



## **Part I: Project Information**

### **GEF ID**

10866

### **Project Type**

FSP

### **Type of Trust Fund**

GET

### **CBIT/NGI**

CBIT No

NGI No

### **Project Title**

Comprehensive land management in forestry and agri-food systems of three water basins in Argentina to contribute to Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and to mitigation and adaptation to climate change

### **Countries**

Argentina

### **Agency(ies)**

CAF-CAF-GEF 034

### **Other Executing Partner(s)**

Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Argentine Republic

### **Executing Partner Type**

Government

### **GEF Focal Area**

Land Degradation

### **Sector**

AFOLU

### **Taxonomy**

Focal Areas, Influencing models, Stakeholders, Gender Equality, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Sustainable Livelihoods, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Pasture Management, Sustainable Agriculture, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Communications, Public Campaigns, Beneficiaries, Type of Engagement, Participation, Local Communities, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Capacity Development, Learning, Theory of change, Knowledge Exchange, Knowledge Generation, Innovation

**Rio Markers**

**Climate Change Mitigation**

Significant Objective 1

**Climate Change Adaptation**

Significant Objective 1

**Biodiversity**

**Land Degradation**

Significant Objective 1

**Submission Date**

9/23/2023

**Expected Implementation Start**

3/12/2024

**Expected Completion Date**

3/14/2028

**Duration**

48In Months

**Agency Fee(\$)**

236,104.00

**A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS**

<b>Objectives/Programs</b>	<b>Focal Area Outcomes</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>GEF Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Co-Fin Amount(\$)</b>
LD-1-1	Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services through SLM	GET	650,667.00	6,158,030.00
LD-1-2	Maintain or improve flow of ecosystem services through SFM	GET	650,666.00	6,160,526.00
LD-1-4	Reduce pressures on natural resources and increase resilience	GET	650,664.00	6,160,526.00
LD-2-5	Create enabling environments to support SLM and LDN	GET	671,380.00	6,492,650.00
<b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b>			<b>2,623,377.00</b>	<b>24,971,732.00</b>

## **B. Project description summary**

### **Project Objective**

To strengthen the territorial implementation of actions that simultaneously increasing climate resilience and improving productivity, guaranteeing social equity and environmental quality in forestry and agri-food systems in 3 water basins of the Argentine Republic.

<b>Project Component</b>	<b>Financing Type</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>GEF Project Financing (\$)</b>	<b>Confirmed Co- Financing( \$)</b>
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Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing (\$)
1. Comprehensive governance of land management within a LDN framework	Technical Assistance	<p>1.1. Consolidation of institutional political structure in charge of territorial planning at national and subnational level, within LDN framework and in synergy with adaptation and mitigation of climate change</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.1.a Number of regulatory proposals ready to be sent to legislative bodies for approval and/or update Target: Regulatory proposals prepared (Tucuman and Entre R?os)</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.1.b Modifications, adjustments and incorporations in the organizational structures of the institutions/organizations involved Target: Entre Rios - Promote the formation of a Basin Committee</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.2.a. Actions and contributions agreed upon in six identified multi-stakeholder spaces (CAN, ONDTyD, Sal?-Dulce River</p>	1.1.1. Provincial and local regulatory framework linked to land use planning and management developed and/or updated with LDN and climate change concepts	GE T	381,077.00	5,618,259.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing (\$)
		<p>Basin Committee, Pasaje-Juramento-Salado River Basin Committee, PIECAS-DP) Target: Entre R?os</p>				
		<p>- Agreed-upon knowledge management and demonstrative actions</p>	<p>1.1.2. Strengthened participation mechanisms for co-production and consultancy for comprehensive land management in multi-stakeholder spaces (national, inter-jurisdictional, and provincial inter-institutional), within the LDN framework and in synergy with climate change adaptation and mitigation</p>			
		<p>Indicator 1.1.2.b. Professionals and technicians participating in training activities on LD, LDN and adaptation to and mitigation of climate change Target: 500 or more professionals and technicians (50% women) participate in training activities on LD, NDT and climate change adaptation and mitigation</p>				
		<p>Indicator 1.1.2.c. Communication Strategy that improves the population's access to quality information regarding LD, LDN and adaptation to and mitigation of climate change Target: Design and implementation of a Communication Strategy that</p>				

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing (\$)
		<p>improves the population's access to quality information on LD, LDN and climate change adaptation and mitigation</p>				
		<p>Indicator 1.1.3. Provincial multisectoral meetings for the preparation of the provinces of Entre Ríos and Santiago del Estero PAPs, and for the implementation of Tucumán PAP Target: at least one formal meeting per province</p>	<p>1.1.3. The Provincial Action Plans to Combat</p>			



Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing (\$)
			<p>Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Mitigation (PAP) for the provinces of Entre Ríos and Santiago del Estero are prepared with gender perspective as instruments for the environmental management of the territory with LDN approach and adaptation and mitigation of climate change, and the implementation of the Tucumán PAP is supported</p>			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
2. Sustainable management in forests and agri-food systems that contribute to LDN	Technical Assistance	<p>2.1. Increased resilience of LD-affected ecosystems to climate variability and extreme weather events</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.1. Restored forest area (hectares) Target: Tucuman</p> <p>1. Forest Management (Marapa San Ignacio &amp; Balderrama y Tala Sub-Basins, 6500 ha) a) Protection and restoration of Native Forest b) Reforestation of native forest in the upper basin (3500 ha) 2. Forest Management in conjunction with Livestock (Cuenca Alta Marapa) Entre R?os - Integration of management measures (Sustainable management of 20,000 ha of native forest) - Enrichment of native forest (7,000 to 10,000 hectares) Santiago del Estero - Enrichment of degraded areas in riparian zones (6000 ha) - Implementation of</p>	2.1.1. Integration of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) measures into land use planning systems to avoid, reduce and reverse LD	GET	1,868,020.00	16,416,322.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing (\$)
		windbreaks (3000 ha) Target Core Indicator 3.2: 46,000 ha				
		Indicator 2.1.2. Number of investment plans in green infrastructure and sustainable mechanization Target: Tucum?n 1. Investment Plans and Sustainable Land Management (Marapa San Ignacio Sub-Basin) a) Optimization of irrigation and use of water (canals and roads) b) Systematization of surface runoff 2. Investment and green infrastructure - Management and restoration of riparian forests - Middle and lower basin Balderrama and Marapa - Tala gritter Entre R?os 3. Investment Plan Butia project - Plan for management and construction of terraces	2.1.2. Design and execution of investment plans (for example, green infrastructure, sustainable mechanization) with gender perspective.			
		Indicator 2.1.3. Community-Based Adaptation Principles applied, identifying and executing				

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing (\$)
		<p>adaptation measures that reduce the vulnerability of the community to climate change</p> <p>Target Core Indicator 3.1: 22,000 ha</p> <p>Target: Tucuman</p> <p>1. Community-Based Adaptation (Marapa San Ignacio Sub-Basin) (3500 ha, 200 beneficiaries)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technical and environmental training (100 beneficiaries)</li> </ul> <p>2. Community-Based Adaptation (Cuenca Trancas Hualinchai community)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Livestock control (1500 ha, 100 beneficiaries)</li> <li>- Irrigation management (2000 ha, 100 beneficiaries)</li> </ul> <p>Entre R?os</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Crop management with environmental techniques (Arroyo G?mez sub-basin, 7,000 ha, 400 beneficiaries)</li> </ul> <p>Santiago del Estero</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Livestock management in buffer zones of protected areas (8,000 ha, 340 beneficiaries)</li> </ul>	<p>2.1.3. Execution of Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) actions in native forests, wetlands and natural grasslands with significant carbon content, guaranteeing attention</p>			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
		<p>2.2. Improvement of land productivity and provision of ecosystem services in the intervention basins, contributing to improving the quality of life of the population</p> <p>Indicator 2.2.1 Area of productive systems under sustainable land management (hectares). Target Core Indicator 4.3. 39,000 ha Target: Tucuman Sustainable Land Management with small and medium local producers (Cuenca Marapa, 4000 ha, 200 beneficiaries) Entre R?os - Terraced reservoirs. Avoid water degradation by improving the quantity and quality of productive soils (5000 hectares) - Sustainable Land Management (30,000 ha) Indicator 2.2.1 Area of restored degraded agricultural land (hectares). Forest surfaces restored by climatic events (floods, droughts) and anthropic actions (fire) Target Core</p>	<p>to the vulnerable people</p> <p>2.2.1. Implementation of SLM in agri-food systems, with gender perspective integrated into territorial planning systems</p>			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing (\$)
		<p>Indicator 4.3: 21,000 ha Target: Tucuman Investment Plans (Marapa San Ignacio Sub Basin, 4000 ha) Sustainable Land Management with small and medium local producers (Cuenca Marapa, 2000 ha) Entre R?os Investment Plan Butia project (6000 ha) Santiago del Estero Forest Management with Integrated Livestock (MBGI) (9000 ha)</p>				
		<p>Indicator 2.2.2 Number of EbA measures identified, prioritized, implemented and coordinated with planning policies Target Core Indicator 4.4: 14,300 ha Target: Tucuman Santa Ana Provincial Park - Fire risk analysis (5000 ha) - Control of Overgrazing and control of exotics (2000 ha) Entre R?os Pre-Delta National Park - Control of invasive alien species (300 ha) Santiago del Estero</p>				

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
		Copo National Park - Control of exotic invasive species (4000 ha) - Fire risk analysis to work in Fire Management (3000 ha) Target Core Indicator 1.2: 134,727 ha Target Core Indicator 6.1: 5,231,544 tCO <sub>2</sub> e (direct) sequestration and/or avoided emissions	2.2.2. Execution of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) actions in protected natural areas			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
3. Innovative financing and resource mobilization	Technical Assistance	<p>3.1. Innovative financial mechanisms designed and implemented</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.1 New public and private participants brought to the working group, with specific commitments within the Resource Mobilization Strategy, classified by jurisdiction (national/subnational) Target: New participants and proposals in Tucuman, Entre Ríos and Santiago del Estero</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.2 Number of economic instruments for the promotion of productive activities aligned with the LDN guidelines and resilience to climate change Target: At least one incentive mechanism developed and available to producers</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.3 Number, gender and type of beneficiaries who go to the</p>	<p>3.1.1. Resource mobilization strategy designed and implemented with gender perspective.</p> <p>3.1.2. Incentive mechanisms co-developed with gender perspective, shared, and promoted</p>	GE T	174,957.00	1,748,021.00



Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing (\$)
		<p>market within sustainable production models  Target: at least 3250 beneficiary producers in Tucum?n, Entre R?os and Santiago del Estero</p> <p>Target Core Indicator 11: 15,000 or more total project beneficiaries (36% or more women)</p>	<p>3.1.3  Promotion of markets that integrate the entire value chain of sustainable local production models</p>			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 4 Monitoring and Evaluation	Technical Assistance	4.1 Effective project management, monitoring and evaluation, in accordance with the technical, administrative and fiduciary standards defined by CAF/GEF and the Argentinean legal framework, during project implementation.	4.1.1. Annual Work Plans, Annual Progress Reports.  4.1.2. Budgeted Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, Mid-Term Evaluation Report, Terminal Evaluation Report prepared and completed in accordance with the established deadlines.	GET	74,400.00	
<b>Sub Total (\$)</b>					<b>2,498,454.00</b>	<b>23,782,602.00</b>

**Project Management Cost (PMC)**

GET	124,923.00	1,189,130.00
<b>Sub Total(\$)</b>	<b>124,923.00</b>	<b>1,189,130.00</b>
<b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b>	<b>2,623,377.00</b>	<b>24,971,732.00</b>

Please provide justification

**C. Sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type**

<b>Sources of Co-financing</b>	<b>Name of Co-financier</b>	<b>Type of Co-financing</b>	<b>Investment Mobilized</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	10,489,963.00
Recipient Country Government	MAyDS -National Park Administration	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	715,338.00
Recipient Country Government	Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MAGyP by its Spanish acronyms)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3,531,907.00
Recipient Country Government	Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA by its Spanish Acronyms)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	6,348,323.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Works - National Water Institute (INA by its Spanish acronyms)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	137,646.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Justice and Human Rights- National Institute of Indigenous Affairs (INAI by its Spanish acronyms)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	114,797.00
Recipient Country Government	Government of the Province of Tucum?n	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	349,044.00
Recipient Country Government	Government of the Province of Santiago del Estero	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,073,622.00
Recipient Country Government	Government of the Province of Entre R?os	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,211,092.00
<b>Total Co-Financing(\$)</b>				<b>24,971,732.00</b>

**Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified**

In-kind contributions from the organisations correspond to: Costs incurred, including institutional management, accompaniment, monitoring and evaluation of the project, as well as operating costs or basic

services necessary to carry out the activities of the GEF Project, Equipment, Premises, Office material and photocopies, Lan Internet, Office rental, Telephone services, Courier, Meeting services, Postage. Time dedicated to the project, % of monthly salary of country staff: Coordination of the project support team, Administrative, communications and legal support. Technical support team for the project: Technical team made up of professionals from the provinces and professionals from the national government: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Administration of National Parks, Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, National Institute of Agricultural Technology, Ministry of Works - National Water Institute, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights - National Institute of Indigenous Affairs. Other expenses, equipment rental, spaces for events (workshops, courses, seminars), vehicles available for transfers in the territory, fuel, survey and monitoring activities.

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

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Focal Area</b>	<b>Programming of Funds</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Fee(\$)</b>	<b>Total(\$)</b>
CAF	GET	Argentina	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	2,623,377	236,104	2,859,481.00
<b>Total Grant Resources(\$)</b>					<b>2,623,377.00</b>	<b>236,104.00</b>	<b>2,859,481.00</b>

**E. Non Grant Instrument**

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

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Includes Non grant instruments?**No**

Includes reflow to GEF?**No**

**F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)**

PPG Required **true**

**PPG Amount (\$)**

91,743

**PPG Agency Fee (\$)**

8,257

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Focal Area</b>	<b>Programming of Funds</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Fee(\$)</b>	<b>Total(\$)</b>
CAF	GET	Argentina	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	91,743	8,257	<b>100,000.00</b>
<b>Total Project Costs(\$)</b>					<b>91,743.00</b>	<b>8,257.00</b>	<b>100,000.00</b>

## Core Indicators

### 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)
0.00	134,727.00	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	WDP A 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	134,727.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDP A 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)
Parque Nacional Copo	16846	National Park		118,119.00			35.00		



Name of the Protected Area	WDA 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)
Parque Nacional Pre Delta	97554	National Park		2,608.00			44.00		
Parque Provincial Santa Ana	16866	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources		14,000.00			34.00		

**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)
36816.00	68000.00	0.00	0.00

**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)
Rangeland and pasture	15,805.00	22,000.00		

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
21,011.00	46,000.00		

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

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

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

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
78449.00	74300.00	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)

**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)
78,449.00	60,000.00		

**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)
High Conservation Value Forest		14,300.00		

**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)
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**Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)**

Title Submitted

**Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated**

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (direct)	7151.507	5231544	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (indirect)	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)
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (direct)	7,151.507	5,231,544		
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting	2023	2025		
Duration of accounting	24	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 CO <sub>2</sub> e (direct)				
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)
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**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 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>	6,366	5,500		
<b>Male</b>	6,228	9,500		
<b>Total</b>	12594	15000	0	0

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

Area-based Core Indicator targets have been reviewed from PIF and finalised during the participatory stage, with provincial governments and other actors (protected area service, farmers, extension actors) participating in the review process. On the basis of these reviewed areas, EX-ACT was re-applied to obtain the CI 6 target. CI 11 has been obtained from field estimations, similarly reviewed during participatory instances. Systems that will be used for progress monitoring and impact evaluation include the Climate Change Risk Maps System (SIMARCC), an interactive tool that identifies the risks derived from climate change and allows visualizing the areas and people most vulnerable to the threats of climate change; the National Forest Monitoring System of Native Forests of the Argentine Republic; the Soil Information System - INTA; the Integrated Environmental Information System (SIInIA in its Spanish acronym) within the framework of the Environmental Information Center of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Nation (CIAM, Res. MAYDS N°161/2020); the National Environmental Information System, (SIAN in its Spanish acronym) which are the basis for the State of the Environment Report (IEA); and the Environmental Spatial Data Infrastructure (Environmental IDE). The Environmental Information Center (CIAM in its Spanish acronym), created by Resolution MAYDS No.

161/2020, makes available information generated within the scope of the National State, with contributions from other institutions, academia, civil society, and the private sector. It is under the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Nation to comply with laws 25,675, 25,831, 27,275 and Decree 117/2016. Currently, CIAM is under the purview of the Interjurisdictional and Interinstitutional Undersecretariat by Resolution MAdS 116/2022. The information in the SInIA is grouped into 16 thematic axes at the national level and disaggregated at regional or jurisdictional scales where the available information allows. The fundamental support is based on statistical series, indicators, maps, graphs, reports, images and videos developed by the technical areas of the MAdS and which are the basis for the State of the Environment Report (IEA), Environmental Spatial Data Infrastructure (Environmental IDE), and Open Data among others. Other systems that contain relevant information are: Forest Inventories ?DPF ?Ministry of Economy; Agricultural estimates; Other IDERA visualizers; and the Provincial IDEs of Tucum?n, Entre R?os and Santiago del Estero.

## Part II. Project Justification

### 1a. Project Description

1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

Argentina is the second largest country in South America and the eighth in the world with just over 2.7 million km<sup>2</sup> of continental surface and a large latitudinal range, which is expressed territorially in 18 varied ecoregions that include Antarctic environments, tropical forests, arid and semi-arid ecosystems, steppes, and temperate grasslands. The heterogeneity in terms of availability of resources correlates with the productive structure of the country, with the insertion of different export sectors (particularly the agri-food sector) in global and regional value chains as a highlight. Thus, the subnational geographic, climatic, demographic and institutional circumstances explain the main economic activities and their territorial ordering (MAyDS, 2020a).

Availability of these resources, their use and distribution, and the benefits they provide, is particularly conditioned by different processes of land degradation, and vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

According to data from the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Mitigation (PAN in its Spanish acronym, 2019), 40% of the Argentine continental territory (100 million hectares) is affected by different processes of deforestation, land degradation and drought (DLDD). This is evident both in agricultural areas of the humid and sub-humid region, and in the semi-arid and arid zone populated with native dry forests and grasslands, which advances at a pace of almost two million hectares per year.

Some of the main (Duguma et al., 2019) driving causes of DLDD in Argentina are: urban expansion; changes in land use and lack of sustainable forest management, overgrazing, and inadequate management of agriculture and livestock; unsustainable management of water for irrigation; anthropic activities using unsustainable techniques such as continuous tillage of agricultural lands; deforestation to advance the agricultural frontier, simplification of crop rotation; fires and the impacts associated with excess rainfall and extreme drought events.

These processes also cause an increase in the vulnerability of ecosystems and the population to climate change, which occurs through variations in temperature and rainfall. In most of the non-Patagonian Argentine Republic, there is an increase in the average temperature of around 0.5 °C during the period 1960-2010 and of more than 1 °C in maximum temperature in various areas of Patagonia. On the other hand, based on the information reflected in the 2019 National Climate Change Adaptation and

Mitigation Plan, for the period 1960-2010, increases in average annual rainfall were observed for most of the Argentine territory; being the most significant percentage increases in semi-arid areas. This change brought important consequences in the water balance and hydrology of the region. The impacts of DLDD, deepened by the effects of climate change, end up being evidenced in the decrease in the productive capacity of agricultural systems (Lal, 2007); the decrease in the delivery of forest and wetland ecosystem services (provision, support, regulation and cultural) and an increase in the vulnerability of ecosystems and the population to climate change.

These consequences, in turn, have a stronger impact in the context of a pandemic outbreak. In this sense, Argentina is not exempt from redoubling efforts to provide responses to the health situation and, simultaneously, join the post-pandemic global reconstruction effort by reaffirming its commitments assumed in the UNCCD, the UNFCCC and the CBD, and contributing to their objectives in an ambitious way and in the shortest possible time.

The present project aims to contribute to enhanced national and subnational institutional capacity for the incorporation of Land Degradation Neutrality in strategies, policies and governance in synergy with adaptation to and mitigation of climate change. In addition, the intervention will contribute to Argentina's voluntary LDN targets and NDC voluntary commitments to promote resilient socioecosystems, food security and enhanced quality of life in a framework of climate change mitigation and adaptation. This could be achieved if the barriers that currently exist can be overcome.

? Insufficient comprehensive planning and management of land use at landscape scale that implies a real response to DLDD and CC

? People's inertia to continue replicating unsustainable production, consumption and marketing practices

? Mismatch between deadlines and perceived costs and returns of necessary actions (long term) and their financing (short and medium term, if any).

Barrier 1. Insufficient comprehensive planning and management of land use at landscape scale that implies a real response to DLDD and CC

The issue of desertification, land degradation and drought, with the incorporation of the LDN approach, must be approached in a comprehensive manner, therefore, weak inter-institutional links that do not promote dialogue and coordination of public policies, hinder the coordination of the actions and, consequently, their effective impact on the territory. Insufficient opportunities for inter-institutional and inter-sectorial exchange and, therefore, for debate, discussion and obtaining consensus for a comprehensive approach to the territory, generate gaps, overlap of actions and ineffective management of resources, and impede the design of specific public policies on land degradation and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

It is necessary to deepen the dialogue and consensus between ministries and national organizations, between the Nation and the provinces on public policies regarding the protection of natural resources associated with the land degradation desertification and drought problem. These dialogue difficulties prevent the development of consensus for the design and adoption of regulatory frameworks and planning and management instruments, leveraged with resources that strengthen their sustainability. At the sub-national level (provincial and local), the specific objectives and emergencies do not have defined and institutionally consolidated coordination spaces to join forces that tend to increase the resilience of the land and the inhabitants who depend on it. Finally, the lack of coordination is not exclusive to the government sector; it also arises between the public sector and the private sector, within the academic and scientific community and in different sectors of civil society.

Finally, ineffective transfer of knowledge generated by the scientific-technical sector to the government sector at different levels has a direct impact on the design, implementation, monitoring and subsequent evaluation of LD-related public policies with a LDN approach. The public sector often urges decision-making that does not find technical/scientific support in the short term. The scarce coordination promotes that both spaces (government and science) end up operating according to their own objectives in a disconnected way and with partial approaches, which do not consider establishing clear goals and indicators contributing to mutual understanding and long-term monitoring.

Barrier 2. People's inertia to continue replicating unsustainable production, consumption and marketing practices

A factor that deserves to be highlighted for its potential influence on decision-making processes, is that for the vast majority of Inhabitants of 'tierra firme' (mainland) in the Rosario-La Plata Industrial Fluvial axis, it is not clear the Paran? Delta Region is a wetland ecosystem, in fact one of the most important in the Argentine Republic, and as such it supplies essential environmental services for daily life and human development to more than 15,000,000 people who live in its area of direct influence. This cultural factor perpetuates the historical idea that Paran? Delta region constitutes a marginal area, certainly wasted, that should be colonized and intervened both by productive undertakings and by urban settlements and their infrastructures.

