In addition, this institution will be beneficiary of the project as it will be strengthened to ensure that sustainable agriculture and restoration technologies are institutionalized and can be promoted beyond the area and the lifespan of the project. Restoration of Ecosystems and Landscapes Roundtable This body will have an advisory role during project preparation and the and the project is expected to strengthen it as a way to improve governance for integrated landscape management. National Indigenous Round Table on the Environment (MNIMA) Participate in the various territorial organizational structures and propose concrete interventions actions from the indigenous cultural perspective. Other NGOs that could be involved in project preparation Promote and implement agricultural and environmental territorial initiatives; also generate processes for territorial organizational structures. The most important ones, located in the intervention area, are: - AMBAS, Association of Women of the Barra de Santiago - UNES, Salvadoran Ecological Unit - Aguacate Micro-basin Association - Ahuachapán Sur Livestock Association (AGAS) - Water Boards PLAS Groups Organized community groups that count with “Local Plans of Sustainable Use”. They are expected to be supported by the project in their conservation and restoration efforts. Small and medium size farmers They will be consulted during project preparation to further understand their needs and prepare component 2. Agricultural Cooperatives They will be consulted during project preparation to further understand their needs and prepare component 2. Sugar cane Producers’ Association Their participation during project design will be key to further understand their needs and prepare

components 2 and 3. They will be beneficiaries of activities under component 3. Fundazucar It is expected to have a key role in promoting good agricultural practices for the production of sugarcane as well as to help mobilize private sector funds for ecosystem restoration.

Table 1. Stakeholders

Stakeholder	Expected Roles
Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN)	The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN) will be in charge project preparation and implementation. It will guide, strategically, the territorial and inter-institutional intervention that can lead to achieving stable restoration processes. It is expected that MARN will be in charge of monitoring and evaluation.
Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG)	The active involvement of this Ministry will be key for the effective design and implementation of the three components of the project. In particular, it will be key for the engagement with the sugar cane sector. It is expected that three MAG Directions will be involved in the technical design of the project during project preparation and also in the project implementation. These are: 1. Directorate of Forestry, Watersheds and Irrigation, 2. Directorate of Rural Development, and 3. Directorate of Plant Health.
Municipalities	Municipalities are responsible for overseeing land-use management at local level, within their areas of jurisdiction. Municipalities also provide support and technical assistance to agricultural producers. The involvement of these local governments will be very important for the design and implementation of the project. In particular, the project aims to strengthen their capacity to mainstream biodiversity and LDN considerations. Municipalities can contribute to promote, from Municipal Environmental Units and in some cases Agricultural Units, good agricultural practices and the conservation of the key ecosystems, besides contributing with municipal instruments, such as agreements and ordinances, to the territorial ordering of the municipality.
National Council for Environmental Sustainability and Vulnerability (CONASAV)	Serve as a multistakeholder engagement space at the national level. It is expected that CONASAV will help promote good agricultural practices, using sugar cane as a contributing factor towards restoration processes.
Local Advisory Committees on Protected Natural Areas (COAL)	Contribute to define restoration actions around protected areas and engage with local landowners
FIAES	Environmental investment fund that manage and invest resources for environmental sustainability. FIAES will serve as a cofinancer for restoration activities.
Inter-American Institute for Agriculture Cooperation (IICA)	IICA can serve to promote the dialogue between government institutions and agricultural producers; and to provide technical assistance.
National Agricultural and Forestry Technology Center (CENTA)	CENTA is expected to provide technical assistance and extension services to promote the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices and land restoration activities. In addition, this institution will be beneficiary of the project as it will be strengthened to ensure that sustainable agriculture and restoration technologies are institutionalized and can be promoted beyond the area and the lifespan of the project.

Restoration of Ecosystems and Landscapes Roundtable	This body will have an advisory role during project preparation and the and the project is expected to strengthen it as a way to improve governance for integrated landscape management.
National Indigenous Round Table on the Environment (MNIMA)	Participate in the various territorial organizational structures and propose concrete interventions actions from the indigenous cultural perspective.
Other NGOs that could be involved in project preparation	Promote and implement agricultural and environmental territorial initiatives; also generate processes for territorial organizational structures. The most important ones, located in the intervention area, are:
	- AMBAS, Association of Women of the Barra de Santiago
	- UNES, Salvadoran Ecological Unit
	- Aguacate Micro-basin Association
	- Ahuachapán Sur Livestock Association (AGAS)
	- Water Boards
PLAS Groups	Organized community groups that count with “Local Plans of Sustainable Use”. They are expected to be supported by the project in their conservation and restoration efforts.
Small and medium size farmers	They will be consulted during project preparation to further understand their needs and prepare component 2.
Agricultural Cooperatives	They will be consulted during project preparation to further understand their needs and prepare component 2.
Sugar cane Producers’ Association	Their participation during project design will be key to further understand their needs and prepare components 2 and 3. They will be beneficiaries of activities under component 3.
Fundazucar	It is expected to have a key role in promoting good agricultural practices for the production of sugarcane as well as to help mobilize private sector funds for ecosystem restoration.

In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.

The design will be guided by national public institutions which will be responsible for the implementation of the project. During project design the private sector, donor and financial partners, and civil society organizations will be invited to participate in preparatory activities to define the scope of specific project components such as capacity building activities, governance and market-based instruments. The MARN, supported by the Ministry of Agriculture will lead the implementation of the project. FIAES (Fund of the Initiative of the Americas) will support the implementation of the restoration activities and will support the MARN in the establishment of community-based agreements to accomplish the objectives of the project.

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis).

El Salvador has made important efforts to recognize and advance the rights of women by signing and ratifying major international treaties and including them in domestic legislation. However, improvements in the legal framework have not resulted in comparable progress in gender equality of endowments, such as health, education, economic opportunities, family dynamics voice and agency. Females also face limited participation in rural organization and access to land. In addition, males are significantly more likely to migrate than females, and females in households that receive remittances have lower labor force participation rates, which can put young women in a situation of being dependent on income support from remittances of male partners living abroad.

The proposed project recognizes that gender roles have impacts on both farming and land use decision, but the contribution of women is often unrecognized. During project preparation a diagnosis of gender relevant issues to the Project intervention will be carried out as part of the preparation of the Environmental and Social Framework instruments. This diagnosis will build on the analysis generated during REDD+ preparation to better identify practical gender needs, including conditions of women in terms of access to resources, services and opportunities, and strategic gender interests in terms of decision making. The project aims to contribute to close gender gaps, and it will encourage and monitor women participation of women in all the project activities.

Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes

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.

Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

Please briefly explain the rationale behind your answer.

The project will use an innovative approach to promote alliances with private sector actors such as sugar cane producers and processors to promote the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices and the investment on restoration of ecosystems that are key in terms of ecosystem services provision, by generating awareness of the true costs of land degradation and facilitating the leveraging private funds for ecosystem restoration. The project will strengthen natural resource management governance by engaging with the private sector and creating a private sector roundtable as a space of discussion and decision making in terms of landscape management for the private sector. Furthermore, the project seeks to establish innovative financing schemes to ensure the long term sustainability of restoration efforts and provision of ecosystem services.

Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And Gef Agency(ies)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter with this template).

Name	Position	Ministry	Date
Amanda Ulloa	International Cooperation	Environment and Natural Resources	10/16/2019

ANNEX A: Project Map and Geographic Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention takes place

PROGRAM/PROJECT MAP AND GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES

(Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention will take place)

MUNICIPIOS DE INTERVENCIÓN Y USO DE SUELO ÁREA DE CONSERVACIÓN IMPOSIBLE - BARRA DE SANTIAGO