Based on this widespread belief, attitudes and concrete actions keep being aligned within a frontier approach to wetlands, in which the existing ecosystem features are but an obstacle to overcome instead of assets to be preserved and sustainably used. The use of the territory with logic of the humid pampas, without adapting practices to the island ecosystem, with its advantages and difficulties, generates the dynamics of degradation found in the territory.

Barrier 3: Mismatch between deadlines and perceived costs and returns of necessary actions (long term) and their financing (short and medium term, if any)



In the absence of adequate regulation and its enforcement, of easy access to state-of-the-art knowledge, and of financial mechanisms that would provide financial sustainability to responsible land uses, landscape actors are submitted to the short-termism and immediate profit mindset brought by capital not bound to the landscape and its requirements of short term benefits, which drives frontier expansion, mismanagement of water resources, use of fire and other practices that have been identified as problematic above.

Furthermore, the lack of dedicated economic instruments means that, where the drive to transit to more sustainable practices exist, it is thwarted by the financial realities of short-term financial pressure and long-term financial benefits of these practices.

Once such instruments exist, they would generate a virtuous circle of results, money flows and knowledge that would sustain the project outcomes after its end.

## 2) the baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects

Intervention areas are selected in three representative dry and sub-humid watersheds, in which the existence of specific, but widespread LD processes are known. These sites are distributed between Tucum n, Entre R os and Santiago del Estero Provinces.

Sal  - Dulce River Basin (Province of Tucum n) is an interjurisdictional basin that extends over the territory of the provinces of Catamarca, Salta, Tucum n, Santiago del Estero and C rdoba. It covers about 57,000 km<sup>2</sup> and approximately 2.5 million people live there. The sub-basin of the Sal  River (upper region) is located in Tucum n province within the semi-arid Chaco (PAN, 2019). In this area, three economic development zones coexist. The one with the highest development, which includes three production cores of fruit and vegetable production. which extends from the capital's area of influence to the department of Famaill ; the sugar mill area, which runs along the central corridor where most of the sugar mills are located; and the lemon tree area, territorially associated with the departments of Capital, Taf  Viejo, Cruz Alta and specific areas in the departments of Famaill  and Burruyac . Followed by a medium-development zone characterized by less intense agro-industrial integration processes and dairy production. And the zone with the greatest primarization of the economy, made up from a grain production area in an eastern provincial strip, as well as the far north and mountainous areas to the west.

The area of the Sal -Dulce Basin is 70% in a critical environmental condition and in a process of degradation, while the remaining 30% is vulnerable territory. Its evaluation showed that the east-south region of the province shows important signs of degradation such as increased soil erosion, decreased fertility, reduced biodiversity, and contamination of water resources, negative balances of nutrients and carbon, and desertification in marginal areas.

Within the Sal? - Dulce basin is the sub-basin of the Balderrama river. It is a hydrographic basin that drains an area of approximately 1.200 km<sup>2</sup>. The Balderrama River originates in the Sierras de San Javier and flows into the Sal? River. It is an important freshwater reservoir for the province of Tucum?n. The river is used for crop irrigation, human consumption, and hydroelectric power generation. It is home to a variety of ecosystems, including forests, grasslands, and wetlands. These ecosystems are home to a variety of plant and animal species, including the chacoan peccary, giant armadillo, and maned wolf. The population of the Balderrama river basin is composed mainly of small towns and rural communities. The population is mainly engaged in agriculture, livestock, and fishing, and is growing slowly, fueled by agricultural development and tourism.

Likewise, within the Sal? ? Dulce basin is the sub-basin of the Marapa river, with an area of approximately 1.000 km<sup>2</sup>. The Marapa River originates in the Sierras de San Javier and flows into the Sal? River. It is also a freshwater reservoir for the province of Tucum?n, where it is used for crop irrigation, human consumption, and hydroelectric power generation. The Marapa river basin is home to forests (pine, oak, quebracho), grasslands (grasses, shrubs, savannas) and wetlands where the chacoan peccary, the giant armadillo and the maned wolf are found. The population is organized in small towns and rural communities and is mainly dedicated to agriculture, livestock and fishing. It grows slowly driven by agricultural development and tourism.

Relevant legislation of the Province of Tucum?n includes::

- ? Law 6,253. General standards and application methodology for the defense, conservation and improvement of the environment
- ? Law 6,290/91. Agricultural soil conservation law. Regulated by Decree 4.050/07
- ? Law 9,374. The Legislature of the province sanctions: Article 1. Official and private action that tends to conserve agricultural and/or forest land is declared to be of Public Interest.
- ? Law 22,428 of Soil Conservation. Law 5,294/81 (modified by Law 5,344/81). Adherence to Law 22,428
- ? Law 7.393/04. Adherence to the General Environmental Law 25,675
- ? Law 9,300. General standards and application methodology for the defense, conservation and improvement of the Environment. Modified by Law No. 6,253
- ? Law 8,304. Provincial Law of Territorial Planning of Native Forests of Tucum?n Province

The Provincial Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Mitigation for Tucum?n province (PAP in its Spanish acronym, 2021), shows Serious and Very Serious threats for this region.

The regulation of land use and productive practices in these agroecosystems of depressed salt flats and Chaco-Pampean plains is still insufficient to guarantee their sustainability. Law No. 8304 refers to delimited areas with the presence of native forest, but for the rest of the agroecosystems, such as

valleys and areas with irrigated agriculture, depressed plain, Chaco-Pampean plain, Yungo foothills, rural-urban interface areas, etc., land use regulations and productive practices still have deficiencies.

For this reason, the Tucum?n PAP, through the Multisectoral Committee (MSC), identifies the need for land use planning and control of desertification and land degradation plans for the defined ecoregions, an activity to which this project can contribute substantially.

Paran? River Basin (Entre R?os Province): The territory is formed by a portion of the islands of the Paran? River in its middle stretch, from the cities of Paran? and Santa Fe to the south, and the Paran? River delta, including the upper, middle and lower delta. It corresponds in part to the territory of the Comprehensive Strategic Plan for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Paran? Delta (PIECAS-DP), with a total area of 2,300,326 ha (364,232 ha for the province) of Buenos Aires, 1,757,500 ha to the province of Entre R?os and 178,594 ha to the province of Santa Fe). The Paran? basin, and in particular the Delta, due to its location adjacent to the sector with the highest population density in the country and due to its essential functions as a highly complex wetland, is an important provider of environmental services that contribute to the quality of life, safety and health of more than fifteen million people. The Paran? river delta has suffered recurring episodes of fires in recent decades, especially in 2008 and 2012. In 2020, the fires returned significantly. The area affected by fires between January and September 2020 in the PIECAS-DP territory was 328,995 ha, which represents 14.3% of the total. 86% of the burned area is concentrated in the province of Entre R?os.

For this project, the area corresponding to the province of Entre R?os in the upper Delta is selected, mainly the Diamante department, where land degradation processes converge with important areas destined for the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources delimited in national parks and a RAMSAR site. Within the Paran? River Basin, the Ensenada sub-basin extends over an area of approximately 2,000 km<sup>2</sup>. The sub-basin is an area of wetlands and riparian forests, rich in biodiversity (capibara, broad-snouted caiman, neotropical otter). It is also important for fishing and tourism. The population of Ensenada sub-basin is distributed in small towns and rural communities, dedicated mainly to agriculture, livestock and fishing. It constitutes an extensive mosaic of wetlands with unique ecological characteristics. It has high environmental heterogeneity and provides a wide variety of habitats for biological diversity and ecosystem services, such as the provision and improvement of water quality, flood regulation, erosion control, flood protection, provision of food and retention of carbon and sediments, among others. These ecosystem services are strongly threatened by both human activities and natural events.

Relevant provincial legislation includes:

? Law 8,318. Use and conservationist management of soils in the Province that, due to their natural conditions and by anthropic action, show symptoms or susceptibility to degradation

? Law 10,284. Territorial planning of native forest in Entre R?os province

? Law 10,650. Modification of Law No. 8318, of Declaration of provincial interest and subject to conservation management soils that show symptoms or susceptibility to degradation

The region is going through a low historical flow in the Paraná River. The lack of rain (extraordinary drought) in La Plata Basin and in the delta in particular, added to the occurrence of winter frosts that dried up the biomass, generating a large amount of combustible material, create favorable conditions for fires. However, it is very probable that the occurrence of fires is of anthropic origin, due to management practices of natural pastures for cattle fodder (regrowth burning), irregular hunting activities, recreational activities, and others.

Other problems this area presents are linked to the lack of productive diversity that, since the mid-1980s, has been mainly concentrated in forestry, fishing, livestock, beekeeping and tourism. The advance of humid pampa crops, supported by high profitability, puts pressure on the region and has prompted the construction of numerous illegal embankments and pipelines for the development of intensive agriculture, which represents a strong environmental risk. Likewise, many small and medium-sized producers are affected by the modification of water bodies and the hydrological regime in general. The increase in the number of animals in the islands can cause contamination of water and soil by slurry, degradation and impoverishment of pastures and displacement of native fauna.

In this context, PIECAS-DP and other expert sources, recommend moving forward with interjurisdictionally agreed guidelines for the environmental planning of the territory, which regulate productive activities development, maintaining degrees of human intervention at levels compatible with maintenance of functions and ecosystem services of these wetlands (Somma et al., 2022).

Pasaje-Juramento-Salado River Basin (Santiago del Estero Province): Pasaje-Juramento-Salado River comprises an important river system that runs over a length of 1,500 km, from the northwestern limit of the country to its mouth in the river Paraná, in front of the city of Santa Fe. Its contribution basin is found mainly in the provinces of Salta, Santiago del Estero and Santa Fe and, to a lesser extent, the provinces of Catamarca and Tucumán. Within the province of Santiago del Estero, the Salado River runs within a uniform general course, with a straight channel of 530 km in length. For the project, an area to the northwest of the province is defined where the river enters from Salta.

Relevant provincial legislation of Santiago del Estero includes:

- ? Law 6,321/97. Defense, conservation and improvement of environment and natural resources
- ? Law 22,428/81. Promotion of soil conservation
- ? Law 6,841. Conservation and multiple use of forest areas in Santiago del Estero province
- ? Law 6.942. Provincial Law of Territorial Planning of Native Forests of Santiago del Estero Province

Given the arid or semi-arid conditions for a large part of Santiago del Estero provincial territory, productive activities, especially agricultural activities and demographic growth, have been developed in areas where the availability of water is more abundant and it is regularly distributed (area of influence of the Dulce and Salado Rivers). Both rivers have salinization problems. Forestry, livestock and agriculture are the most important productive activities in the province, within five productive regions: the forestry-livestock zone, which extends to the northeast of the province; the rainfed agriculture zone,

which occupies the northwest; the mixed agricultural-livestock zone, which covers the southwest; the area of intensive agriculture under irrigation that occupies the centre and two livestock areas, which comprise the south and southeast of the province.

In the last quarter of a century, soybeans have had an unprecedented growth, with sustained increase. In the province, the area devoted to this crop increased significantly between 1988 and 2003, ranking among the five provinces of Argentina with the highest production of this oilseed. This increase in the rate of production is produced mainly through the increase in area sown and, to a much lesser extent, to the incorporation of technologies. The greatest increase in cultivated area during the period 1988-2003 occurred in the Northeastern departments of the province. However, during the 2001/2002 and 2002/2003 campaigns, there is a marked growth in the provision of land for this crop in the central and eastern part of the province.

The expansion of the agricultural frontier is led by the cultivation of soybeans, along with corn, wheat and to a lesser extent cotton. This process, whose main protagonists are businessmen from other provinces (especially Santa Fe and Cordoba) and other countries, has generated a very high pressure on the ecosystems existing in the province and consequently on the local population. Regarding livestock production, Santiago del Estero is the province with the greatest development of this activity in northwest Argentina, with 50% of the regional livestock headcount.

The decrease in forest heritage, as well as the irrationality observed in the expansion of the agricultural frontier, point to the overexploitation of natural resources.

In spite of the common main root causes for land degradation in Argentina, which includes both human activities and natural events, for each project site it is possible to find specific threats associated to its own territorial reality.

In Tucumán province root causes of land degradation are primarily results of human activities like industrial development, agricultural exploitation and urban expansion. Underlies these activities the use of inappropriate technologies that generate deterioration of ecosystems; absence of public policies that guarantee community participation and strengthening of governance; as well as lack of monitoring and technical support of actions initiated within the framework of programs implemented by government agencies.

The Ministry of Productive Development of Tucumán, National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA in its Spanish acronym), National University of Tucumán, indigenous communities, and small producer cooperatives integrate the Multisectoral Committee. The Multisectoral Committee, responsible for the elaboration of the Provincial Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Mitigation establishes the need of a more precise regulation, added to the strengthening of enforcement capacities of the entities that act as law enforcement authority. However, it is important this Committee coordinates with the Sal? Dulce River Basin Interjurisdictional Committee in order to integrate actions and optimize financial resources within the framework of PAP and Management Plan of Sal? Dulce Basin.

In Middle Paran? River Basin - Paran? Delta (Entre R?os Province), the root causes of land degradation are unsustainable agricultural/livestock management, deforestation, agricultural use of fire and agricultural intensification.

In the islands of the Paran? Delta, fire has been a tool used systematically for removal of vegetation with little or no forage value. This practice is carried out on land destined for livestock rearing, mainly at the end of winter, to favours regrowth of tender grasses with greater palatability. These practices often lead to uncontrolled fires. The number of fires started, added to conditions of drought recorded for the years 2008, 2012 and 2020 and maximum fuel availability, determined the unleashing of fires of significant intensity and extension. The described scenario motivated in 2008 the intervention of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Nation through the Fire Management National Service in coordination with Buenos Aires, Entre R?os and Santa F? provinces, INTA, Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries of the Nation, National Park Administration and National Water Institute. This interinstitutional coordination allowed the identification of coincidences and minimal consensus regarding the opportunity and convenience of a regional plan that goes from the earlier view that identified it as a marginal area, with severe limitations, to become an attractive space in which agricultural activities characteristic of the humid pampas biome can find fertile ground. These are being displaced from that central area, due to the generalization of others with greater profitability and greater inflows of foreign currency. This phenomenon is known as ?pampeanization? of wetlands.

In Santiago del Estero province, the root causes of land degradation are land use change, overgrazing, deforestation, unsustainable forest management, unsustainable agricultural/livestock management and excessive water irrigation.

Forestry, livestock and agriculture are the most important productive activities in the province, but an analysis of the environmental and socioeconomic situation of the province, shows that unsustainable agricultural and forestry activities have intensified the processes of environmental degradation and have had a negative influence on the economic and social development of the region. Unsustainable forest management has damaged 70% of productive forests. The agricultural area is currently six times greater than it was twenty-five years ago, while the livestock headcount has not changed significantly in that period. Environmental deterioration in productive areas is mainly due to overexploitation of forests, inadequate management of agriculture and livestock, and unsustainable management of water for irrigation.

The advance of crops from the humid pampas, supported by their high profitability, puts pressure on the region and has prompted the construction of numerous illegal embankments and canalizations for intensive agriculture development. Small and medium-sized producers are harmed by modification of bodies of water and hydrological regime in general.

The project intervention areas are being strongly affected by climate change, with widespread disruption of climate patterns that has been increasingly observed over the last two decades. The most important incidents in terms of sustainable development occur in precipitation regimes, with an increase in their variability that also causes droughts and catastrophic phenomena associated with

torrential precipitation, which are increasing in volume and frequency within the general framework of existing drought. This requires the implementation of measures that increase resilience of ecosystems, practices dependent on them and the communities that carry out these practices as part of their livelihoods.

The project includes measures to strengthen the resilience of forests, food systems and associated communities against the impacts produced by climate change. From the implementation of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) and sustainable forest management (SFM) practices, Community-Based and Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (CbA, EbA) actions can be added in native forests, wetlands and natural grasslands in the general landscape and protected areas, guaranteeing attention to vulnerable people; and investment plans (for example, green infrastructure, sustainable mechanization) that allow implementation of adaptation measures based on infrastructure, nature or governance.

The project objectives fall within the "Sustainable management of food systems and forests", one of the six strategic lines prioritized by the National Adaptation Plan for Climate Change Mitigation (2019). It aims to safeguard food sovereignty and security and reduce the vulnerability of agricultural, fishing, forestry and agro-industrial production systems to the impacts of climate change.

The baseline includes three categories of programs and resources, all of which represent Argentina's baseline effort to fight land degradation, desertification and drought and improve the resilience to climate change effects: a) Programs planned and financed within the framework of national environmental laws; b) National sectoral programs and c) Executed and ongoing projects. These programs, projects and actions are already executed or were executed by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Argentina Republic and by the institutions that are proposed as partners in the implementation of this project.

Programs planned and financed within the framework of national environmental laws

Law 26,331 on Native Forests establishes minimum standards for conservation and sustainable use and management of native forests and ecosystem services. The law established the National Fund for the Enrichment and Conservation of Native Forests which applies seventy percent (70%) to compensate the owners of the lands on whose surface native forests are conserved, whether public or private, according to their conservation categories; and b) thirty percent (30%) for institutional strengthening of National and Subnational native forests authorities. For Tucumán, Santiago del Estero y Entre Ríos provinces it is estimated for 2023 around US \$ 3,500,000.

National Plan for Native Forests Restoration of (PNRBN by its Spanish acronyms). Its objective is to reach twenty thousand hectares per year under restoration by 2030 and contribute to the National Strategy for Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change. This Plan has implementation experience to the south of Tucumán province and near Dulce River in Santiago del Estero province, that is why this project is going to complement these interventions.

National Forest Management Plan with Integrated Livestock (MBGI by its Spanish acronyms) proposes achieving profitable production of meat and timber and non-timber products, in a compatible manner with the conservation of the native forest, its biodiversity and its ecosystem services, in a framework of environmental, economic and social sustainability. This Plan has implementation experience in a few sites in Santiago del Estero province.

National Monitoring System for Native Forests provides up-to-date information on the country's native forest resources and allows monitoring the implementation of the Native Forest Law (Law No. 26,331), collaborating in complying with international agreements assumed by the country on climate change and providing information to society about the importance of native forests.

Other laws in direct relation to LD are Law 27,520 on Climate Change; Law 22,351 Parks, National Reserves and Natural Monuments; Law 23,919 Approves the Convention Relating to Wetlands; and Law 26,562 Minimum Budgets for Control of Burning Activities. These legal bodies provide the institutional and regulatory framework in which fight against land degradation and drought is currently being carried out by the Ministry and provincial partners.

Law 26,815 Creation of the Federal Fire Management System: establishes the minimum premises of environmental protection regarding forest and rural fires in the national territory. Creates the National Fire Management Service and the National Fire Management Fund. In 2021, it was set up/constitution of the trust for the administration of the National Fire Management Fund. The creation of the aforementioned trust increases the financing of the National Fire Management System (SNMF) by \$ 2,640 million, which is added to the 2021 national budget. The financing of this fund will be destined specifically to the acquisition of necessary goods and services; the hiring and training of temporary personnel to act in the extinction of forest and rural fires; Infrastructure works necessary for better prevention, control and execution of the tasks related to the actions of the personnel.

Likewise, it will serve for the dissemination and knowledge of the causes and consequences of forest and rural fires; conducting courses, studies and research; Personnel expenses, general expenses and investments that the operation of the Federal Fire Management System demands, and to solve the logistics in the extinction of fires. This is very important for the intervention sites. Specifically for Delta del Paran? site where in the period between January to September 2020, 328,995 Ha were burned, representing approximately 14% of the PIECAS-DP territory; 86% of which correspond to Entre R?os province.

#### National sectoral programs

Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGyP in its Spanish acronym) national programs: Formulation of Extensive and Intensive Agriculture Policies; Regime for the Promotion of Bovine Livestock in Arid and Semi-arid Zones Law 27.066; Sustainability and Forest Competitiveness (IDB 2853/OC-AR); Productive Reconversion for Agricultural SMEs (Rural Change); Regime for the Recovery, Promotion and Development of Caprine Activity (Law 26,141); Regime for the Promotion of Investments in Cultivated Forests (Law 25,080); Formulation of Policies for the Agricultural Information System:



Actions for the Industrial Forestry Development Plan; Socio-Economic Inclusion in Rural Areas - PISEAR (IBRD 8093-AR); Economic Insertion of Small Producers in the Value Chains of Northern Argentina - (IFAD 642-AR); Formulation of Policies for the Development of Family Farming and Territorial Development; Comprehensive Risk Management in the Rural Agroindustrial System - GIRSAR- (IBRD 8867-AR): Development of Agro-productive Areas (CABEI); Provincial Agricultural Services, IDB PROSAP V. US \$ 3,531,907 are the baseline during the 4 years of the project.

The National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA in its Spanish acronym), through its extension, research and development activities, will contribute a baseline of US \$ 6,348,323 million in the 4 years of the project. Its contribution to the project coincides with the diversity of its field of action, which ranges from the survey of environmental and productive indicators, research to a wide coverage capacity throughout the country for the transfer of technology.

To carry out the public policies and sectoral projects mentioned above, within the framework of current legislation, there is a solid national institutional base for fight DLDD providing a floor of inter-institutional coordination, and administration and coordination of resources. Institutions, bodies and instruments for the planning and management of the fight against DLDD: National Directorate of Environmental Planning and Management of the Territory (DNPYOAT in its Spanish acronym) is the administrative unit of the Argentine Government (MAyDS) responsible for the formulation and implementation of a national policy of promotion of environmental land use planning and of conservation and sustainable management of soils. In addition, it is the focal point for PAN and UNCCD; the National Advisory Commission for the Fight against Desertification (CAN) is created by SAyDS (later MAyDS) Resolution 302/2003 to advise the Argentinean UNCCD Focal Point; the National Action Program to Combat desertification, land degradation and to mitigate drought (PAN) is updated to 2030 (Resolution SAyDS 70/2019); Provincial Action Programs to Fight Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (PAPs): currently the provinces of La Rioja and Tucum?n have their PAPs, while Mendoza, Salta, San Juan and Catamarca are in advanced stages of elaboration; Multisectoral Committee to Fight Desertification, Drought and Land Degradation in the province of Tucum?n (CMS Tucum?n - 2017). PRAIS Reports and National Voluntary Goals for LDN: the National Observatory of Land Degradation and Desertification (ONDTyD in its Spanish acronym) is an inter-institutional network of organizations throughout the country, chaired by MAyDS and led by a directive commission made up from the National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET in its Spanish acronym), the National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA in its Spanish acronym), the Faculty of Agronomy of the University of Buenos Aires and the Argentine Institute for Research in Arid Zones (IADIZA). National System for the Evaluation and Monitoring of Land Degradation and Desertification in Argentina: developed by the ONDTyD, it is a web platform designed for the publication of projects and activities related to soil conservation and the fight against desertification in Argentina, administered by and intended for technicians and academics. In spite of all of these national institutions and intersectoral advisory and research organisms, the subnational level (provincial and local), doesn't reflect the same.

That is why, interjurisdictional, multilevel and multisectoral coordination in the intervention sites is fundamental. The 3 basins selected for the execution of the project have intersectoral and interprovincial coordination bodies created 50 years ago in the case of the Sal?-Dulce River and Pasaje-

Juramento River Basin Committees, and more than 10 years ago for the High Level Interjurisdictional Committee of PIECAS - DP; which implies experience and local knowledge for the implementation of actions. These are the bodies in charge of carrying out the Management and/or Strategic Plans to achieve the sustainable development of the basins.

Spaces for inter-institutional coordination and monitoring and evaluation systems at the national level, linked to the planning and management of the fight against LD: they function as operational support and political technical complement since it includes spaces for multisectoral participation that allow the coordination of the matters of the 3 Rio conventions in a context of federalism. These are: the Federal Council for the Environment (COFEMA in its Spanish acronym); the National Cabinet for Climate Change and the National Advisory Commission for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity (CONADIBIO in its Spanish acronym). Likewise, some specific intersectoral spaces such as the National Technical Committee of the National Plan for the Management of Forests with Integrated Grazing (MBGI) - (CTN-MBGI) made up from technicians from MAYDS, the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of the Nation and INTA.

#### Executed and ongoing projects

Argentina has experience in executing projects related to LD, of which a list of the main ones follows:

1. Global project "Decision Support for the Expansion and Integration of Sustainable Land Management" in which the country has participated since 2015;
2. Project "Sustainable Land Management in the Dry Zones of NOA and Cuyo" (MST NOA - Cuyo);
3. Project "Alignment of the National Action Program with the UNCCD Ten-Year Strategy" (GCP/ARG/027/GFF);
4. UNDP Project ARG/06/008 "Construction of Strategic Financial Alliances for the Consolidation of PAN".
5. The Native Forests and Community project (2015-2021) which promotes the rational use of forests and strengthens communities so that they can remain in their territories with the support of the goods and services they offer. Through a loan of 58.7 million dollars granted by the World Bank (BIRF 8493 - AR), together with a national investment of 2.5 million dollars, it seeks to promote productive use through the implementation of sustainable forest management plans that benefit small producers, native and *campesino* communities of Chaco, Santiago del Estero, Salta, Jujuy and Misiones. The project will reach some 150,000 beneficiaries who will have access to works, goods, equipment, training and information and its implementation will be carried out through five areas of investment and application. The implementation agency is PNUD. Component 1: Sustainable Livelihoods - Rooting of Communities, Component 2: Native Forest Management and Civil Society, Component 3: Skills development and technology transfer, Component 4: Forest monitoring and Component 5: Project management and impact control. In Santiago del Estero province, the project is implementing actions on Alberdi, Copo and Pellegrini departments.
6. An important program is actually implementing in PIECAS-DP territory by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development calls "Conservation Lighthouses Network Program" which consists of establishing nodes of a network of protected areas in different parts of the delta, to strengthen the institutional and operational presence in the territory, and radiate protection over the wetland. Up to date, there are five (5) Conservation Lighthouses and one of them is near Pre Delta National Park in Entre Ríos province.

A relevant initiative from the international cooperation is the project "Management and restoration of forests in productive environments in the Great American Chaco". This EUROCLIMA+ project was carried out from 2019 to 2022 by the National Institute of Agricultural Technology of Salta, together with the Paraguayan Institute of Agricultural Technology, the Brazilian Company of Agricultural Research and the Bolivian Nature, Earth and Life institution, with Expertise France as the European agency designated for the implementation. The aim of the project was to improve the socio-ecological resilience of local populations through the strengthening of forest management devices and territorial governance. For this, sustainable management approaches for forests and associated ecosystems are promoted through proposals for the compatibility of production and conservation on a multiple scale.

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA in its Spanish acronym), the inter-American agency specialized in agriculture with the mission to "stimulate, promote, and support the efforts of the Member States to achieve their agricultural development and rural well-being through international technical cooperation of excellence" includes the Climate Change and Natural Resources Program which has carried out multiple projects in this area in cooperation with the Government, offering the contribution of its technicians and coordination with specialists from all of the headquarters and country offices in the countries.

3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project

In the baseline context, the government of Argentina is committed to face the challenges to achieve comprehensive planning and management of land use at landscape scale that imply a real response to DLDD and climate change (Barrier 1) and break people's inertia to continue replicating unsustainable production, consumption and marketing practices (Barrier 2), among other measures by providing mechanisms for the financial sustainability of land use and productive activities that take into account the externalities of current and desired practices (Barrier 3).

To achieve this final goal, suitable intervention sites in which to pilot an innovative, comprehensive approach were selected. A theory of change was formalised, developing the needed outcomes and outputs to overcome the current barriers while generating triple-loop learning to provide sustainability and self-amplifying potential to the intervention. The intervention sites are experiencing reduction of agricultural productivity, reduction in ecosystem service provision and long-term climate change vulnerability of ecosystems and human settlements loops back into the other drivers respectively. That is why the main goal of this project is to strengthen the territorial implementation of actions that simultaneously increase climate resilience and improve productivity, guaranteeing social equity and environmental quality in their forestry and agri-food systems. To achieve this goal, Sustainable Land Management is proposed as a key strategy, and includes working on strengthening comprehensive land management governance, sustainable management actions in forest and agri-food systems and development and implementation of innovative finance and mobilization of resources for the sustainability of the intervention. These high level change levers (Components 1, 2 and 3) are proposed

to address the root causes of land degradation in the forest and agro-food systems selected while overcoming the current existing barriers. The project work in regulation and institutions, governance, innovation, resilience, ecosystem services provision and innovative financial mechanisms (project Outcomes) will be the specific change levers to achieve this goal.

Component 1. Comprehensive governance of land management within a LDN framework

Expected Outcome 1.1. Consolidation of institutional political structure in charge of territorial planning at national and subnational level, within LDN framework and in synergy with adaptation and mitigation of climate change

To obtain this result, outputs and targets are envisaged as follows:

? 1.1.1. Provincial and local regulatory framework linked to land use planning and management developed and/or updated with LDN and climate change concepts

- o The project provides support to national, provincial and local public entities for the development of proposals, revision and updating of regulations related to NDT considering climate change.

- o Meetings between provincial ministries, municipalities, producer associations, NGOs, business organizations, MAYDS, universities and research and extension institutions. Technical training. Presentations to the corresponding organisms (Ministries, Legislature)

- o Targets

? Tucuman

- Propose modification of decree 2025 09/2021 in the following points:

  - Support the creation of an executing agency for Integrated Land Management, soil degradation and climate change projects

  - Propose the adaptation of the Revolving Fund mechanism for desertification

- Support the incorporation of considerations on adaptation and mitigation to climate change in the regulations of Law 9374 on Soil Conservation

- Support the incorporation of the PAP in the Provincial Climate Change Response Plan

- Contribute to the harmonization of the law updating the OTBN (in preparation) with Law 9374, reinforcing the function of the native forest in the prevention of land degradation and the obligation of restoration by the owners on the properties that suffered processes of soil losses due to unauthorized clearings

? Entre R?os

- Support the updating and implementation of the Soil Conservation Law

- Propose a draft Territorial Planning Law

- Support the regulation of Basin Committees

? 1.1.2. Strengthened participation mechanisms for co-production and consultancy for comprehensive land management in multi-stakeholder spaces (national, inter-jurisdictional, and provincial inter-institutional), within the LDN framework and in synergy with climate change adaptation and mitigation

- o The project convenes, supports and boosts these participation mechanisms throughout its duration
- o Institutional participation in these spaces implies a commitment to the development of management tools and agreed actions focused on NDT and Climate Change, according to each multi-stakeholder space.
- o The invitations take into account the gender and territorial balance
- o Target

? Entre R?os

- Development of a sustainable management plans Manual that considers relevant issues such as:
  - Control of exotic species focused on Extraction
  - Management of terraces
- Dissemination and training mechanisms for the application of regulations related to land use planning and soil conservation
- Strengthening of Local Governments
- Work with island farmers
- Coordination between institutional areas
- Training workshops
- Dissemination information (actions in progress)
- Investigation
- Knowledge transfer (agrotechnical schools, cooperatives, National Parks Administration, Universities)
- Tree Nursery
- Island community with local production

? 1.1.3. The Provincial Action Plans to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Mitigation (PAP) for the provinces of Entre R?os and Santiago del Estero are prepared as instruments for the environmental management of the territory with LDN approach and adaptation and mitigation of climate change, and the implementation of the Tucum?n PAP is supported

- o The project convenes, supports and boosts meetings of working groups throughout its duration
- o Institutional participation in these working groups implies a commitment to the development of PAPs focused on NDT and Climate Change (Entre R?os, Santiago del Estero) and the implementation of Tucum?n PAP
- o The invitations take into account the gender and territorial balance
- o Targets

? Entre R?os

- Coordination working groups between the provincial government and local governments (Inclusion of at least 10 local actors).

? Tucum?n

- Inter-institutional coordination for PAP application

- Operation of the Sali Basin Committee and Marapa and Balderrama sub-basins

? Santiago del Estero

- Working groups residents application authority management areas in order to agree on protocols and regulations

- Local working groups meetings with provincial authorities

GEF support for this component, under Objective 2 of the LD Focal Area Strategy, aims to strengthen institutional capacity for good governance of territory management through strengthening participation mechanisms for co-production and advice for comprehensive management of the territory in spaces of multiple actors at the national and interjurisdictional level: CAN, ONDTyD, Sal?-Dulce River Basin Committees, Pasaje-Juramento-Salado River Basin Committee, PIECAS-DP, through strengthening liaison and coordination between these levels and the provincial and local governments, for an effective coordination of policies and a sustained liaison that promotes synergies and consolidates long-term strategies for their implementation in situ.

Component 2. Sustainable management in forests and agri-food systems that contribute to LDN

Expected Outcome 2.1. Increased resilience of LD-affected ecosystems to climate variability and extreme weather events

To obtain this result, outputs are envisaged as follows:

? 2.1.1. Integration of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) measures into land use planning systems to avoid, reduce and reverse LD

The project provides incremental support to sustainable forest management, forest protection and forest restoration actions

? 2.1.2. Design and execution of investment plans (for example, green infrastructure, sustainable mechanization)

The project convenes, supports and boosts meetings for design and implementation of investment plans in green infrastructure and sustainable mechanization.

The invitations take into account the gender and territorial balance

? 2.1.3. Execution of Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) actions in native forests, wetlands and natural grasslands with significant carbon content, guaranteeing attention to the vulnerable people

Community-Based Adaptation actions are provided incremental support in the identified basins and sub-basins

Expected Outcome 2.2 Improvement of land productivity and ecosystem service provision in the intervention basins, contributing to the improvement of people's quality of life of the population

To obtain this result, output is envisaged as follows:

? 2.2.1. Implementation of SLM in agri-food systems, integrated into territorial planning systems

Training is carried out, and small and medium producers are provided incremental support in the transition to practices of Sustainable Land Management, erosion and water degradation control.

Activities for the restoration of agricultural lands are provided incremental support.

? 2.2.2. Execution of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) actions in protected natural areas

Fire risk analysis is developed

Ecosystem-based Adaptation measures are provided incremental support in the identified Conservation Units

This component aims to overcome barriers 2 and 3 and it is closely related to Component 1 outcomes since a consolidated institutional political structure at national and subnational level in charge of planning and management of DLDD local capacities development, promoting appropriation by the community of the concepts of LDN and adaptation and mitigation of climate change; technical assistance; intersectoral coordination and dialogue of knowledge; the strengthening of active policies in science, technology and innovation and knowledge management regarding DLDD, LDN and adaptation and mitigation of climate change; are key outcomes for overcome people's inertia to continue replicating unsustainable production, consumption and marketing practices (Barrier 2) and to strengthen the territorial implementation of sustainable management actions in forest and agri-food systems that contribute to LDN and to increase the resilience to impacts of climate change (Component 2). GEF funds will be used for the implementation of SLM and SFM in forestry and agri-food systems; for the design of investment plans; to foster innovation in market institutions and production chains; for the execution of Ecosystem based Adaptation and Community based Adaptation actions; and for the strengthening of actions aimed at preventing or mitigating forest fires.

Carrying out these actions in the territory will result in the reduction of the vulnerability of the ecosystems affected by DLDD in the face of climatic variability and extreme climatic events (LD-1-4

and LD-1-2); and in improving land productivity and other ecosystem services in the intervention basins, which contributes to the improvement of people's quality of life (LD-1-1).

### Component 3. Innovative financing and resource mobilization

#### Expected Outcome 3.1. Innovative financial mechanisms designed and implemented

To obtain this result, output is envisaged as follows:

##### ? 3.1.1. Resource mobilization strategy designed and implemented

- o The project convenes, supports and boosts meetings of the working group to develop and implement the Resource Mobilization Strategy throughout its duration.

- o Institutional participation in these working groups implies a commitment to the Resource Mobilization Strategy

- o The invitations take into account the gender and territorial balance

- o Targets

##### ? Tucuman

###### Financing Search

- Green bonds

- PIC

##### ? Entre R?os

- Promote the PASE Producers program

##### ? Santiago del Estero

- Financing Green Bonds Sustainable Forestry

- Financing producers MBGI Sustainable Landscapes Project World Bank National Parks (Semi-arid Chaco Landscape)

##### ? 3.1.2. Incentive mechanisms co-developed, shared, and promoted

- o Participatory development of economic instruments that promote and strengthen productive activities that implement LDN guidelines and resilience to climate change is encouraged

- o Targets

##### ? Entre Rios

- PASE Producer Seal (Sustainable Environmental Producer of Entre R?os)

- Sustainable Soy Seal



- Grassland Meat Seal

Calculation of environmental economic benefits and proposal of compensatory mechanisms (provincial and municipal interference)

? Santiago del Estero

- Sustainable Forest Product Seal

- Grassland Meat Seal

? 3.1.3. Promotion of markets that integrate the entire value chain of sustainable local production models

o Actions of development and promotion will be realised within sustainable production models that also promote gender-balanced participation.

o Targets

? Entre R?os

Sustainable seals (1000 beneficiaries)

? Tucuman

Commercialization of livestock and agricultural products with sustainable management (750 beneficiaries)

? Santiago del Estero

Forest products (500 beneficiaries)

Grassland meats (750 beneficiaries)

Sustainable Landscapes Projects (250 beneficiaries)

Fighting desertification, land degradation and drought is a long-term process, requiring both financial and technological resource planning. Weaknesses in inter-institutional coordination mechanisms (barrier 1) results in the dispersion of economic instruments destined to promote activities that have an impact on the subject, especially in the sustainable management of lands. This results in a suboptimal allocation of resources and, in some cases, generates inconsistencies between the productive models promoted and adequate environmental management. Progress towards the neutrality of land degradation and, whenever possible, the restoration of degraded lands requires harmonizing the objectives of productive development with the sustainability of the resource, in line with the commitments assumed in the framework of the 2030 Agenda. Additionally, this will make it possible to optimize public investment and improve the socio - environmental impact of public policies (PAN, 2019).

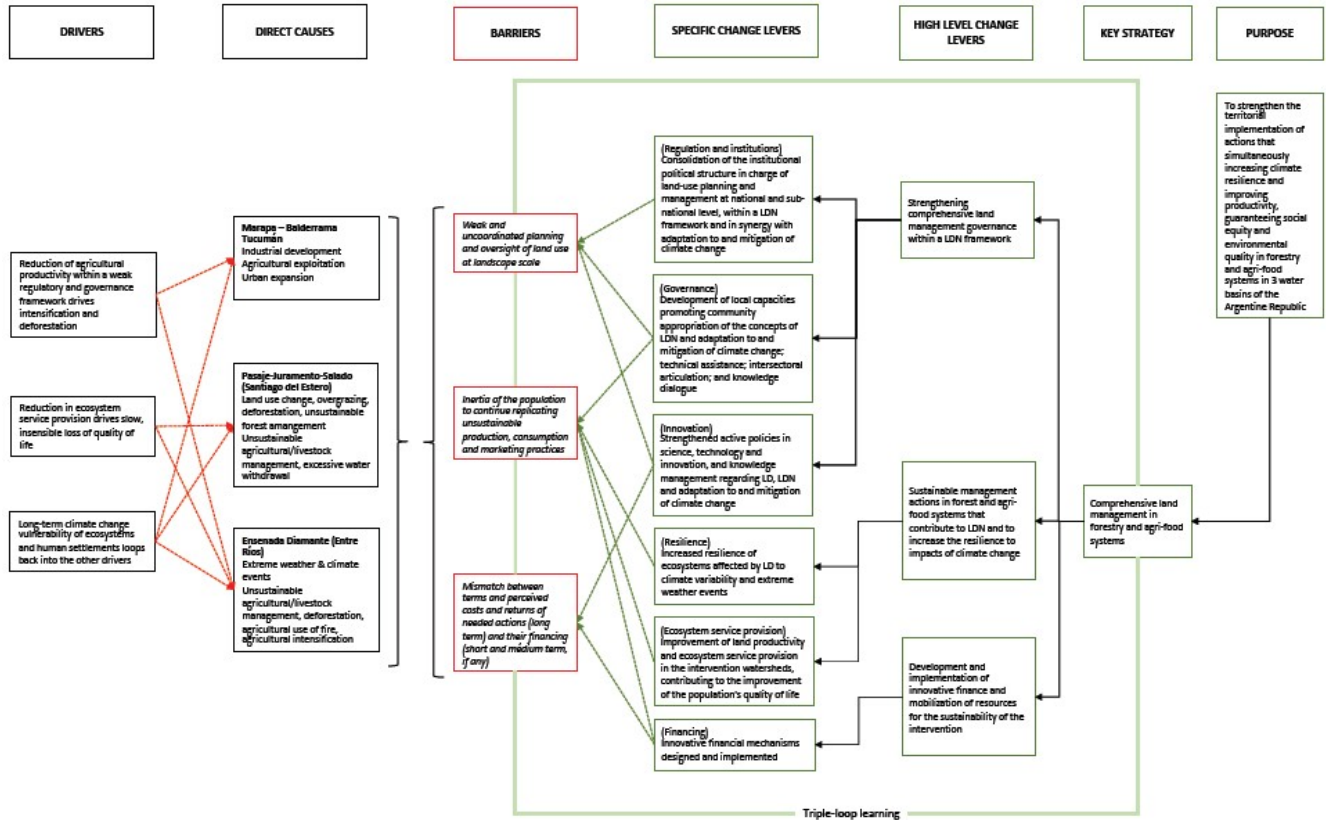
The challenges posed by the effective implementation of the National Action Program exceed the availability of public funds. Indeed, a diversified panorama opens with mixed financing, through innovative financial instruments and mechanisms. These new tools will make it possible to leverage

public resources by mobilizing additional resources from the private sector, bilateral and multilateral cooperation and credit organizations, and thus overcome some barriers and market deficiencies.

Incremental GEF funding will support Component 3, which includes designing and implementing a resource mobilization strategy and the development of at least one incentive mechanism. This component is essential to face barriers 1 and 2 and to promote the sustainability of the actions carried out within the framework of the project over time.

A resource mobilization strategy will be developed with GEF funds, using existing and new financial mechanisms and creating at least one accessible incentive mechanism so that producers can implement sustainable management actions in forest systems and in agroecosystems that contribute to increasing the resilience against climate change impacts and LDN against DLDD processes to achieve results linked to Focal Area Strategy LD-1-1, LD-1-2, LD-1-4 and LD-2-5.

With the optimization of governance for comprehensive land management (Component 1) and the development of innovative finance and resource mobilization (Component 3), the project will contribute to achieving food security in the face of LD processes and the impacts of climate change (Component 2). The proposed intervention will therefore initiate a comprehensive approach to the territory at the basin level, fostered by strengthened governance of land management and by the design and implementation of innovative financial mechanisms. Through the SLM and SFM practices, the design of investment plans, and the execution of EbA and CbA actions, the project will make it possible to restore forest and agri-food systems and increase their resilience to the impacts of climate change, providing a response to the growing global demand for food within a context of environmental care. The project will also kickstart improved coordination between different institutions, civil society, science and academia and promoting participatory mechanisms. In addition, it will contribute to facilitate the integration of sustainable land management techniques (soil, water and biological resources) to promote food security, as well as sustainable and efficient processes that contribute to the restoration, prevention and arrest of degradation trends. The integrated intervention of the project is expected to demonstrate the synergies between the objectives of the Rio conventions (UNFCCC, UNCCD, and CBD).



#### 4) alignment with GEF focal area and/or Impact Program strategies

The objectives, results, outputs and activities of the project are aligned with the objectives of the GEF-7 Land Degradation Focal Area of:

1) Improving the field implementation of SLM using the LDN tool (Component 2 and 3). Specifically, the project will contribute to the Focal Area elements (LD-1-1, LD1-2, and LD 1-4) as follows (reference numbers correspond to Outcomes (X.Y) and Outputs (X.Y.Z)):

? **LD-1-1** Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustain food production and livelihoods through sustainable land management (SLM): The proposed project specific change lever to accomplish the contribution to LD-1-1 is output 2.2. Improvement of land productivity and ecosystem service provision in the intervention basins, contributing to the improvement of the people's quality of life.

This outcome will be achieved by the follow outputs: 2.2.1. Implementation of SLM practices in agri-food systems **with gender perspective** integrated into land use planning systems, and 2.2.2. Execution of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) actions in protected natural area.

? **LD-1-2** Maintain or improve flow of ecosystem services, including sustaining livelihoods of forest-dependent people through Sustainable Forest Management (SFM). The project's proposed specific change lever to accomplish the contribution to LD-1-1 is 2.1. Increased resilience of ecosystems affected by LD to climate variability and extreme weather events.

This outcome will be achieved by the follow outputs: 2.1.1. Integration of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) measures into land use planning systems to avoid, reduce and reverse LD, 2.1.2. Design and execution of investment plans (e.g., green infrastructure, sustainable mechanization) **with gender perspective** and 2.1.3. Execution of Community-based Adaptation (CbA) actions in native forests, wetlands and natural grasslands with significant carbon contents, guaranteeing care for vulnerable people.

? **LD-1-4** Reduce pressures on natural resources from competing land uses and increase resilience in the wider landscape. The project's proposed specific change levers to accomplish the contribution to LD-1-4 are 2.1. Increased resilience of ecosystems affected by LD to climate variability and extreme weather events.

This outcome will be achieved by the follow outputs: 2.1.1. Integration of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) measures into land use planning systems to avoid, reduce and reverse LD, 2.1.2. Design and execution of investment plans (e.g., green infrastructure, sustainable mechanization) **with gender perspective** and 2.1.3. Execution of Community-based Adaptation (CbA) actions in native forests, wetlands and natural grasslands with significant carbon contents, guaranteeing care for vulnerable population.

2) Create an enabling environment to support voluntary implementation of LDN objectives (Component 1 and 3). Specifically, the project will contribute to the Focal Area element (LD 2-5) as follows:

? **LD-2-5** Create enabling environments to support scaling up and mainstreaming of SLM and LDN. The project's proposed specific change lever to accomplish the contribution to LD-2-5 is 1.1. Consolidation of the institutional political structure in charge of land-use planning and management at national and sub-national level, within a LDN framework and in synergy with adaptation to and mitigation of climate change; and 3.1. Innovative financial mechanisms designed and implemented.

These change levers will be implemented through the following outputs: 1.1.1. Provincial and local regulatory framework linked to land-use planning and management developed and/or updated with LDN and climate change concepts, 1.1.2. Strengthened participation mechanisms for the co-production and advice to comprehensive land management in multi-stakeholder spaces (national, interjurisdictional and Provincial inter- institutional), within a LDN framework and in synergy with adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, 1.1.3. The Provincial Action Plans to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Mitigation (PAP) for the provinces of Entre R?os and Santiago del Estero are prepared **with gender perspective** as instruments for the environmental management of the territory with LDN approach and adaptation and mitigation of climate change, and the implementation of the Tucum?n PAP is supported; these plans are drafted as instruments for the environmental management of the territory with a focus on LDN and adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, 3.1.1. Resource Mobilization

Strategy designed and implemented with gender perspective, 3.1.2. Incentive mechanisms co-developed with gender perspective shared, and promoted, and 3.1.3. Promotion of markets that integrate the entire value chain of sustainable local production models.

5) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCE, SCCF, and co-financing

#### Baseline analysis

Without the implementation of the project, the process of land degradation and its social impacts at landscape scale in the Argentine Republic, caused mainly by anthropic activities and deepened by natural processes such as droughts and floods exacerbated by climate change, will continue to occur in the territory. This causes a decrease in the productive capacity of agricultural systems; a decrease in the delivery of forest and wetland ecosystem functions (provision, support, regulation and cultural services) and an increase in the vulnerability of ecosystems and people to climate change.

For this, it is proposed to strengthen the implementation of actions in the territory that simultaneously impact on increasing climate resilience and improving land productivity, guaranteeing social equity and environmental quality in forestry and agri-food systems in different regions of the country. The strategies are aimed at strengthening governance in comprehensive land management within the framework of the LDN and its synergy with the A&M to CC; to carry out actions for the sustainable and resilient management of agroecosystems that contribute to the achievement of food security in the face of LD processes and the impacts of climate change in a post-pandemic context and to the development and implementation of innovative finance and resource mobilization for the sustainability of actions in the territory.

In this context, it is essential to start by strengthening the capacities of the territorial actors themselves, both in government institutions at different levels and in the scientific, technical and academic sectors, so as to multiply the project impact on direct users, either as individuals or within community organizations (Component 1). This implies adapting and developing the regulatory framework that guides and structures actions in the territory; strengthening national, interjurisdictional and provincial spaces for inter-institutional coordination; implementing a permanent Communication Strategy that guarantees access to quality information regarding LD, LDN and climate change for the entire population; and developing research lines on innovation in technology for sustainable production to be incorporated in projects both public and private.

Strengthening governance for LDN and climate change adaptation and mitigation (Component 1) involves consolidating the institutional political structure at the national and sub-national levels in charge of the planning and management of land use in a LDN framework and considering its synergy with climate change mitigation and adaptation (outcome 1.1), including the development of local capacities promoting the appropriation by the community of the concepts of LDN, climate change adaptation and mitigation, technical assistance, and intersectoral coordination and dialogue of knowledge, and the strengthening of active policies in science, technology and innovation and knowledge management regarding DLDD, LDN and climate change.

The implementation of sustainable management actions in forest systems and agroecosystems that contribute to increasing resilience given climate change impacts and LDN in the face of DLDD processes (Component 2) is expected to contribute to the achievement of food security in the face of DLDD processes and the impacts of climate change; increasing the resilience of ecosystems affected by DLDD in the face of climate variability and extreme weather events (outcome 2.1); and to improve land productivity and other ecosystem services in the intervention basins, which contributes to improving people's quality of life (outcome 2.2).

It is essential that all interventions in the territory can be sustained over time, for which the project fosters the development and implementation of innovative finance and the mobilization of resources (Component 3) through the design and implementation of innovative financial mechanisms (outcome 3.1).

The project is conceived as a strategic instrument to strengthen sustainable land management at the basin scale in forestry and agri-food systems in 3 provinces of Argentina, which contributes to Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and to mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The project will also contribute to promoting the measures and actions necessary for the fulfilment of the National Voluntary Goals of LDN within the framework of the PAN, specifically contributing to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 15.3, and additionally to SDGs 2.4 and 6.5. It will also contribute to generating synergies to contribute to SDG 1, 2, 9, 10, 13, 15, and 17, and will contribute to the commitments made in the Second Nationally Determined Contribution. Finally, all the activities that are developed within the framework of this project, as well as the lessons learned that emerge during its implementation, will provide inputs to enrich the approaches linked to the CBD and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

#### GEF Alternative

The co-financing and incremental GEF funding will help strengthen governance at national and sub national level in Argentina, to integrate the concept of LDN and to consequently implement SLM and SFM. This will result in the creation of an enabling environment through effective public policies, pertinent regulatory frameworks (Output 1.1.1), capable institutions (Outputs 1.1.2; 1.1.3), and mechanisms for monitoring and sharing knowledge (Outputs 1.2.1; 1.2.2 and 1.2.3) that are a necessary condition for the subsequent implementation of SLM in an environment of LDN.

GEBs will be provided in the territorial implementation of actions that will simultaneously impact on increasing climate resilience and improving land productivity, guaranteeing social equity and environmental quality in forestry and agri-food systems of three water basins of the Argentine Republic. This will be achieved by strengthening governance in land management (Component 1); through the implementation of sustainable management actions that will contribute to the achievement of food security in the face of LD processes and the impacts of climate change in the post-pandemic (Component 2); and through the development and implementation of innovative finance and mobilization of resources to provide sustainability to future actions in the territory (Component 3).

The project directly contributes to reducing anthropic pressure on the use of natural resources due to the growing demand for food and agricultural commodities. For this, it is proposed to recover degraded surface in forest ecosystems and in agri-food systems through the implementation of sustainable forest management practices (SFM) (Output 2.1.1) and sustainable land management (SLM) (Output 2.2.1). The implementation of these practices will be in direct line with the proposed prioritization for Voluntary Goals to achieve LDN of avoid, reduce, reverse. In this context, for example it is propose Forest fire prevention to avoid deforestation and land use change with carbon loss; Forest Harvesting and Forest Management with Integrated Livestock to reduce LD and Restoration and Recovery of forest and agri-food systems to reverse. It is expected with the project to contribute to GEF Core Indicators of restoration of degraded agricultural land (Indicator 3.1) and forest and forest land restored (Indicator 3.2), and to landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems (Indicator 4.3) to halt the loss of soil productivity.

The project also aims at strengthening the resilience of forest and food systems and communities linked to the impacts produced by climate change. To the practices of SLM and SFM are added Execution of Community-based Adaptation (CbA) actions in native forests, wetlands and natural grasslands with significant carbon contents, guaranteeing care for vulnerable people (Output 2.1.3) and the Design and execution of investment plans (e.g., green infrastructure, sustainable mechanization) (Output 2.1.2).

It will indirectly contribute to generating global environmental benefits through investment in the protection of ecosystems. The most important action in this way is the Execution of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) actions in protected natural area (Outcome 2.2.2). These actions will contribute to improving management for conservation and sustainable use in the protected areas Pre Delta National Park, Copo National Park, and Santa Ana Provincial Reserve.

The protection of ecosystems will be improved by supporting the restoration of agri-food systems and forest systems, with the subsequent carbon sequestration, food security and adaptation and resilience of environments, and the conservation of biodiversity will reduce the conversion of natural ecosystems and safeguarding agrobiodiversity. It will reduce the degradation of water resources for different consumptive uses and will reduce deforestation and forest degradation with its GHG emissions, simultaneously improving the characteristics of agricultural soils with the consequent increase in (not estimated) soil carbon sequestration. All of these actions will impact in GHG emissions mitigated/avoided (Indicator 6.1). These benefits will positively impact local communities in a gender-balanced fashion.

Finally, It is important to guarantee the sustainability over time of the results achieved by the project, so through the Resource Mobilization Strategy designed and implemented (Output 3.1.1), at least one incentive mechanism developed and available to producers (Output 3.1.2) and the promotion of markets that integrate the entire value chain of sustainable local production models (Output 3.1.3) the impacts of the project may transcend in time, increasing the global environmental benefits.

Likewise, the project is expected to provide concrete progress in the implementation of the PAN and the country's Voluntary Goals to achieve LDN; as well as in the elaboration and implementation of the PAPs at the provincial level and the commitments assumed by Argentina in the NDC and in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

The project is consistent, first of all, with the commitments assumed within the framework of the UNCCD, since the activities proposed to be carried out to achieve the expected results correspond directly with the goals and objectives proposed in the National Voluntary Goals for LDN (2020), contemplating the established priority of Avoid-Reduce-Restore. In particular, the project contributes to the voluntary goals of:

- By 2030, establish 200,000 hectares of native forest under forest restoration process.
- By 2030, reduce loss of native forest in order to maintain the area covered with forests included in conservation categories I and II of the Forest Law (high and medium).
- By 2030, implement 140,000 hectares under Forest Management with Integrated Livestock (MBGI for its acronym in Spanish) (II and III, medium and low OTBN categories).
- By 2030, strengthen the Federal Fire Management System for prevention and early warning of forest, rural and interface fires.

Likewise, the indicators proposed for monitoring correspond to those presented in the UNCCD National Action Plan updated to 2019 in its 5 components, and the project contributes to the TSP2 initiative, of which Argentina is a part, by supporting the establishment of programs, objectives and targets at the subnational level.

Regarding consistency with national strategies against climate change; the project contributes directly to the reduction of emissions agreed by Argentina in its Second Nationally Determined Contribution (2020) and bases some action proposals on the provisions of the National Action Plan on Forests and Climate Change.

The project contributes to the NDC of Argentina, by helping to avoid deforestation of native forests by reducing emissions associated with deforestation; and by supporting the implementation of conservation and sustainable management plans, promoting recovery and restoration, to maintain the extent and condition of forests, reducing emissions associated with degradation.

As already mentioned, the objectives of the project are framed in the "Sustainable management of food systems and forests", one of the six strategic lines of the National Climate Change Mitigation Adaptation Plan (2019). It aims to safeguard food sovereignty and security and reduce the vulnerability of agricultural, fishing, forestry and agro-industrial production systems to the impacts of climate change.

The project contributes to the goals of the last Argentine NBSAP, specifically Goal 1: liaise and agree with the different national, provincial and municipal organizations involved in territorial planning and with other territorial actors, the Territorial Environmental Planning; Goal 5: develop new public mechanisms to promote the sustainable use of biodiversity by product, species or ecosystem; Goal 20: identify, develop and promote innovative financing mechanisms; Goal 21: promote the restoration of degraded ecosystems at different scales (local, landscape or regional).



Finally, from the strengthening of the management of protected areas, the project will contribute, within the Kunming-Montreal framework, to the strategies and commitments acquired in the CBD, and in particular to goals 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 16, 21, 22 and 23.

#### 6) global environmental benefits

GEBs will be provided in the territorial implementation of actions that will simultaneously impact on increasing climate resilience and improving land productivity, guaranteeing social equity and environmental quality in forestry and agri-food systems of three water basins of the Argentine Republic. This will be achieved by strengthening governance in land management (Component 1); through the implementation of sustainable management actions that will contribute to the achievement of food security in the face of LD processes and the impacts of climate change in the post-pandemic (Component 2); and through the development and implementation of innovative science and mobilization of resources to provide sustainability to future actions in the territory (Component 3).

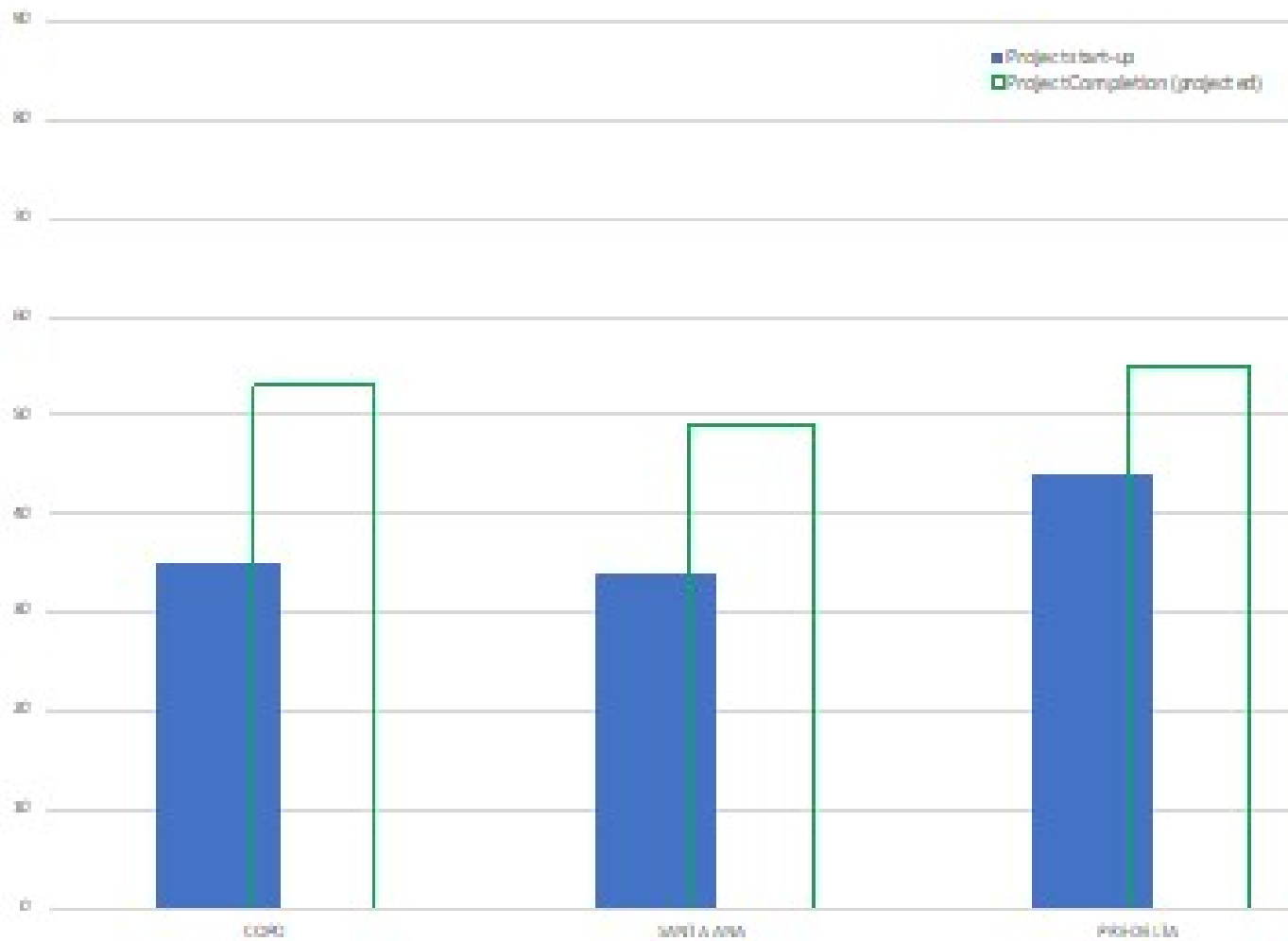
In the design scenario, GEF Core indicators receive contributions from the project as follows.

#### **Core indicator 1: Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use**

Indicator 1.2: Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness

Improvement in METT as presented below. The total area of the three Protected Areas is 134,727 hectares; the Copo National Park in Santiago del Estero Province with an area of 118,119 hectares; the Pre-Delta National Park in Entre R?os Province with an area of 2,608 ha and; the Santa Ana Provincial Park in Tucum?n Province with an area of 14,000 hectares.

#### **METT by Protected Area to CEO Endorsement and Projected EOP**



**Core indicator 3: Restored land area**

Indicator 3.1. Degraded agricultural land area restored

Indicator 3.2. Restored forest and forest land area

Restored land area. 68,000 hectares.

**Core indicator 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)**

Indicator: 4.1: Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity

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

Indicator 4.4: Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF), loss avoided

Landscape area under improved practices. 74,300 hectares.

**Core indicator 6: Greenhouse gas emission mitigated**

Indicator 6.1: Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector

5,231,544 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent sequestered and/or not emitted.

**Core indicator 11: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment**

More than 15,000 people will be direct beneficiaries of the project, of which 36% or more must be women.

Also, the project is expected to provide concrete progress in the implementation of the PAN and the country's Voluntary Goals to achieve LDN; as well as in the elaboration and implementation of the PAPs at the provincial level and the commitments assumed by Argentina in the NDC and in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

7) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

The project is innovative given that: i) for the first time in Argentina, it will address a governance strategy to create an enabling environment to support the voluntary implementation of LDN objectives in the planning of large-scale production environments at the same time as it will provide tools to increase the resilience of forestry and agri-food systems. For this, it will involve in a single scope of coordination those responsible for national agricultural production, the enforcement authority in environmental matters, science and extension, incorporating the productive sector from the earliest stages. Likewise, through institutional arrangements in the organic structures of the intervening institutions, the project will result in innovations that reflect the incorporation of LDN and climate change concerns to the land use management in the 3 provinces; ii) it will provide the implementation of LDN objectives with the improvement of SLM and SFM in productive landscapes at the watershed level; iii) it will strengthen the coherence and harmonization of policies with the integration of SLM with a LDN approach in territorial planning instruments linking production objectives, soil conservation and measures for adaptation to and mitigation of the effects of climate change in an

integrated manner; iv) it will enhance the generation and provision of reliable and timely risk information developed in strategic alliances to expand access to information by technicians, producers and decision makers; and v) it will support innovative financing mechanisms and the coordination of various sources to generate synergies.

Sustainability and replicability. Data and information sources. The design process has used official data and information provided by the MAYDS. Sustainability. The project will promote social, environmental and economic sustainability: socially, it will reduce the uncertainties of the institutional political planning of its productions, it will improve access of producers to extension/information services, allowing them to make decisions about land use planning and implementation of SLM and SFM practices. Additionally, it will strengthen the capacities of producer organizations promoting the integration of women and youth in the planning, promotion and implementation of SLM practices. Environmentally, the implementation of SLM and SFM practices will contribute to preventing and reducing land degradation and rehabilitating ecosystems in watersheds affected by degradation processes. Economically, the project will promote access by beneficiaries to innovative financing mechanisms to adopt/replicate SLM and SFM practices for key crop production systems and livestock, and forestry systems. It will also provide assistance to improve the productive capacity of the land and to integrate sustainable food value chains, in order to strengthen entrepreneurial capacity in the areas of implementation and consequently increase the incomes of the beneficiaries.

Potential for scaling-up. At the national level, the project is deeply ingrained within national protected area policy, and its works will have an influence in the overall configuration of the protected area system of Argentina. From this, top-down uptake is ensured, but the provisions that have been taken for knowledge management and communication ensure that landscape level innovations will also reach other protected areas and territories in the country.

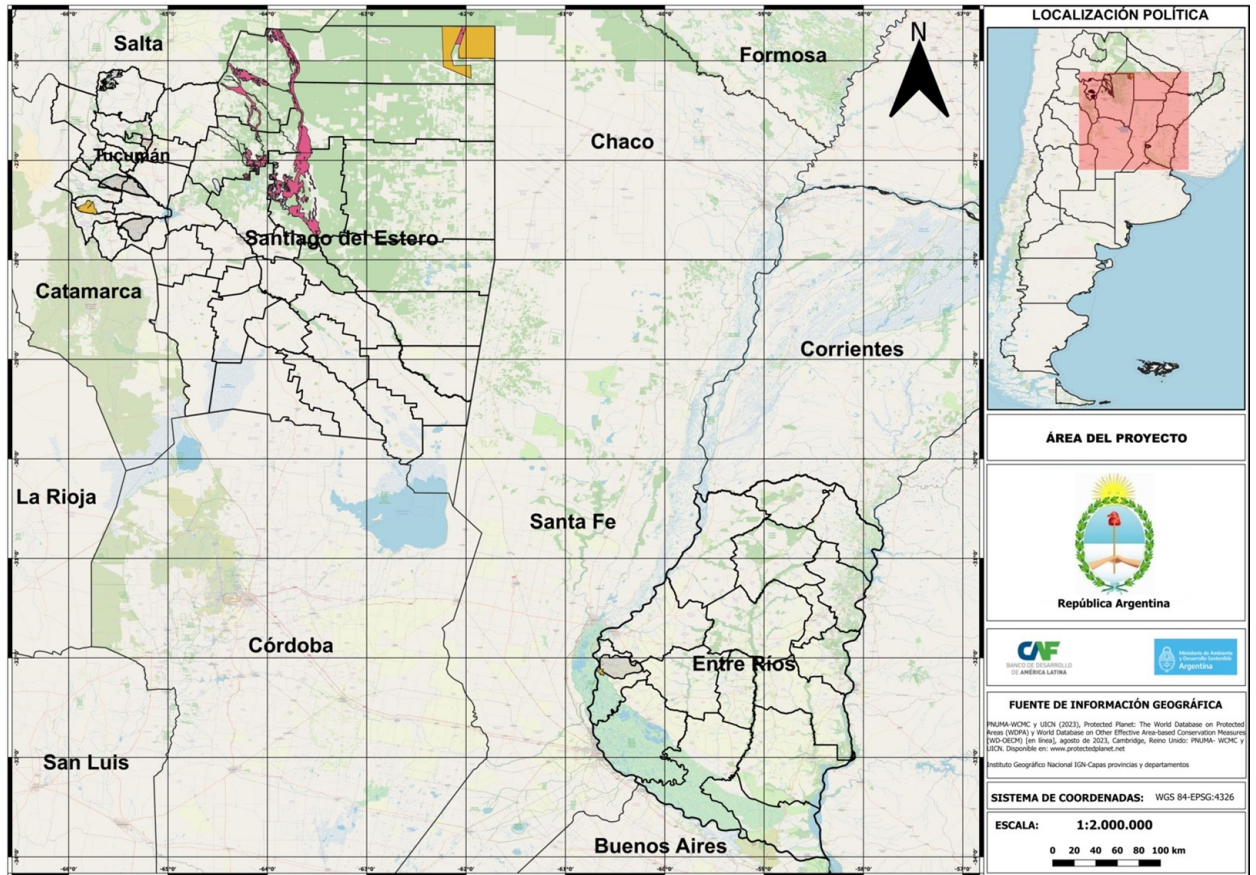
Expansion potential: Strengthening inter-institutional governance for comprehensive land management to contribute to LDN and A&M to CC; facilitate the adoption of a socio-productive approach strategy (producers, cooperatives and other forms of private or community association and integration) for the implementation of SLM and SFM practices, which generate changes through the adoption and replication of methodologies, policies, instruments and practices clear, built and validated. In the same way, linking the progress of this project with initiatives at the country level that may be generated within the framework of the agreements and commitments assumed by Argentina in the next CC COP26, will allow scaling practices to the total surfaces of the basins and improvements in the governance of other watersheds and areas of economic interest for Argentina. The Communication Strategy (CS) will be key to promoting the potential to expand the project through the participatory construction of the content with the contribution from the different sectors for the co-production of knowledge, the dissemination of the actions carried out and the results obtained and the elaboration of communicational material that can be used for replication in other areas. Likewise, the country has a series of management instruments, Plans, Programs and Projects with national and international sources, with specific focuses on productive sectors or agroecological regions, which, based on integrated governance, will generate synergies and expansion of achievements through Communication Strategy that will design and execute the project.

## **1b. Project Map and Coordinates**

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

*Ib. Project Map and Geo-Coordinates.* Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.

Name	Coordinates	
	Latitude	Longitude
Copo National Park	-25,844	-62,032
Pre-Delta National Park	-32,1375	-60,646
Santa Ana Provincial Reserve	-27,476	-65,808
Intervention Area (Santiago del Estero)	-26,189	-65,586
Balderrama sub-basin (Tucuman)	-27,237	-65,448
Marapa sub-basin (Tucuman)	-27,6785	-65,3102
Ensenada basin (Entre R?os)	-32,088	-60,483



**1c. Child Project?**

**If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.**

Does not apply

**2. Stakeholders**

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

**Civil Society Organizations** Yes

**Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities** Yes

**Private Sector Entities** Yes

**If none of the above, please explain why:**

Project design included a participatory phase that was carried out during 2023, with the participation of public and private institutions from the 3 provinces. This consultation was focused on checking the

feasibility of the proposed project results, and on fine-tuning the intervention modalities for them to be adequate for project stakeholders.

More than a hundred persons participated from more than forty institutions. Representatives of three levels of Government (Central, Departmental and Municipal) attended, including MAYDS, environment and agriculture departments from the three provinces, Community-based Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations and entrepreneurs. Male participation came to 50%, and female, 50%. As a summary, stakeholders expressed deep interest in the proposed activities, in particular those related to spatial planning/normative reform, and confirmed that these activities can be undertaken at scale with incremental support from the project.

**Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.**

A Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be established, made up from the MAYDS; the representatives of the provincial governments; representatives of the partners or other parties responsible for the project and CAF. The PSC will provide general guidance to the Project Coordinator and Director; evaluate project risks and progress, and provide recommendations to achieve the expected results. Of the people conforming the PSC, at least 50% must be of indigenous origin and/or women.

The provinces will each designate a focal point who will be a counterpart in the project. The DNPYOAT of the MAYDS will carry out the responsibility of coordinating the Project together with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA in its Spanish acronym; ME-2021-82501985-APN-DNCI#MAD). More details about the specific tasks and composition of the collegiate bodies and PMU are available in **Annexes 5, 6, 7 & 8**, and a full description will be included in the Project's Operational Manual.

These inter-institutional and intersectoral coordination mechanisms will be maintained and strengthened throughout the project cycle and will be further strengthened with project implementation that promotes interaction from the early stages and building associations that generate and promote policies, practices, and communication. In addition, the project as a knowledge management instrument has among its objectives to disseminate relevant information in a timely manner, easily accessible and in a culturally appropriate format. This strategy will consider the contributions of each sector and will promote active and inclusive participation throughout the project.

The participation mechanisms will be adapted to each sector to guarantee a sustained intervention during the execution of the project. These mechanisms will include face-to-face workshops, meetings, field trips and virtual instances. Other participatory instruments such as interviews, surveys, consultations, and focus groups that, together, contribute to eliminating the barriers that harm those who are usually excluded from the participation process, will be used ensuring that their voices are heard in all stages of the process.

The project has developed an engagement plan (including with indigenous communities) that is included as ProDoc's Annex 5. Territorial committees are the main governance mechanism for ensuring participation and will be strengthened and improved continuously during the execution of the project. Stakeholders participate in the identification of project priorities and in the definition of planned outputs and outcomes during interviews and consultations.

The participation of knowledge providers in capacity-building processes is necessary to strengthen the capacities of local stakeholders and protected area staff.

The following types of participatory governance mechanisms will be implemented throughout the project cycle: *Subnational Dialogue*. Activity to produce Output 1.1.2 provides the means for a strengthened local and provincial dialogue. This dialogue, along with knowledge management outputs, will provide an enabling environment for project activities to count with enough initial goodwill.

*Other provisions for fair participation.* All project indicators that involve people are and will continue to be disaggregated by gender. A **mandatory minimum threshold of 36%** of the relevant population/audience (which is more than 70% masculine) is established for the participation of women, and a **mandatory minimum threshold of 1%** of the relevant population/audience for the participation of indigenous peoples, in project governance structures and project activities involving beneficiaries. These thresholds are to be applied not only for community-oriented activities, but also for working groups, government staff involved in the project and other activity-specific grouping.

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement

ID	Stakeholder	Responsibility	Role in the project
1	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS)	Environmental Authority of the National Government	Responsible for the execution of the project and coordinating entity for co-execution with other strategic partners. The MAyDS will also provide technical guidance for the preparation of the PAPs of the provinces of Santiago del Estero and Entre Ríos and for the implementation of the PAP of Tucumán, and the monitoring of results. Likewise, the MAyDS is the body that will be in charge of the permanent follow-up and in charge of the permanent follow-up and evaluation of the progress in the execution of the project.



<b>ID</b>	<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Role in the project</b>
2	National Commission (CAN)	Advisory Multisectoral consultative space	The MAyDS chairs the National Advisory Commission (CAN), which will be the governing body for inter-institutional governance.
3	National Administration (APN)	Parks In charge of maintaining the National System of Protected Areas, aimed at the conservation of biological diversity and cultural resources of the country	The APN will manage the operational implementation of the Conservation Lighthouses according to their geographical location and the existing National Parks in the Paran? Delta area. Likewise, it will collaborate in the implementation of the project directly in the Pre-Delta and Santa Fe Islands National Parks.
4	National Observatory of Land Degradation and Desertification (ONDTyD)	Inter-institutional space for national land evaluation and monitoring system	It is made up from the Argentine Institute for Research in Arid Zones (IADIZA) of the National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET), the National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA), the Faculty of Agronomy of the University of Buenos Aires (FAUBA) and the MAyDS. The ONDTyD will provide information on the status, trends and risk of land degradation and desertification and will advise public and private decision makers in Argentina and awareness and information to society in general. It will also be responsible for carrying out the baselines for the LDN.
5	Federal Council (COFEMA)	Environmental Space for interjurisdictional environmental dialogue where the Nation, the provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires participate.	COFEMA is advised by Commissions, which are entrusted with the analysis of issues that will facilitate the decision-making of the Council in the development of the environmental policy. Some of the relevant Commissions for this project are Native Forest, Climate Change, Hydrographic Basins, Gender and Territorial Planning.

ID	Stakeholder	Responsibility	Role in the project
6	Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP)	Authority of the National Government	SAGyP will provide inputs and experiences from the National Agricultural Soils Plan (PNSA) in coordination with the provinces, to prioritize needs and define actions from the framework instances to those of the direct user of the resource. Within the framework of the PNSA, it will contribute through the Argentine Soil Information System (SISAR in its Spanish acronym) on a national scale, for the formulation of public policies aimed at the conservation of agricultural soils. SAGyP through the Office of Agricultural Risk (ORA) will provide information, analysis and tools for the evaluation and reduction of agricultural risk from a comprehensive perspective, helping to generate the appropriate framework for the expansion and diversification of insurance markets and coverage instruments for the agricultural and forestry sector. Through the National Observatory of Agricultural Soils, it will provide the national carbon stock map of agricultural soils and update it.
7	National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA)	Public research institution under the SAGyP in charge of generating information and technology applied to products and processes for agrotechnological development	It provides support to activities in the territory based at a central headquarters, regional centers, experimental stations, research centers and research institutes, and Extension Units. It will provide support in the information referred to the Scenarios of the Argentine Agri-Food System to 2030, developing innovations in both research and extension in the different productive value chains, providing professional and technical training, extension activities and active communication with all the beneficiaries in the territory.
8	National Water Institute (INA)	Public Institution under the Ministry of Public Works specialized in science, technology and services applied to water development	The INA plays an important role for the comprehensive approach at the water basin scale, contributing with an active role in the social installation of highly relevant water issues. The INA contributes to the development of special studies of water systems for the sustainable use of the resource and evaluation of the quality of water resources and the risks associated with contamination; in other aspects.
9	Provincial Government of Tucum?n, Santiago del Estero and Entre R?os	Provincial Government	The provincial governments will contribute and receive the benefits of the governance of the project. They will be the local actors of environment and production.

<b>ID</b>	<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Role in the project</b>
10	Pasaje-Juramento-Salado River Basin Committee	Interjurisdictional interinstitutional space for Comprehensive Management of the Pasaje-Juramento-Salado River Basin	<p>Created by the Secretariat of Water Resources of the Nation in 1971 and ratified by the provincial governments of Salta, Santiago del Estero, Santa Fe, Catamarca and Tucum?n.</p> <p>It will provide the project with a space for exchange and agreement on the distribution and interprovincial use of water, it will propose and evaluate hydraulic works, it will provide information on the monitoring stations present in the system and it will carry out baseline biophysical studies if necessary.</p>
11	Sal? - Dulce River Basin Committee	Interjurisdictional interinstitutional space for Comprehensive Management of the Sal? - Dulce River Basin	<p>Made up from the provinces of C?rdoba, Santiago del Estero, Tucum?n, Salta and Catamarca, one of its priority objectives is the solution of environmental problems, for example: reducing industrial and urban pollution that affects the water resources; controlling erosion and sedimentation processes; recovering the environmental conditions of the R?o Hondo reservoir and preserving the Ba?ados del R?o Dulce, the Mar Chiquita lagoon and minimizing the risks associated with excess or lack of water, throughout the basin.</p> <p>The Committee will contribute to the project within the framework of the Sal? Dulce River Basin Management Plan. This Plan is based on the concept of sustainable development and the objective of achieving a substantial improvement in the quality of life of people of the basin. That is, to ensure the development of productive activities, within a framework of equity and sustainability of the environmental aspects involved.</p>
12	High Interjurisdictional Committee (CIAN) of the Strategic Plan for Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Paran? Delta (PIECAS-DP)	Level The CIAN is an interjurisdictional space formed for the coordination and monitoring of the actions to be carried out to achieve the objectives set out in PIECAS-DP	<p>Made up from the MAyDS and the provinces of Buenos Aires, Entre R?os and Santa Fe, they will be supporting the execution of the project activities and will promote the effective participation of the stakeholders involved.</p>

<b>ID</b>	<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Role in the project</b>
13	National Institute of Indigenous Affairs (INAI)	The INAI elaborates and coordinates public policies to guarantee the development of indigenous communities, the right to health and education, access to land and the preservation of their cultural identities.	The INAI will contribute to the implementation of the project, favoring inter-institutional coordination, but especially providing the frameworks to integrate communities from the most important early stages and supporting them and the provinces involved throughout the execution period to build sustainable processes. It will promote the mechanism of "Free Prior and Informed Consultation" (FPIC) for participation processes
14	Indigenous communities	Stakeholders of the territory that contribute to the intercultural dialogue of knowledge, guaranteeing participation in the decision-making processes of the State and the adoption of measures that respect their collective rights	The approach to indigenous peoples integrates FPIC mechanisms, basic principles of self-determination, respect for indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices that contribute to sustainability and equitable development. Formal FPIC processes are foreseen to take into account the different worldviews of indigenous peoples to maximize local effectiveness of project activities, including delivery of benefits to these stakeholders.
15	Civil society	Producer organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)	They represent the partners, allies, protagonists of the project execution. They provide knowledge of the territory and experience in the efficiency of implementation or not of certain productive practices. Likewise, they become the main beneficiaries of the project and its replicators in time and space.
16	Associations of agronomic and forestry professionals	Private sector	They will be trained and sensitized to incorporate LDN and SLM criteria in their practice, thus promoting over-scaling in the areas where these professionals develop management plans
17	Small and Medium Enterprises-SMEs	Private sector	The role of SMEs will be to carry out actions that contribute to a regional and national post-pandemic agenda. SMEs are an important engine of the productive fabric, producing wealth and employing labor. They are strategic spaces where capacities can be built to identify, develop, promote and implement good practices and production technologies, use of resources and occupation of the appropriate territory to prevent desertification processes and mitigate their effects, achieving LDN and adaptation to and mitigation of climate change.
18	Diamante Municipality	Municipal Authority	Participant in project activities
19	Producer Cooperatives and medium producers	Private sector, bring together small and medium producers	Participant in project activities

<b>ID</b>	<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Role in the project</b>
20	Argentine Prefecture	Naval Water border control authority	Participant in project activities
21	CONICET	CONICET is the main organization dedicated to the promotion of Science and Technology in Argentina.	Participant in project activities
22	Pre Delta PA	Pre Delta National Park one of the 57 protected areas under the National Parks Administration	Participant in project activities
23	Diamante Tourism Civil Association	Private sector, brings together the tourism service providers of the Diamante department	Participant in project activities
24	San Martin Club	Private sector	Participant in project activities
25	Agr?cola Regional	Private sector	Participant in project activities
26	College of Architects of the Province of Entre R?os	Private sector	Participant in project activities
27	Secretariat of Culture and Tourism of Diamante	Municipal Authority	Participant in project activities
28	Diamante Directorate	Registry Municipal authority regulating tourist activity in the department of Diamante	Participant in project activities
29	FCA. CONICET (Faculty of Agricultural Sciences ? National University of Entre R?os)	UNER. Public University	Participant in project activities
30	CICYTTP - CONICET (Center for Research and Technology Transfer to Production)	Public institution for the extension of Scientific research to the territory	Participant in project activities
31	EAPD (Puerto Diamante Autonomous Entity)	Public institution that manages the port, in charge of controlling and regulating river traffic in the port of Diamante	Participant in project activities
32	DH SH Group	Private institution that carries out the removal and treatment of waste generated by agro-industrial activity	Participant in project activities
33	FCYT. CONICET (Science and Technology Faculty - Autonomous University of Entre R?os)	UADER. Public University	Participant in project activities
34	SDP (Secretary of Production of Tucum?n)	Public institution in charge of supporting and regulating production	Participant in project activities

<b>ID</b>	<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Role in the project</b>
35	MDP (Secretary of National Authority Industry and Productive Development former Ministry of Productive Development)		Participant in project activities
36	UNT (National Public University of Tucuman)		Participant in project activities
37	IPAAT (Institute for the Promotion of Sugar and Alcohol of Tucum?n)	Private-public institution in charge of regulating and promoting the production of sugar cane and its derivatives	Participant in project activities
38	SEMA (Secretary of State for the Environment - Government of Tucum?n)	Provincial Authority	Participant in project activities
39	INGEMA-UNT (Institute of Geosciences and Environment - University of Tucum?n)	Public University	Participant in project activities
40	Water Department	Resources Public institution in charge of regulating and controlling water resources in the province	Participant in project activities
41	UEDP (Executing Unit for Productive Development ? Ministry of Productive Development)		Participant in project activities
42	<b>CREA</b>	<b>Livestock Private Sector</b>	<b>Participant in project activities</b>
43	EEAOC Colombres Agroindustrial Experimental Station)	(Obispo Autonomous entity of the Ministry of Productive Development of the Government of Tucum?n)	Participant in project activities
44	DRH Department of Water Resources	Decentralized provincial body under functional overseeing of the Ministry of Productive Development.	Participant in project activities
45	CPEA Council of Economy and Environment)	(Provincial The CPEA is part of the Environment Department)	Participant in project activities
46	<b>OMA</b>	<b>Private sector</b>	<b>Participant in project activities</b>
47	INAFCI (National Institute for Small Farmers and Indigenous Agriculture)	Private Sector that deals with the Family, promotion of rural producers	Participant in project activities
48	DPA (Provincial Water Department)	Provincial Authority	Participant in project activities
49	DFF (Department of Flora, Wildlife and Soils)	Public institution	Participant in project activities

ID	Stakeholder	Responsibility	Role in the project
50	Communes Department	Public institution in charge of working in municipalities with more than 10,000 inhabitants and more than 10,000 inhabitants	Participant in project activities

Indirectly (vg. through the National Park Administration), indigenous organisations such as Comunidad Indígena Lule Vilela La Armonía, and NGOs active in the indigenous space such as Pampa Trabaja and UEL Pampa, have also been consulted and expressed interest in relevant project activities. Similarly, MAYDS is in working contact with relevant women NGOs such as Hacienda Caminno, Movimiento Evita or Frente de Organizaciones en Lucha (FOL).

A Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be established, made up from the MAYDS; the representatives of the provincial governments; representatives of the partners or other parties responsible for the project and CAF. The PSC will provide general guidance to the Project Coordinator and Director; evaluate project risks and progress, and provide recommendations to achieve the expected results. Of the people conforming the PSC, at least 50% must be of indigenous origin and/or women.

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The project has developed an engagement plan (including with indigenous communities) that is included as ProDoc's Annex 5. Territorial committees are the main governance mechanism for ensuring participation and will be strengthened and improved continuously during the execution of the

project. Stakeholders participate in the identification of project priorities and in the definition of planned outputs and outcomes during interviews and consultations.

The participation of knowledge providers in capacity-building processes is necessary to strengthen the capacities of local stakeholders and protected area staff.

The following types of participatory governance mechanisms will be implemented throughout the project cycle: *Subnational Dialogue*. Activity to produce Output 1.1.2 provides the means for a strengthened local and provincial dialogue. This dialogue, along with knowledge management outputs, will provide an enabling environment for project activities to count with enough initial goodwill.

*Other provisions for fair participation.* All project indicators that involve people are, and will continue to be, disaggregated by gender. A **mandatory minimum threshold of 36%** of the relevant population/audience (which is more than 70% masculine) is established for the participation of women, and a **mandatory minimum threshold of 1%** of the relevant population/audience for the participation of indigenous peoples, in project governance structures and project activities involving beneficiaries. These thresholds are to be applied not only for community-oriented activities, but also for working groups, government staff involved in the project and other activity-specific grouping.

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

**Consulted only;**

**Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;**

**Co-financier;**

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

**Executor or co-executor; Yes**

**Other (Please explain) Yes**

The project provides instances of participation in the decision-making and demonstration of actions linked to landscape sustainability at different levels, and includes the promotion of dialogue and knowledge-sharing about the concepts of land degradation, deforestation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the connection between water and ecosystems. It also provides concrete support to the demonstration at scale of activities that foster sustainable livelihoods, and supports an enabling environment for them through normative and procedural support, and through the realignment of incentives in the productive landscape with those of landscape sustainability.

### **3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

**Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.**



The project has carried out a gender analysis, and includes inputs for its gender mainstreaming plan as ProDoc's Annex 8, which presents a difficult situation as regards gender issues in the territories: these rural spaces already have a heavy gender imbalance, with male proportions of the relevant population around 70-80% due to the harshness of living conditions for women, adding *machismo* to long work hours and no holidays.

All project indicators that involve people are and will continue to be disaggregated by gender. A **mandatory minimum threshold of 36%** of the relevant population/audience (which is to say, a gender bias of around 20% above female proportion of the population) is established for the participation of women, and a **mandatory minimum threshold of 1%** of the relevant population/audience for the participation of indigenous peoples, in project governance structures and project activities involving beneficiaries. These thresholds are to be applied not only for community-oriented activities, but also for working groups, government staff involved in the project and other activity-specific grouping.

In addition to the former, guidelines are to be incorporated by the project for a gender, intercultural, intergenerational and inclusiveness approach, as identified below.

#### Project Monitoring and Governance

- ? Monitoring of gender indicators considering roles, needs, opportunities and participation in decision making.
- ? Systematization of lessons learned with a gender perspective.

#### Component 1

- ? Participatory construction with gender equality analysis of LDN measures that strengthen the integrated management of the intervention sites, considering the different needs, interests, perceptions and knowledge of women and men, girls, boys, adolescents and older adults.
- ? Strengthening and recovery of ancestral knowledge and practices safeguarded by women and senior citizens as guardians of traditional knowledge, biodiversity, food security, governance of natural resources.

#### Component 2

- ? Participation of women in decision-making in governance mechanisms, with multilevel and multi-stakeholder criteria.
- ? Priority participation of women in demonstrative activities.
- ? Knowledge management with a gender and equal opportunities approach and in the exchange of local and regional experiences

#### Component 3

- ? Empowerment and leadership of women in production under sustainable approaches, generating and strengthening women's capacities, particularly those of vulnerable groups, in the productive value chains of the regions of intervention.

The project aims at a **women beneficiary participation of 36%**, which is to say that **5,500 women or more** will benefit from project activity, with a breakdown by audience as detailed below.

Components / Expected outcomes / Outputs	T
1. Comprehensive governance of land management within a LDN framework	670
1.1 Consolidation of institutional political structure in charge of territorial planning at national and subnational level framework and in synergy with adaptation and mitigation of climate change	
1.1.1 Provincial and local regulatory framework linked to land use planning and management developed and/or updated with LDN and climate change concepts	50
1.1.2 Strengthened participation mechanisms for co-production and consultancy for comprehensive land management in multi-stakeholder spaces (national, inter-jurisdictional, and provincial inter-institutional), within the LDN framework and in synergy with climate change adaptation and mitigation	500
1.1.3. The Provincial Action Plans to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Mitigation (PAP) for the provinces of Entre Ríos and Santiago del Estero are prepared as instruments for the environmental management of the territory with LDN approach and adaptation and mitigation of climate change, and the implementation of the Tucumán PAP is supported	120
2. Sustainable management in forests and agri-food systems that contribute to LDN	10360
2.1 Increased resilience of LD-affected ecosystems to climate variability and extreme weather events	
2.1.1 Integration of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) measures into land use planning systems to avoid, reduce and reverse LD	2000
2.1.2 Design and execution of investment plans (for example, green infrastructure, sustainable mechanization)	3000
2.1.3 Execution of Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) actions in native forests, wetlands and natural grasslands with significant carbon content, guaranteeing attention to the vulnerable people	1140
2.2 Improvement of land productivity and provision of ecosystem services in the intervention basins, contributing to quality of life of the population	
2.2.1 Implementation of SLM in agri-food systems, integrated into territorial planning systems	2300
	1300
2.2.2 Execution of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) actions in protected natural areas	620
3. Innovative financing and resource mobilization	4230
3.1 Innovative financial mechanisms designed and implemented	
3.1.1 Resource mobilization strategy designed and implemented	80
3.1.2. Incentive mechanisms co-developed, shared, and promoted	150
3.1.3 Promotion of markets that integrate the entire value chain of sustainable local production models	4000
TOTAL	15000

**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** Yes

**Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women** Yes

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

Yes

#### **4. Private sector engagement**

**Elaborate on the private sector's engagement in the project, if any.**

One of the lessons learned in the process of updating the PAN was to show that the resolution of the complex problem of the LDDD is unachievable purely through state action. This reality makes it necessary to develop strategies to achieve greater involvement of the private sector and build public-private partnerships. The commitment of the private sector represents a key element for the implementation of public policies in the territory. Either small producers, SMEs or companies of national or international level; all play a strategic role in the territorial, productive and environmental dynamics of the country. Producer associations are equally important, such is the case of the Agrícola Regional Coop. Ltda. Foundation, San Martin Club, tourism associations; private medium or large companies such as DH Group, as well as professional associations. These actors had a relevant role during the participatory stage, expressing their needs for being able to benefit from the project while contributing to its targets.

These agents were already consulted in the validation stage of the Baseline for Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) in Argentina (2019). During the design phase, participation strategies have been activated that involve these producers and companies and their associations, investing in their participation beyond field activities and moreover on the formulation and implementation of policies, plans, programs and techniques of sustainable production, so they count on the most favorable environment to implement restoration actions and management practices with their members.

For this reason, the project, in order to implement a transformative intervention of comprehensive land management incorporating LDN and adaptation to and mitigation of CC, is designed to work in the intersection of the public and private sectors, calling for multisectoral alliances to develop, to harmonize and implement sustainable practices that promote environmental objectives. Private sector actors (producers, cooperatives and other forms of private or community association and integration, associations of agronomic and forestry professionals) therefore will have a central role as collaborative partners in sustainable use activities, in improving local capacities, and in the monitoring of project

results. The intervention areas are mainly a landscape of small and medium farms, which maintain close links to research, innovation, and extension institutions within which project activities will take place.

These farms will have a main role as collaborative partners in the realization of restoration, SFM, and SLM results, as well as beneficiaries of best-practice dissemination and training, within a framework of permanent, strengthened dialogue to ensure that the mechanisms and solutions provided fit with their needs and possibilities.

Specifically, private actors participate in all three project Components, providing knowledge and know-how and profiting from networking opportunities in Component 1, and as beneficiaries of incremental funding for activities in Components 2 & 3. This participation will be managed through existing mechanisms and the specific mechanisms foreseen in the project.

### 5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

**Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.(table format acceptable):**

<b>RISK</b>	<b>Probability</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Overall</b>	<b>MITIGATION MEASURES</b>
Variations in the exchange rate and macroeconomic conditions	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	<b>MEDIUM</b>	The institutional political coordination with the participation of the private sector may generate superior synergies to create productive integration chains and/or value chains. The GoA has special assistance programs for small producers according to their specific activities with which they can be assisted.
Weak financial capacity of large producer groups reduces their ability to access financing to adopt SLM practices	MEDIUM	LOW	<b>MEDIUM</b>	The project will develop a financial strategy that strengthens the availability of access to incentives and other financial mechanisms for beneficiaries with low financial capacity. The GoA has special assistance programs for small producers according to their specific activities, with which they can be assisted. Component 3 of the project will consider these mechanisms and their lessons learned.

RISK	Probability	Impact	Overall	MITIGATION MEASURES
<p>Pandemic or Epidemic situations make field activities difficult</p>	<p>MEDIUM</p>	<p>LOW</p>	<p><b>MEDIUM</b></p>	<p>Some areas of Argentina suffer epidemics of diseases transmitted by mosquitoes such as Dengue, for which it is possible to know the critical moments and adapt the activities. Clothing protocols, gadgets, repellents are applied. Likewise, if conditions of the Covid-19 pandemic return, national and provincial protocols and WHO standards are adopted. The formulation process has demonstrated that means are available for participative decision-making in the post-pandemic situation. Assumptions on tourism as a sustainable income source have been reviewed. The possibility of increased cost of certain inputs has been taken into account in budgeting. Key staff will receive specific training.</p> <p>The potential re-instatement of COVID-19 containment measures has been considered, and in that case, there is capacity for the works to be carried out remotely, by re-directing travel budget lines to support remote participation of underprivileged stakeholders. The role of local partners will be fundamental in such contingency, as they remain closer to the beneficiaries to provide support for their participation in case face-to-face meetings are not possible.</p> <p>The project will provide opportunities for the adoption of sustainable practices with special focus on marginal and underprivileged communities, giving a central role to good quality employment that will be created for vulnerable groups as these groups are the ones closer to the opportunities and to enhance the impact of employment policies and the recovering of social and popular economy. In addition, the project will contribute to women empowerment, decreasing the tension between labor market participation and unpaid care within households. The project will also enhance structural support to these opportunities through supporting enhanced institutional</p>

<b>RISK</b>	<b>Probability</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Overall</b>	<b>MITIGATION MEASURES</b>
				coordination and stakeholder engagement, fostering early warning mechanisms, and promoting local, circular value chains.
Lack of adoption of the financial mechanisms provided by the beneficiaries	LOW	MEDIUM	<b>LOW</b>	Component 3 of the project addresses the root causes of current financial mechanisms that do not support improved resilience of both ecosystems and people. In doing so, it will include an identification of the necessary levers of change within the economic and financial aspects of the current activity, including lack of guarantees, lack of banking, financial exclusion or other known sources of non-participation in innovative financial mechanisms for sustainability.
Seeing the restoration/recovery of soils exceeds the execution time of the project and the confidence of the producers is lost	MEDIUM	LOW	<b>LOW</b>	An intersectoral intervention in productive landscapes is promoted, incorporating from the early stages (PPG) producers and producer organizations, local governments and the private sector in the tasks of Planning, Direction and Management.
Institutional changes at national and provincial level	LOW	MEDIUM	<b>LOW</b>	An intersectoral intervention in productive landscapes is promoted, incorporating from the early stages (PPG) producers and producer organizations, local governments and the private sector in the tasks of Planning, Direction and Management. Strengthening inter-institutional governance favors ownership by institutions, helping to maintain, replicate, and expand SLM techniques beyond the life of the project.
Low participation of women and indigenous peoples	LOW	MEDIUM	<b>LOW</b>	The Communication Strategy favors the connection of all the stakeholders of the project, contributing to their articulation in periods of change of authorities.
Lack of commitment from the private sector	LOW	LOW	<b>LOW</b>	For this reason, it is proposed to achieve a territorial alliance between the private sector, the government sector at the national, provincial and local levels and civil society according to the diagnosis made.

<b>RISK</b>	<b>Probability</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Overall</b>	<b>MITIGATION MEASURES</b>
Climate variability and CC reduce the effectiveness of the practices implemented by the Project	LOW	LOW	<b>LOW</b>	The project strengthens a sustainable land management (SLM) approach within and indirectly beyond the intervention sites, with the expected impact of increasing resilience to climate variability and climate change in both ecosystems and the population, and against both droughts and floods, which are the main risks identified derived from climate scenarios. Therefore, project interventions will be designed taking into account these characteristics of the future climate, and precisely with the objective of incorporating them into government and private planning. Under shorter timeframes, the GoA has special assistance programs for agricultural emergencies and disasters that will be enhanced through project activities, thus increasing the resilience of target populations. These project activities cannot be thwarted by climate variability.

The environmental and social impact assessment is presented in ProDoc 4. Summary of the ex ante evaluation. It concludes that the project is cost-efficient, technically sound, environmentally positive, and will strengthen local capacities among project stakeholders to work towards sustainability. Stakeholders participate in the identification of project priorities and in the definition of planned outputs and outcomes, and all stakeholders are provided the opportunity to provide specific inputs to the project process.

The implementation of project activities will be in accordance the Environmental and Social Safeguards for CAF/GEF Projects Manual, Version 1 of May 2015. The Project is classified as Category C, according to the Guidelines and Procedures on Environmental and Social Safeguards for CAF/GEF Projects Manual (Section V.I.2 Annex I). Project interventions, especially on-the ground interventions under Component 2, are not expected to cause major adverse environmental impacts, and instead, will improve the environmental and social conditions prevailing in the areas of intervention, as evaluated in ProDoc . Special attention is devoted to the compliance of safeguards concerning indigenous peoples and gender equity, as well as to those related with climate change. Argentina has the legal framework which mandates and enhance effective indigenous people participation and CAF and the project also fully comply with this mandate.

Social impacts and related measures as well a detailed Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), including indigenous people, have been designed in a extensively participatory manner. Local workshops and project information dissemination through small focal groups with experts have taken place during 2023. The ESMF in Annex 10 includes both expected impact identification, a safeguard triggering evaluation, and measures to be developed and performed, as well as monitoring and reporting guidelines. In case that further analysis or monitoring and reporting tool would be needed, these will be promptly developed in the earliest implementation stage of the project.



Indigenous peoples participation has been taken into consideration. This focus is going to be maintained and enhanced during the execution phase, through the provisions set out for minimum participation of indigenous peoples in project activity and governance. Annex 10 includes detailed information and recommendations, as well as Annex 5. Public Consultation Process & Stakeholder Engagement Plan, with Special Attention to Indigenous Peoples, which includes separate, "Specific guidance for engagement with indigenous peoples" which mandates:

- The incorporation of traditional governance mechanisms and local knowledge into every project activity, including non-field activities such as proposing regulatory changes, data analysis and others.
- The reinforced participation of indigenous peoples, women, and women organisations in the governance mechanisms of the project.
- The development of specific indicators for equity and inclusion of indigenous peoples and women, both for processes and results.
- The promotion of mechanisms for indigenous peoples and women participating in the access to and management of biodiversity and natural resources.

At the highest level, of the persons conforming the Project Steering Committee, at least 50% must be of indigenous origin and/or woman.

Enhanced participatory and transparency content measures have been designed to ensure that all stakeholders and the project in its integrity comply with the highest ethical, technical and managerial standards as the GEF and CAF requires. The overall and detailed Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the project is included in the ProDoc as Annex 10.

Further, a specific ESMF is required and budgeted for each local intervention, that conforms to all safeguards triggered by the project and applicable national regulations, and to the Guidelines and Procedures on Environmental and Social Safeguards for CAF/GEF Projects Manual. Local activities will be overseen through CAF procedure on the basis of these local ESMFs.

## **6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination**

### **Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.**

The project is aligned with CAF's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals by taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, and foster knowledge and technology transfer. CAF is a strategic partner for the national government of Argentina to build local, regional and national capacities needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). It is currently working within the cross-section of public and private sectors. Argentina's Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS) designated CAF as the implementing agency of a project to provide funds from the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) from the 7th GEF replenishment. CAF is the GEF agency responsible for monitoring and providing overall implementation advice during project implementation and for the financial and operational implementation of the project. This implies that CAF will be responsible for providing and delivering services for the project, following CAF rules and procedures, while caring that the project counts on reliable financial services to manage GEF resources. Specifically:

- All activities related to procurement will follow the Procurement Policies of CAF.
- CAF will be responsible for the overall monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the Project through independent experts, CAF offices and/or partners.
- CAF will work with all stakeholders to ensure that activities to support involvement of women and indigenous peoples are effectively carried out over the long-term.
- CAF will support executing partners in: (i) providing relevant, timely, and accessible information to as many stakeholders as possible; (ii) facilitating broad-based and project-specific consultations, especially at the local or subnational levels; and (iii) promoting the active participation of women and indigenous peoples throughout the project cycle, including through awareness raising and capacity strengthening activities.
- CAF is required to have accountability and grievance systems in place, at the project and/or institution level, to respond to and address complaints brought forward by indigenous peoples or other stakeholders.
- CAF promotes the development and safeguarding of gender equity.

For inter-institutional coordination, the main space for articulation between the National State and the provinces is within the organizations already established such as: the Pasaje-Juramento-Salado Basin Committee, Sal? Dulce River Basin Committee, High Level Interjurisdictional Committee of PIECAS-DP. It should be noted that approaching a project related to DLDD in a LDN framework and with impacts on the AyM to CC, necessarily implies the coordination with other areas of government that are authority for the application of related issues such as: the National Climate Change Cabinet (GNCC in its Spanish acronym), which coordinates the implementation of the National Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Plan between the different government areas, the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishing, which intervenes in Agroindustry, impacts of CC on this sector through the Agricultural Risk Office -ORA-, agricultural insurance and relevant plans such as the National Agricultural Soil Plan (PNSA), the Argentine Agricultural Soil Information System (SISAR ); as well as with different organisms of the technical scientific sector; academic and civil society. In this sense, the DNPYOAT of the MAyDS has vast experience in joint work with other areas, institutions and organizations at the national, provincial and local levels; as well as in the design and implementation of social participation methodologies, which represents an added value for the execution of this project.

A Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be established, made up from the MAyDS; the representatives of the provincial governments; representatives of the partners or other parties responsible for the project and CAF. The PSC will provide general guidance to the Project Coordinator and Director; evaluate project risks and progress, and provide recommendations to achieve the expected results.

Of the people conforming the PSC, at least 50% must be of indigenous origin and/or women.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) will be made up from the National Director of the project (Secretary of Environmental Policy in Natural Resources of the MAyDS), a deputy Director (National Director of

Planning and Environmental Management of the Territory), the technicians designated by the DNPYOAT, a Project Responsible Consultant (General Coordinator), and a technical and finance team that will work under the modality and guidelines of the General Directorate of Projects with External Financing and International Cooperation (DGPFEYCI in its Spanish acronym) of the MAyDS. The PMU will be supported by consultants and facilitators temporarily hired to execute activities within each of the components. The provinces will each designate a focal point who will be a counterpart in the project. The DNPYOAT of the MAyDS will carry out the responsibility of coordinating the Project together with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA in its Spanish acronym), so the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development will be the Executing Agency, and the IICA will be Executing Partner.

## **7. Consistency with National Priorities**

Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions from below:

NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

- National Action Plan for Adaptation (NAPA) under LDCF/UNFCCC
- National Action Program (NAP) under UNCCD
- ASGM NAP (Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining) under Mercury
- Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) under Minamata Convention
- National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) under UNCBD
- National Communications (NC) under UNFCCC
- Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) under UNFCCC
- National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) under UNCBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD
- National Implementation Plan (NIP) under POPs
- Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)
- National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE) under GEFSEC
- Biennial Update Report (BUR) under UNFCCC
- Others

The project is consistent with Argentina's commitments assumed within the framework of the UNCCD, since the activities proposed to be carried out to achieve the expected results correspond directly with the goals and objectives proposed in the National Voluntary Goals for LDN (2020), contemplating the established priority of Avoid-Reduce-Restore. In particular, the project contributes to the voluntary goals of:

- By 2030, establish 200,000 hectares of native forest under forest restoration process.
- By 2030, reduce loss of native forest in order to maintain the area covered with forests included in conservation categories I and II of the Forest Law (high and medium).
- By 2030, implement 140,000 hectares under Forest Management with Integrated Livestock (MBGI for its acronym in Spanish) (II and III, medium and low OTBN categories).
- By 2030, strengthen the Federal Fire Management System for prevention and early warning of forest, rural and interface fires.

Likewise, the indicators proposed for monitoring correspond to those presented in the UNCCD National Action Plan updated to 2019 in its 5 components, and the project contributes to the TSP2 initiative, of which Argentina is a part, by supporting the establishment of programs, objectives and targets at the subnational level.

Regarding consistency with national strategies against climate change; the project contributes directly to the reduction of emissions agreed by Argentina in its Second Nationally Determined Contribution (2020) and bases some action proposals on the provisions of the National Action Plan on Forests and Climate Change. The project contributes to the NDC of Argentina, by helping to avoid deforestation of native forests by reducing emissions associated with deforestation; and by supporting the implementation of conservation and sustainable management plans, promoting recovery and restoration, to maintain the extent and condition of forests, reducing emissions associated with degradation.

As already mentioned, the objectives of the project are framed in the "Sustainable management of food systems and forests" line of action, one of the six strategic lines of the National Climate Change Mitigation Adaptation Plan (2019). It aims to safeguard food sovereignty and security and reduce the vulnerability of agricultural, fishing, forestry and agro-industrial production systems to the impacts of climate change.

The project contributes to the goals of the last Argentine NBSAP, specifically Goal 1: liaise and agree with the different national, provincial and municipal organizations involved in territorial planning and with other territorial actors, the Territorial Environmental Planning; Goal 5: develop new public mechanisms to promote the sustainable use of biodiversity by product, species or ecosystem; Goal 20: identify, develop and promote innovative financing mechanisms; Goal 21: promote the restoration of degraded ecosystems at different scales (local, landscape or regional). The project will contribute, within the Kunming-Montreal framework, to the strategies and commitments acquired in the CBD, and in particular to goals 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 16, 21, 22 and 23.

## 8. Knowledge Management

### **Elaborate the "Knowledge Management Approach" for the project, including a budget, key deliverables and a timeline, and explain how it will contribute to the project's overall impact.**

The general approach of the intervention is based on the experience and lessons learned mainly from the following projects:

? Project Integration of biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management (SLM) in development planning: operationalize environmental land use planning (ELUP) in Argentina (GEFID 9583 implementing agency United Nations Development Program, UNDP, 2017-2023). Has funded the Focal Areas/Programs DL-3, P-4 and DL-4, P-5 with US \$ 3.7 million of funding and US \$ 15.7 million in cofinancing. Among the results and products of the project are key elements for the environmental planning of the territory that may be adopted for the definition of neutral environments, as well as the expansion of knowledge and experiences in SLM that will then be incorporated into the Component 2 of the current proposed project. Regarding institutional strengthening and governance, the project is working on the development of a bill of minimum budgets in the area of environmental management of the territory, which is expected to facilitate the identification of the main spaces and key references in the legislative field.

? Project Sustainable management of drylands of the Argentine Northwest (GEFID 5044, UNDP implementing agency, 2014-2020). The project works in eight provinces of the NOA (Argentinian Northwest in its Spanish acronym) and Cuyo (Jujuy, Salta, Tucum?n, Catamarca, La Rioja, San Juan, Mendoza, San Luis), encompassing the ecoregions of the puna, mountains and plains and plateaus (about a quarter of the surface of Argentina). It has destined for the Focal Areas / Programs LD-1 and LD-3 US \$ 3.3 million of funding and 18.7 million in cofinancing contributions. It is estimated that the balance of both projects to generate synergies with the present will be US \$ 15 million plus a continuity of the strengthening that will continue to be in force, contributing important counterparts in kind. Within the framework of this project, the provinces of Mendoza, Tucum?n, Salta, San Juan and Catamarca are in an advanced stage of elaboration of their PAPs; meanwhile the province of Jujuy, is beginning the elaboration. The project has developed and systematized a participatory methodology for the design of the PAP, with presence and implementation in 7 provinces, which lays the foundations for the design of the governance mechanisms of component 1 of the project proposed here, based on schemes of multisectoral committees, designed by this project. It has also made progress in the establishment of provincial environmental information nodes and implemented SLM under the same conceptual framework that is proposed here in a wide region of the country complementary to the one that is intended to be developed within the framework of this project proposal.

? PIECAS-DP, is part of Result 4 of the project "Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation in the Fluvial Wetlands of the Paran? and Paraguay Rivers" (ARG/10/003) that includes as goals: 1) a regulatory framework and the formulation of policies for continental fishery, harmonized and based on an ecosystem approach; 2) strengthened institutional capacity for fisheries and wetlands management; 3) a

reduction of the impacts on biodiversity, through the development of pilot initiatives of alternatives to fishing and the optimization of the uses of fishing resources; and 4) the Strategic Plan in the Paran? Delta, as a pilot experience of intersectoral land use planning also based on an ecosystem approach and capable of being replicated in the rest of the La Plata Basin.

The project is identified as the product of intense and sustained inter-institutional articulation work with broad participation carried out within the framework of the updating of the National Action Program to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Mitigation (PAN in its Spanish acronym) to 2030 (SAyDS, 2019), formally approved by the CAN; the identification of the LDN baseline for Argentina (SAyDS, 2019); and the elaboration of the National Voluntary Targets for Land Degradation Neutrality (MAyDS, 2020); and an intense participatory process carried out in 2023 for the establishment of detailed goals and execution mechanisms. Experts from the national government, provincial governments, universities and research centers (CONICET), INTA, CSOs and NGOs, and representatives of the agricultural sector participated.

The main results of these consultations can be summarised as follows:

? Inter-institutional coordination spaces such as the PAN National Advisory Commission (CAN in its Spanish acronym) and the Steering Committee of the National Observatory on Land Degradation and Desertification are very important. Prior to the PAN update, CAN was paralyzed and a core consequence of this circumstance was the lack of a national, cross-sectoral strategy for the fight against soil degradation and desertification involving national and provincial agencies, civil society organizations, academia and local organizations.

? A second key issue is intra- and inter-institutional articulation for the coordinated design and implementation of public policies in the field. This is so because public investment in instruments with impact on land use has been fragmentary, which has led to suboptimal results in means allocation and impact. Effective coordination is anticipated to improve the impact of public policies and avoid the generation of perverse incentives that threaten the sustainable management of land and economic activities.

? Third, it is necessary to deepen the societal awareness of the problem of desertification and land degradation.

? Finally, a significant limitation for the realization of PAN strategic approach was ?The absence of a specific budget allocation that will ensure continuous and permanent development of PAN. That is why, the participants suggest to work on innovative instruments that promote inter-institutional synergy and the mobilization of public, private and mixed financial mechanisms that allow to carry forward the planned actions.?

These conclusions have been taken into account in the formulation of this project.

Based on past experiences, there is a need to ensure that Monitoring, Reporting, Verification, Monitoring and Evaluation (MRV, M&E) will be carried out in two dimensions: (i) to follow up on Project progress and results and (ii) to capture long-term costs, impacts and benefits of the intervention. The proposed Project envisages data collection, assessment and analysis as integral part of all components and activities

therein and devotes considerable effort to produce data and to undertake its analysis, use and availability. Specifically, the M&E system as designed consists of three main elements: (i) the measurement of progress at the activity level; (ii) the measurement of progressive achievement of expected project outputs and results as defined in the Results Framework; and (iii) continuous evaluation of the Project during implementation to enable early and regular adjustments.

Similarly, to maximize the impacts and sustainability of activities, the Project will seek to coordinate its actions with existing government programmes and policies, as well as programmes and projects financed by CAF.

The Project envisages data collection, assessment and analysis as integral part of all components and activities therein and devotes considerable effort to produce data and to undertake its analysis, use and availability. Specifically, the M&E system as designed consists of three main elements: (i) the measurement of progress at the activity level; (ii) the measurement of progressive achievement of expected project outputs and results (outcomes) as defined in the Results Framework; and (iii) continuous evaluation of the Project during implementation to enable early and regular adjustments.

In concrete terms, Outputs 1.1.2 (dialogue and learning), and field- and producer-oriented outputs 2.1.1, 2.1.3, 2.2.1, and 2.2.2 include measures for systematized information on best practice and lessons learnt being incorporated and disseminated using web-based tools and others adapted to the intervention area, targeting knowledge with replication potential in the intervention areas. In total, activities earmarked as KM comprise USD 339067 (12.9% of the budget).

In particular, the project will address the identified gender differences and gaps, gender-differentiated impacts and risks, and opportunities to promote the empowerment of women that support project objectives and outcomes. In particular, this means the implementation of comprehensive, gender-disaggregated indicators for all possible project elements (M&E), and the monitoring of stakeholder participation (decision focus), knowledge management and capacity development activities (process focus), and any resulting activity (impact focus).

In particular, the project will address the identified gender differences and gaps, gender-differentiated impacts and risks, and opportunities to promote the empowerment of women that support project objectives and outcomes. This means the implementation and reporting of comprehensive, gender-disaggregated indicators for all possible project elements (M&E), and the monitoring and reporting of the Gender Action Plan (gender perspective), stakeholder participation (decision focus), knowledge management and capacity development activities (process focus) including from a gender perspective, and any resulting activity (impact focus).

The project institutional and implementation arrangements include specific provisions for Monitoring and Evaluation, Knowledge Management and Lessons-Learning. The project will act as a coherent device in the

origination of data, refinement of information and knowledge being obtained from its activity, with this feature providing key solutions to the barriers identified in the theory of change.

As mentioned, the M&E Plan includes budget for the planning of a systematized approach to monitoring and evaluation. Please see ProDoc 2.2. Objectives, expected results and key indicators, 2.3. Components, products and schedule, 3.3. Implementation arrangements, 3.4. Monitoring, reports and evaluation, 3.5. Dissemination of results and visibility, and Annex 2.

Logical and Results Framework.

Key Deliverable	Budget				
	Total	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4
Establishment and strengthening of continuous communication & learning processes within each local intervention area and nationally	183572	57700	43267	43267	39338
Support to best practice identification and incorporation within Sustainable Forest Management and restoration plans	14580	1585	4120	5705	3170
Training and dissemination on Community-Based Adaptation practices	63390	12678	38034	12678	0
Support to best practice identification and incorporation within SLM plans Training and dissemination on SLM practices	61250	5833	11667	17500	26250
Support to best practice identification and incorporation within Ecosystem-Based Adaptation practices	16275	4069	4069	4069	4068
	339067				

Y1				Y2				Y3			
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4

## 9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan



Activity	Responsibility	Estimated Budget (Excluding MA YDS Staff Time and costs covered by CAF)	Time Frame
Inception Workshop and Report	? Project Steering Committee members (PSC) ? CAF ? PMU (Project Coordinator) ? Facilitator	4700	Within 3 months of project start-up
Long-term monitoring, reporting and evaluation plan	? CAF ? PMU (Coordinator)	9150	To be developed at start up and applied throughout the project
GEF Core Indicators Reporting	? PMU	-	At Inception, Mid Term Evaluation & Final Evaluation
Project Steering Committee (PSC) meetings	? Project Steering Committee members (PSC) ? PMU (Coordinator)	8450	One face to face meeting per year and at least one virtual meeting per year
Financial reports and quarterly expense reports	? PMU	-	Within 30 days after each completed quarter
Project Progress Reports	? PMU	-	At least every 3 months and due within 15 days of each completed quarter
Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE)	? Project Steering Committee members (PSC) ? CAF ? PMU ? National Consultant (1)	10 300	Within 90 days of project's mid-term

Activity	Responsibility	Estimated Budget (Excluding MA YDS Staff Time and costs covered by CAF)	Time Frame
Final Report	? Project Steering Committee members (PSC) ? CAF ? PMU	6 000	At least 30 days before the end of the project
Final Evaluation	? Project Steering Committee members (PSC) ? CAF ? PMU ? International Consultant (1) ? National Consultant (1)	20 500	Within 90 days of end of the project
Annual Audits	? PMU ? Auditing firm hired by PMU after no objection from CAF	-	At least annually
Monitoring visits to project sites	? PMU ? Stakeholders	15 300	At least annually
<b>TOTAL INDICATIVE COST, EXCLUDING STAFF TIME AND CAF STAFF TRAVEL</b>		<b>74 400</b>	

#### 10. Benefits

**Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels, as appropriate. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCE/SCCF)?**

The project will contribute to the restoration of a significant area of forest and degraded agricultural land, and increase the forest area under sustainable management as well as the area of agricultural land under sustainable management practices. A dual emphasis approach to strengthen the management of protected areas is to be applied, consistent with prioritizing policy frameworks on protected areas as an engine for sustainable development, together with the sustainable use and management of natural resources both within

and outside of protected areas. Environmental governance will be improved by strengthening the capacities of a wide range of stakeholders, both men and women, to achieve sustainable management and conservation benefits that will go beyond the project's lifespan. Concrete socioeconomic benefits of the project are designed to be:

? Enhanced Capacities: 5500 or more women will be beneficiaries of the project within its 15000 or more beneficiaries. A minority of beneficiaries, in line with their participation in overall population, will belong to indigenous peoples.

? Sustainable Use: in a rough estimation of socioeconomic benefits, the project increases net income within its direct beneficiaries in at least 7.5 million USD per year, on average increasing their household income by 10%.

? Adaptive Management: the participation of new stakeholders in the Provincial and National Action Plans reduces conflict and increases ownership and stewardship, and therefore contributes to the main aim of improving effectiveness and reducing the loss of productive land, biodiversity, and other natural assets.

Please see PRODOC 4.3. Social analysis and stakeholder participation, and Annex 2. Logical and Results Framework.

**11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks**

Provide information on the identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project/program based on your organization's ESS systems and procedures

**Overall Project/Program Risk Classification \***

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

**Measures to address identified risks and impacts**

Elaborate on the types and risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and impacts (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and any measures undertaken as well as planned management measures to address these risks during implementation.

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION			
<b>Interested Organization Name:</b>		<b>Project Location:</b>	
CAF		Argentina	
<b>Projected amount of required project funding (\$ /USD):</b>			
TOTAL: \$ 2.623.377 _____ GEF: \$ 2.623.377 _____ OTHER(S) (Specify) _____			
<b>Project Sector or Similar:</b>		<b>Brief project description:</b>	
Land Degradation Neutrality			
<b>GEF focal Area(s):</b>		<b>Project Duration (months):</b>	
Land Degradation		48	

Focal Area Strategy Framework (other Program strategies)		
Objectives / Programs (Focal areas, Others)	GEF Project	Co- Financing
	Financing (USD)	(USD)
LD-1-1 Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services through SLM	\$ 650.667	\$ 6.158.029
LD-1-2 Maintain or improve flow of ecosystem services through SFM	\$ 650.666	\$ 6.160.526
LD-1-4 Reduce pressures on natural resources and increase resilience	\$ 650.664	\$ 6.160.526
LD-2-5 Create enabling environments to support SLM and LDN	\$ 671.380	\$ 6.492.650

Project Description Summary (Please include available information) **to strengthen the territorial implementation of actions that simultaneously increase climate resilience and improve productivity, guaranteeing social equity and environmental quality in forestry and agri-food systems in 3 hydrographic basins of the Argentine Republic.**

Project Components/ Programs	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing

<p><b>Component 1.</b></p> <p>Comprehensive governance of land management within a LDN framework</p>	<p>1.1. Consolidation of institutional political structure in charge of territorial planning at national and subnational level, within LDN framework and in synergy with adaptation and mitigation of climate change</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.1.a Number of regulatory proposals ready to be sent to legislative bodies for approval and/or update Target: Regulatory proposals prepared (Tucuman and Entre R?os)</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.1.b Modifications, adjustments and incorporations in the organizational structures of the institutions/organizations involved Target: Entre Rios - Promote the formation of a Basin Committee</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.2.a. Actions and contributions agreed upon in six identified multi-stakeholder spaces (CAN, ONDTyD, Sal?-Dulce River Basin Committee, Pasaje-Juramento-Salado River Basin Committee, PIECAS-DP) Target: Entre R?os</p> <p>- Agreed-upon knowledge management and demonstrative actions</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.2.b. Professionals and technicians participating in training activities on LD,</p>	<p>1.1.1. Provincial and local regulatory framework linked to land use planning and management developed and/or updated with LDN and climate change concepts</p> <p>1.1.2. Strengthened participation mechanisms for co-production and consultancy for comprehensive land management in multi-stakeholder spaces</p>	<p>381,077</p>	<p>5,618,259</p>
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<p>LDN and adaptation to and mitigation of climate change  Target: 500 or more professionals and technicians (50% women) participate in training activities on LD, NDT and climate change adaptation and mitigation</p>	<p>(national, inter-jurisdictional, and provincial inter-institutional), within the LDN framework and in synergy with climate change adaptation and mitigation</p>		
<p>Indicator 1.1.2.c. Communication Strategy that improves the population's access to quality information regarding LD, LDN and adaptation to and mitigation of climate change  Target: Design and implementation of a Communication Strategy that improves the population's access to quality information on LD, LDN and climate change adaptation and mitigation</p>			
<p>Indicator 1.1.3. Provincial multisectoral meetings for the preparation of the provinces of Entre R?os and Santiago del Estero PAPs, and for the implementation of Tucum?n PAP  Target:</p>			

		<p>1.1.3. The Provincial Action Plans to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Mitigation (PAP) for the provinces of Entre R�os and Santiago del Estero are prepared with gender perspective as instruments for the environmental management of the territory with LDN approach and adaptation and mitigation of climate change, and the implementation of the Tucum�n PAP is supported</p>	
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<b>Component 2.</b>	2.1. Increased resilience of LD-affected ecosystems to climate variability and extreme weather events	2.1.1. Integration of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) measures into land use planning systems to avoid, reduce and reverse LD	1,868,020	16,416,322
Sustainable management in forests and agri-food systems that contribute to LDN	<p>Indicator 2.1.1. Restored forest area (hectares) Target: Tucuman</p> <p>1. Forest Management (Marapa San Ignacio &amp; Balderrama y Tala Sub-Basins, 6500 ha)</p> <p>a) Protection and restoration of Native Forest</p> <p>b) Reforestation of native forest in the upper basin (3500 ha)</p> <p>2. Forest Management in conjunction with Livestock (Cuenca Alta Marapa) Entre R?os</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integration of management measures (Sustainable management of 20,000 ha of native forest)</li> <li>- Enrichment of native forest (7,000 to 10,000 hectares) Santiago del Estero</li> <li>- Enrichment of degraded areas in riparian zones (6000 ha)</li> <li>- Implementation of windbreaks (3000 ha)</li> </ul> <p>Target Core Indicator 3.2: 46,000 ha</p>			
	<p>Indicator 2.1.2. Number of investment plans in green infrastructure and sustainable mechanization Target: Tucum?n</p> <p>1. Investment Plans and Sustainable Land Management (Marapa San Ignacio Sub-Basin)</p> <p>a) Optimization of irrigation and use of water (canals and roads)</p> <p>b) Systematization of surface runoff</p>			

2. Investment and green infrastructure

- Management and restoration of riparian forests

- Middle and lower basin Balderrama and Marapa

- Tala gritter

Entre R?os

3. Investment Plan Butia project

- Plan for management and construction of terraces

Indicator 2.1.3.

Community-Based

Adaptation Principles applied, identifying and executing adaptation measures that reduce the vulnerability of the community to climate change

Target Core Indicator 3.1: 22,000 ha

Target: Tucuman

1. Community-Based Adaptation (Marapa San Ignacio Sub-Basin) (3500 ha, 200 beneficiaries)

- Technical and environmental training (100 beneficiaries)

2. Community-Based Adaptation (Cuenca Trancas Hualinchai community)

- Livestock control (1500 ha, 100 beneficiaries)

- Irrigation management (2000 ha, 100 beneficiaries)

Entre R?os

- Crop management with environmental techniques (Arroyo G?mez sub-basin, 7,000 ha, 400 beneficiaries)

Santiago del Estero

- Livestock management in buffer zones of protected areas (8,000 ha, 340 beneficiaries)

2.1.2. Design and execution of investment plans (for example, green infrastructure, sustainable mechanization) with gender perspective.

2.1.3. Execution of  
Community-Based  
Adaptation (CBA)  
actions in native  
forests, wetlands and  
natural grasslands with  
significant carbon  
content, guaranteeing  
attention to the  
vulnerable people

2.2. Improvement of land productivity and provision of ecosystem services in the intervention basins, contributing to improving the quality of life of the population

Indicator 2.2.1 Area of productive systems under sustainable land management (hectares).  
Target Core Indicator 4.3: 39,000 ha

Target: Tucuman Sustainable Land Management with small and medium local producers (Cuenca Marapa, 4000 ha, 200 beneficiaries)

Entre R?os  
- Terraced reservoirs. Avoid water degradation by improving the quantity and quality of productive soils (5000 hectares)

- Sustainable Land Management (30,000 ha)

Indicator 2.2.1 Area of restored degraded agricultural land (hectares). Forest surfaces restored by climatic events (floods, droughts) and anthropic actions (fire)

Target Core Indicator 4.3: 21,000 ha

Target: Tucuman Investment Plans (Marapa San Ignacio Sub Basin, 4000 ha)

Sustainable Land Management with small and medium local producers (Cuenca Marapa, 2000 ha)

Entre R?os Investment Plan Butia project (6000 ha)

Santiago del Estero Forest Management with

2.2.1. Implementation of SLM in agri-food systems, with gender perspective integrated into territorial planning systems

	<p>Integrated Livestock (MBGI) (9000 ha)</p> <p>Indicator 2.2.2 Number of EbA measures identified, prioritized, implemented and coordinated with planning policies</p> <p>Target Core Indicator 4.4: 14,300 ha</p> <p>Target: Tucuman Santa Ana Provincial Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fire risk analysis (5000 ha)</li> <li>- Control of Overgrazing and control of exotics (2000 ha)</li> </ul> <p>Entre R?os Pre-Delta National Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Control of invasive alien species (300 ha)</li> </ul> <p>Santiago del Estero Copo National Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Control of exotic invasive species (4000 ha)</li> <li>- Fire risk analysis to work in Fire Management (3000 ha)</li> </ul> <p>Target Core Indicator 1.2: 134,727 ha</p> <p>Target Core Indicator 6.1: 5,231,544 tCO2e (direct) sequestration and/or avoided emissions</p>	<p>2.2.2. Execution of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) actions in protected natural areas</p>		
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<p><b>Component 3.</b></p> <p>Innovative financing and resource mobilization</p>	<p>3.1. Innovative financial mechanisms designed and implemented</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.1 New public and private participants brought to the working group, with specific commitments within the Resource Mobilization Strategy, classified by jurisdiction (national/subnational) Target: New participants and proposals in Tucuman, Entre R?os and Santiago del Estero</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.2 Number of economic instruments for the promotion of productive activities aligned with the LDN guidelines and resilience to climate change Target: At least one incentive mechanism developed and available to producers</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.3 Number, gender and type of beneficiaries who go to the market within sustainable production models Target: at least 3250 beneficiary producers in Tucum?n, Entre R?os and Santiago del Estero</p> <p>Target Core Indicator 11: 15,000 or more total project beneficiaries (36% or more women)</p>	<p>3.1.1. Resource mobilization strategy designed and implemented with gender perspective</p> <p>3.1.2. Incentive mechanisms co-developed, with gender perspective, shared, and promoted</p> <p>3.1.3 Promotion of markets that integrate the entire value chain of sustainable local production models</p>	<p>174,957</p>	<p>1,748,021</p>
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<b>Component 4</b>	4.1 Effective project management, monitoring and evaluation, in accordance with the technical, administrative and fiduciary standards defined by CAF/GEF and the Argentinean legal framework, during project implementation.	4.1.1. Annual Work Plans, Annual Progress Reports.  4.1.2. Budgeted Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, Mid-Term Evaluation Report, Terminal Evaluation Report prepared and completed in accordance with the established deadlines.	74,400	
Monitoring and Evaluation				
Project cost (No project Management included)			2,498,454	23,782,602

**Indicative Sources of Co-financing (Please include available information, comprised type of co-financing:**

**grants, loans, equity, guarantees, in-kind, unknown )**

Source of co-financing	Name of co-financer	Type of co-financing)	Amount (USD)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS by its Spanish acronym)	In-kind	10,489,963
Recipient Country Government	MAyDS -National Park Administration	In-kind	715,338
Recipient Country Government	Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries	In-kind	3,531,907
Recipient Country Government	MAGyP -National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA by its Spanish Acronyms)	In-kind	6,348,323
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Works - National Water Institute (INA by its Spanish acronyms)	In-kind	137,646

Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Justice and Human Rights- National Institute of Indigenous Affairs (INAI by its Spanish acronyms)	In-kind	114,797
Recipient Country Government	Government of the province of Tucum?n	In-kind	349,044
Recipient Country Government	Government of the province of Santiago del Estero	In-kind	2,073,622
Recipient Country Government	Government of the province of Entre R?os	In-kind	1,211,092
<b>Total co-financing</b>			24,971,732

<b>Potential Environmental Impacts</b>	
<p><b>Air emissions</b></p> <p>?X Vehicles and equipment</p> <p>? Heating /air conditioning equipment</p> <p>? Others (describe) _____</p>	<p><b>Waste water</b></p> <p>? Domestic waste water</p> <p>? Water treatment unit</p> <p>? Others (describe) _____</p>



<p><b>Solid waste</b></p> <p>?X Solid waste produced</p> <p>? Types of solid waste _____</p> <p><b>Organic residue from forest, cattle and agriculture activities</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>? Hazardous waste _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>? Waste disposal (where, how) <b>Household composting facilities and recycling for inorganic residue</b></p>	<p><b>Hazardous Chemical substances / Combustibles / Pesticides</b></p> <p>? Storage within the facilities</p> <p>? Protective measures against spills</p> <p>? Leaks / spills traces</p> <p>? Spill containment / cleanup equipment</p> <p>? Heating /air conditioning equipment</p> <p>?X Chemical substances and combustibles management training _____</p> <p><b>Training in the use and disposal of residues</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>? Pesticide use and Management</p>
<p><b>Resource consumption</b></p> <p>?X Materials used _____</p> <p><b>Local materials</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>? Renewable natural resources use</p> <p>? Tools and equipment use</p> <p>?X Water source _____</p> <p><b>Local sources</b></p>	<p><b>Environmental nuisances</b></p> <p>? Dust</p> <p>? Noise</p> <p>? Odors</p> <p>? Vapors / fumes</p> <p>? Noise</p> <p>? Traffic jams and obstructions</p>

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy source _____  <b>Local energy sources. Renewable sources leveraged</b>	
<b>Other Environmental Issues</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Impacts on health, and forest quality and natural habitats in general (rivers, lakes, aquifers, paramo, ocean/marine ecosystems, mangroves, wetlands, biodiversity, among others), Please specify on which one(s) _____ <b>Positive impact on fresh water ecosystems</b> _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Impacts on health protected areas (parks, reservoirs, etc.) Please specify on which one(s) _____ <b>Positive impact on protected areas</b> _____  ? Impacts on other singular / sensible / high value (scientific, landscape, traditional, others) / places, Please specify on which one(s) _____	
<b>Interactions with the Community</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> With a person in charge of answering community questions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> With Community complaints management procedure  ? Safety personal use	
<b>Social Issues</b>	
? Land acquisition required  ? Resettlement of local communities is required ? Impacts on local livelihoods ? Impacts on Indigenous Peoples ? Neighbors or community complaints ? Cultural Resources to be affected or close to project location. ? Dams involved in Project ? Pesticides to be used Land property condition, Please specify (public property, private property, community property, others) <b>Public land protected areas, Communal land</b> <b>Individual properties</b>	

**Questionnaire answer date:**

**25 August 2023**

**Questionnaire answer responsible officer:**

**Octavio Carrasquilla**

**Additional comments:**

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<b>CAF Environmental and Social Officer / National expert Preliminary concept related to project site conditions and potential project impacts</b>	
<b>Questionnaire answer date:</b>	<b>Additional technical review required (to be answered by CAF):</b> ? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Questionnaire answer responsible officer (name, position):</b>	
<b>Environmental considerations and recommendations</b>	
<p>The intervention basins count with planning and zoning stemming from territorial planning, and include national and subnational protected areas. The project must ensure that it contributes to a shift in the existing patterns of degradation in each of the landscapes.</p>	
<b>Community considerations and recommendations</b>	

**Local common and traditional regulations that contribute to the sustainability of livelihoods must be supported. The intervention sites are extensive areas where production and communities are organized through different governance systems at different levels (local, provincial (federated states), and national. These governance systems must be supported to minimize negative social impacts.**

<b>Other social considerations and recommendations</b>
<b>Demonstrative and pilot activities will be accompanied by widespread training and knowledge exchange activities to foster the uptake of improved practices.</b>
<b>Additional comments:</b>

<b>PART II: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS TRIGGERING</b>				
<b>Q</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comment</b>
	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT (ESA)</b>			
	<b>Safeguard always applicable (at least preliminary environmental and social assessment)</b>			

1	<p>Considering the following variables of the project, is there a possibility that the project will generate environmental and social side, multiple and complex impacts? If the answer is no, please briefly justify.</p> <p>(a) The potential environmental and social impacts that the project may have on its area of direct influence and, when required, indirect, cumulative and similar impacts;</p> <p>(b) The impacts on physical physical, biotic, social, economic, cultural resources, and health and safety of people;</p> <p>(c) Global environmental problems;</p> <p>(d) The alternatives to improve the selection, location, planning, design and execution of the project, including the "without project" as well as capital and recurrent costs and the comparison of the</p>		X	<p><b>Project activities aim at reducing negative trends and impacts of unplanned, unsustainable human activity on the land.</b></p> <p><b>The project causes no negative environmental impacts of its own but reduces existing impacts and restores and promotes sustainability.</b></p>
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	<p>environmental benefits and costs of the project;</p> <p>(e) The design of measures to prevent, mitigate and / or compensate the identified impacts, including the use of positive impacts and other opportunities that may be identified by both the project itself and by the communities affected by the project.</p> <p>(Probable category A)</p>			
2	<p>Considering the project variables described above in Question 1, is there a possibility that the project will generate environmental and social impacts that although they are not classified as moderate, adverse, multiple and complex, they can be significant? If the answer is no, please briefly justify.</p> <p>(Probable category B)</p>		X	
3	<p>Considering the project variables described above in Question 1, is there a possibility that the project will generate low environmental and social impacts that can be prevented, mitigated or compensated on the basis of best environmental practices and engineering, along with measures environmental management widely known and accessible? If yes, please briefly justify.</p> <p>(Probable category C)</p>		X	
4	<p>Can the project be included in any of the following groups?</p> <p>(I) projects related to excavation, demolition, earthwork, flood or other significant environmental changes;</p> <p>(Ii) projects located on a site with physical cultural resources, or in their area, and recognized by the proponent.</p> <p>(Iii) projects specifically designed to support the management or conservation of physical cultural resources.</p> <p>If yes, please document the relevant requirements of national legislation, your procedures to identify, mitigate and monitor impacts on physical cultural resources, and a procedure for handling chance findings).</p> <p>(Probable category A or B)</p>		X	



5	Is there a possibility that the project will generate potential or significant conversion or degradation of critical forest or other natural habitats? (Probable category A)		X	
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6	Is there a possibility that the project violates environmental legal framework in force in the country, and / or applicable international agreements or conventions? (Probable unacceptable project)		X	
7	Does the organization, in its activities and projects, extend to its contractors and third parties its Policy Commitments and Programs in Environmental and Social Management, and Health and Safety?	X		
<b>Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) Practices</b>				
8	Does the organization carry out a process of Social and Environmental Assessment that considers holistically the potential social and environmental impacts of its activities and projects (including labor, health and safety)?	X		
9	Does the ESA identifies individuals or groups as vulnerable or disadvantaged, and are proposed and implemented for them differentiated measures?	X		
<b>Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and Action Plans</b>				
10	For its activities and projects, does the organization establish and implement a plan / program of measures and mitigation and performance improvement that addresses the environmental and social impacts and consider the major findings of the ESA and the result of the consultation with affected communities?	X		
11	Does the ESMP defines the desired outcomes as measurable events (performance indicators, targets or acceptance criteria), with estimation of resources and responsibilities for implementation?	X		
12	Has the organization allocated sufficient resources to implement the ESMP?	X		
13	Has the organization planned and implemented the action plans necessary to comply with regulations and applicable Performance Standards?	X		
<b>Participation and involvement of stakeholders</b>				

14	Has the organization properly identified all the relevant stakeholders for their activities?	X		
15	Have these stakeholders played a part in planning their activities or services?	X		
16	Does the organization have a community engagement process for the benefited / affected communities?	X		
17	Does such process guarantee free, prior and informed participation to communities?	X		
18	Has the organization implemented a complaints			

	mechanism for addressing and responding to communities?	X		
<b>External Communications and Grievance Mechanisms</b>				
19	Has the company implemented procedures for external communications?	X		
20	Has the company established a complaints mechanism to receive and facilitate resolution of the concerns of the communities on environmental and social performance of their activities?	X		
<b>Continuous report to affected communities</b>				
21	Does the company provide periodic reports to the communities that describes its activities that involve 1. risk or impact running or developing communities; and 2. the consultation or complaints mechanism?	X		
<b>Q</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>NATURAL HABITATS AND FORESTS</b>				
<b>Safeguard triggering conditions</b>				
1	Do the design and development of the project include the conservation or sustainable use of natural habitats or the maintenance of the ecological functions of natural habitats?	X		
2	Do the design and development of the project include the rehabilitation/reforestation of degraded natural habitats?		X	
3	Do the activities and development of the project may eventually cause impacts on the health and quality of forest and natural habitats in general (rivers, lakes, aquifers, moors, ocean / marine ecosystems, mangroves, wetlands, biodiversity, etc.)?		X	

4	Do the activities and development of the project may affect the rights and welfare of people depending on forests or interacting with them?		X	
5	Do the activities and development of the project may generate changes in management, protection and use of natural or planted forests, whether they are public, private or community property?	X		
6	Is there any possibility that access to information and knowledge about project impacts on natural habitats prevent that such information and knowledge become complete or conclusive? (UNFEASIBLE PROJECT)		X	
7	Does the project include forest plantations or any other			

	activity that involves a significant degree of conversion or degradation of critical habitats or critical wooded areas? (UNFEASIBLE PROJECT)		X	
8	Does the project include forest plantations or any other activity that involves a significant degree of conversion or degradation of critical habitats or critical forest areas or forests and natural habitats that are not critical, and it is foreseen to implement an alternatives study? (CONDITIONALLY FEASIBLE PROJECT)		X	
9	Does the organization have implemented Procedures or Guidelines for the Management of Environmental and Social impacts related to natural habitats or forest?	X		
10	Have the organization designated responsible officers (employees or consultants) for the Environmental and Social Management of its activities and projects related to natural habitats or forests? Describe briefly	X		
<b>Q</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>				
<b>Safeguard triggering conditions</b>				
1	<p>Considering the activities that:</p> <p>i) Are directly or indirectly related to the project; (ii) are required to achieve the objectives of the evaluation; and (iii) are conducted or planned to be held concurrently with the project;</p> <p>During the project development, any of the following cases of involuntary taking of lands is foreseen?</p> <p>(i) displacement or loss of shelter  (ii) loss of assets or access to those assets  (iii) loss of income sources or means of livelihood, whether the person concerned is forced to move elsewhere or not.  (iv) Loss of social networks in the local environment that may be sources of consumer goods for exchange by non-financial mechanisms (such as barter, gifts exchange and other) or loss of safety networks?</p>		X	

2	<p>Considering the activities that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i) Are directly or indirectly related to the project; (ii) are required to achieve the objectives of the evaluation; and (iii) are conducted or planned to be held concurrently with the project;</li></ul> <p>During the project development, involuntary</p>			
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	restriction of access to parks and protected areas legally established is foreseen?		X	
3	Does the environmental assessment of the project envisage the development of alternatives analysis, and that analysis includes the verification of the measures to prevent and minimize, to the extent possible, involuntary resettlement? (MANDATORY CONDITION IN CASE OF SAFEGUARD APPLICABILITY)			
	<b>Other Ones</b>			
4	Does the organization have implemented Guidelines or Procedures for the Management of Environmental and Social impacts related to involuntary resettlement?			
5	Have the organization designated responsible officers (employees or consultants) for the Environmental and Social Management of its activities and projects related to involuntary resettlement? Describe briefly			
6	Can displacement be avoided?			
7	Will displacement be physical?			
8	Will Land rights or land use rights be acquired through expropriation or other compulsory procedures in accordance with the legal system of the host country?			
9	Will Land rights or land use rights be acquired through negotiated settlements with property owners or those with legal rights to the land if failure to reach settlement would have resulted in expropriation or other compulsory procedures?			
10	Will displacement be economic?			
11	Will the project situations where involuntary restrictions on land use and access to natural resources cause a community or groups within a community to lose access to resource usage where they have traditional or recognizable usage rights?			



12	Will certain project situations requiring evictions of people occupying land without formal, traditional, or recognizable usage rights?			
13	Because of the project, there will be restriction on access to land or use of other resources including communal property and natural resources such as marine and aquatic resources, timber and non-timber forest products, freshwater, medicinal plants, hunting and gathering grounds and grazing and cropping areas?			
14	<b>Is the Involuntary Resettlement Safeguard triggered?</b>		<b>X</b>	

Q	Question	Yes	No	Comment
<b>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES</b>				
<b>Safeguard triggering conditions</b>				
1	Is it anticipated that there is presence of indigenous peoples in the area of project development or in its area of influence?	X		
2	Are there indigenous peoples with community links to the project area, whether it is the project development area or its area of influence?	X		
3	Does the planned project involve the physical relocation of Indigenous Peoples or restriction of access of Indigenous Peoples to parks and protected areas legally established? (CONDITION THAT TRIGGERS THE INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT SAFEGUARD, IN ADDITION TO THAT OF INDIGENOUS PUEBOS).		X	
<b>Other ones</b>				
4	Does the organization have implemented Guidelines or Procedures for the Management of Environmental and Social Impacts relating to indigenous peoples?	X		
5	Has the organization designated responsible officers (employees or consultants) for the Environmental and Social Management of its activities and projects related to indigenous peoples? Describe briefly	X		
Q	Question	Yes	No	Comment
<b>PEST MANAGEMENT</b>				
<b>Safeguard triggering conditions</b>				
1	Does the project include potential aspects of control and management of pests or vectors, which may affect agriculture or public health?	X		

	<b>Other ones</b>			
2	Does the organization have implemented Guidelines or Procedures for the Management of Environmental and social impacts related to managing pests or vectors?	X		
3	Has the organization designated responsible officers (employees or consultants) for the Environmental and Social Management of its activities and projects related to pest or vectors management? Describe briefly	X		
<b>Q</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comment</b>
	<b>PHYSICAL CULTURAL RESOURCES</b>			
	<b>Safeguard triggering conditions</b>			
1	Is it anticipated that project includes major activities excavations, demolition, earthworks, floods or other			

	alterations to the landscape?		X	
2	Is it anticipated that project is located in a place where there are physical cultural resources recognized by the competent authorities or where they are expected to be found?	X		
3	Is it anticipated that the project is aimed at supporting the management of Physical Cultural Resources?		X	
	<b>Other ones</b>			
4	Does the organization have implemented Guidelines or Procedures for the Management of Environmental and social impacts on physical cultural resources?	X		
5	Has the organization designated responsible officers (employees or consultants) for the Environmental and Social Management of its activities and projects related to Physical Cultural Resources? Describe briefly.	X		
<b>Q</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comment</b>
	<b>SAFETY OF DAMS</b>			
	<b>Safeguard triggering conditions</b>			
1	Is it anticipated that the project involves the construction of a new (s) dam (s) or the rehabilitation or performance of a (n) existing dam (s)?		X	
2	Is it anticipated that the project involves the rehabilitation or performance of (an) existing dam (s). NOTE: THIS INCLUDES THE USE OF WATER FROM AN (S) DAM (S).		X	
3	Is it anticipated that the project includes power plants or water supply systems that benefits directly from a reservoir controlled by an existing dam or construction?		X	

4	It is anticipated that the project includes diversion dams or hydraulic structures downstream from an existing dam or a dam under construction that due to failure of a dam upstream could cause extensive damage to or failure of the new structure that is part of the project?		X	
5	Do you anticipate that the project includes works or irrigation activities or water supply that depends on the storage capacity and performance of an existing dam or a dam under construction, and that any dam failure will cause project failure?		X	
6	Is it anticipated that the project includes increasing the capacity of an existing dam or changes in the characteristics of materials, whereas a failure of the existing dam could cause extensive damage or deterioration of facilities that are part of the project?		X	

	<b>Other ones</b>			
7	Does the organization have implemented Guidelines or Procedures for the Management of Environmental and Social impacts related to dam safety?			
8	Has the organization designated responsible officers (employees or consultants) for the Environmental and Social Management of its activities and projects related to dam safety? Describe briefly.			
<b>Q</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>GENDER MAINSTREAMING</b>				
<b>Safeguard always applicable</b>				
1	Has there been any assessment or analysis of gender in relation to the possible roles, benefits, impacts and risks that can generate the project for women and men of different ages, ethnicities, state and social structure?	X		
2	Does the organization have implemented Guidelines or Procedures for the Management of Environmental and social impacts related to mainstreaming gender issues?	X		
3	Has the organization designated responsible officers (employees or consultants) for the Environmental and Social Management of its activities and projects related to mainstreaming gender issues? Describe briefly.	X		

#### Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
<b>DEC 19 Annex 9_Risk Assessment and Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>CEO Endorsement ESS</b>	
<b>DEC 19 Annex 10_ESMF_Safeguards</b>	<b>CEO Endorsement ESS</b>	

Title	Module	Submitted
<b>ANNEX D - Climate risk screening summary 04102021</b>	<b>Project PIF ESS</b>	
<b>ES risk preliminar assessment LD Argentina</b>	<b>Project PIF ESS</b>	

**ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK** (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participa nts	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptio ns	Means of verificati on
1. Comprehensive governance of land management within a LDN framework							
1.1 Consolidation of institutional political structure in charge of territorial planning at national and subnational level, within LDN framework and in synergy with adaptation and mitigation of climate change							



Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptions	Means of verification
1.1.1 Provincial and local regulatory framework linked to land use planning and management developed and/or updated with LDN and climate change concepts	Government of Tucumán Province Government of Entre Ríos Province Government of Santiago del Estero Province Ministry of Justice and Human Rights ? National Institute of Indigenous Affairs ? (INAI) Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAYDS) Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP) ? CONICET	The project provides support to national, provincial and local public entities for the development of proposals, revision and updating of regulations related to NDT considering climate change. Meetings between provincial ministries, municipalities, producer associations, NGOs, business organizations, MAYDS, universities and research and extension institutions. Technical training. Presentations to the corresponding organisms (Ministries,	Indicator 1.1.1.a Number of regulatory proposals ready to be sent to legislative bodies for approval and/or update Indicator 1.1.1.b Modifications, adjustments and incorporations in the organizational structures of the institutions/organizations involved	<b>Tucuman</b> - Decree 2025 09/2021 does not incorporate other bodies into the constitution of the working group Soil degradation component does not appear in the Mission and Objectives - PAP of Tucumán, through the Multisectoral Committee (MSC), identifies the need for plans for territorial regulation and control of desertification and soil degradation - Incorporate into system of provincial protected areas the possibility of participation for private parties interested in preserving natural areas <b>Entre Ríos</b> - Soil conservation law requires updating and implementation - Forest Law requires updating	<b>Tucuman</b> - Propose modification of decree 2025 09/2021 in the following points: Support the creation of an agency for Integrated Land Management, soil degradation and climate change projects Propose the adaptation of the Revolving Fund mechanism for desertification - Support the incorporation of considerations on adaptation and mitigation to climate change in the regulations of Law 9374 on Soil Conservation - Support the incorporation of the PAP in the Provincial Climate Change	Active and efficient collaboration between the different governmental and non-governmental actors involved in the formulation of regulatory proposals. Availability of technical and financial resources to carry out the process of formulating and sending regulatory proposals.	Written records of participation. Photographic Records. Proposal Documents

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptions	Means of verification
		Legislature )		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law 8318 Use and conservationist management of soils of the province that due to their natural conditions and by anthropic action show symptoms or susceptibility to degradation</li> <li>- Law 10284 Land Use Planning of Forests in the province of Entre Ríos</li> <li>- Decree 4977/2009 regulation of environmental impact</li> <li>- Law 10650 modification of Law 8318</li> <li>- Law 1049 can improve the care of island and wetland systems</li> <li><b>Santiago del Estero</b></li> <li>- Law 6321/97 Defense and conservation and improvement of the environment and natural resources</li> <li>- Law 22428/81 Promotion of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Response Plan</li> <li>- Contribute to the harmonization of the law updating the OTBN (in preparation) with Law 9374, reinforcing the function of the native forest in the prevention of land degradation and the obligation of restoration by the owners on the properties that suffered processes of soil losses due to unauthorized clearings</li> <li><b>Entre Rios</b></li> <li>- Support the updating and implementation of the Soil Conservation Law</li> <li>- Propose a draft Territorial Planning Law</li> <li>- Support the regulation of Basin Committees</li> <li>- Promote the formation of a Basin Committee</li> </ul>		

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptions	Means of verification
1.1.2 Strengthened participation mechanisms for co-production and consultancy for comprehensive land management in multi-stakeholder spaces (national, inter-jurisdictional, and provincial inter-institutional), within the LDN framework and in synergy with climate change adaptation and mitigation	Government of Tucumán Province Government of Entre Ríos Province Government of Santiago del Estero Province Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAYDS) Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP) National Institute of Agricultural Technology ? INTA Ministry of Public Works ? National Water Institute (INA) National University of Entre Ríos (UNER)	The project convenes, supports and boosts these participation mechanisms throughout its duration Institutional participation in these spaces implies a commitment to the development of management tools and agreed actions focused on NDT and Climate Change, according to each multi-stakeholder space. The invitations take into account the gender and territorial balance	Indicator 1.1.2.a. Actions and contributions agreed upon in six identified multi-stakeholder spaces (CAN, ONDTyD, Sal?-Dulce River Basin Committee, Pasaje-Juramento-Salado River Basin Committee, PIECAS-DP) Indicator 1.1.2.b. Professionals and technicians participating in training activities on LD, LDN and adaptation to and mitigation of climate change Indicator 1.1.2.c. Communication Strategy that improves the population's access to quality information regarding LD, LDN and adaptation to and mitigation of climate change	soil conservation - Law 6841 Conservation and Multiple Use of forest areas in the province of Santiago del Estero - Law 6942 Provincial Law on Land Use Planning of Native Forests of the Province - Law 26331 requires the provinces to update their regulations - Work on a Strategic Forest Plan	Design and implementation of a Communication Strategy that improves the population's access to quality information on LD, LDN and climate change adaptation and mitigation 500 or more professionals and technicians (50% women) participate in training activities on LD, NDT and climate change adaptation and mitigation <b>Entre Ríos</b> - Development of a sustainable management plans Manual that considers relevant issues such as: Control of exotic species focused on Extraction Management of terraces	Set up of a continuous and effective dialogue process between actors involved in the six identified multi-stakeholder spaces. Commitment and active participation of the different actors in the identification and consensus of actions and contributions	Written records of participation. Photographic Records. Proposal Documents

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptio ns	Means of verificati on
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dissemination and training mechanisms for the application of regulations related to land use planning and soil conservation</li> <li>- Strengthening of Local Governments</li> <li>- Work with island farmers</li> <li>- Coordination between institutional areas</li> <li>- Training workshops</li> <li>- Dissemination information (actions in progress)</li> <li>- Investigation</li> <li>- Knowledge transfer (agrotechnical schools, cooperatives, National Parks Administration, Universities)</li> <li>- Tree Nursery</li> <li>- Island community with local production</li> </ul>		

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptions	Means of verification
1.1.3. The Provincial Action Plans to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Mitigation (PAP) for the provinces of Entre Ríos and Santiago del Estero are prepared with gender perspective as instruments for the environmental management of the territory with LDN approach and adaptation and mitigation of climate change, and the implementation of the Tucumán PAP is supported	Government of Tucumán Province Government of Entre Ríos Province Government of Santiago del Estero Province Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS) Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP) National Institute of Agricultural Technology INTA Ministry of Public Works National Water Institute (INA)	The project convenes, supports and boosts meetings of working groups throughout its duration Institutional participation in these working groups implies a commitment to the development of PAPs focused on NDT and Climate Change (Entre Ríos, Santiago del Estero) and the implementation of Tucumán PAP The invitations take into account the gender and territorial balance	Indicator 1.1.3 Provincial multisectoral meetings for the preparation of the provinces of Entre Ríos and Santiago del Estero PAPs, and for the implementation of Tucumán PAP		<p><b>Entre Ríos</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coordination working groups between the provincial government and local governments (Inclusion of at least 10 local actors).</li> </ul> <p><b>Tucumán</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inter-institutional coordination for PAP application</li> <li>- Operation of the Sali Basin Committee and Marapa and Balderrama sub-basins</li> </ul> <p><b>Santiago del Estero</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Working groups residents application authority management areas in order to agree on protocols and regulations</li> <li>- Local working groups meetings with provincial authorities</li> </ul>	Availability of financial and logistical resources to organize multisectoral provincial meetings. Willingness and support from the provincial authorities to participate and contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Provincial Action Plans (PAP).	Written records of participation. Photographic Records. Proposal Documents
2. Sustainable management in forests and agri-food systems that contribute to LDN							
2.1 Increased resilience of LD-affected ecosystems to climate variability and extreme weather events							

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptions	Means of verification
2.1.1 Integration of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) measures into land use planning systems to avoid, reduce and reverse LD	Government of Tucumán Province Government of Entre Ríos Province Government of Santiago del Estero Province Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS) Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP)	Actions for forest management, protection and restoration of forests are supported	Indicator 2.1.1. Restored forest area (hectares)	<p><b>Tucumán</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is no executing agency for Integrated Land Management, soil degradation and climate change projects.</li> </ul> <p><b>Entre Ríos</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Soil conservation law requires updating and implementation of land use</li> </ul> <p><b>Santiago del Estero</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expansion of the agricultural frontier led by soybeans, corn, wheat and cotton</li> <li>- 50% of the cattle herd of northwestern Argentina</li> <li>- Update land use planning of Forest Law</li> <li>- PAP implementation working group</li> </ul>	<p><b>GEF Core Indicator 3.2: 46,000 ha Tucumán</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Forest Management (Marapa San Ignacio &amp; Balderrama y Tala Sub-Basins, 6500 ha) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Protection and restoration of Native Forest</li> <li>b) Reforestation of native forest in the upper basin (3500 ha)</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Forest Management in conjunction with Livestock (Cuenca Alta Marapa)</li> </ol> <p><b>Entre Ríos</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integration of management measures (Sustainable management of 20,000 ha of native forest)</li> <li>- Enrichment of native forest (7,000 to 10,000 hectares)</li> </ul> <p><b>Santiago del Estero</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enrichment of degraded</li> </ul>	Land use planning systems are integrated with Sustainable Forest Management Measures. Areas for forest restoration are well defined.	Verification reports

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participa nts	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptio ns	Means of verificati on
					areas in riparian zones (6000 ha) - Implementati on of windbreaks (3000 ha)		

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptions	Means of verification
2.1.2 Design and execution of investment plans (for example, green infrastructure, sustainable mechanization) with gender perspective	Government of Tucumán Province Government of Entre Ríos Province Government of Santiago del Estero Province Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS) Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP) National Institute of Agricultural Technology INTA Ministry of Public Works National Water Institute (INA)	The project convenes, supports and boosts meetings for design and implementation of investment plans in green infrastructure and sustainable mechanization. The invitations take into account the gender and territorial balance	Indicator 2.1.2 Number of investment plans in green infrastructure and sustainable mechanization		<b>Tucumán</b> 1. Investment Plans and Sustainable Land Management (Marapa San Ignacio Sub-Basin) a) Optimization of irrigation and use of water (canals and roads) b) Systematization of surface runoff 2. Investment and green infrastructure - Management and restoration of riparian forests - Middle and lower basin Balderrama and Marapa - Talagritter <b>Entre Ríos</b> 3. Investment Plan Butia project - Plan for management and construction of terraces	Identification of opportunities and specific needs for investment in green infrastructure and sustainable mechanization. Active participation of local and regional actors in the planning and execution of investments.	Verification reports



Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptions	Means of verification
2.1.3 Execution of Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) actions in native forests, wetlands and natural grasslands with significant carbon content, guaranteeing attention to the vulnerable people	Government of Tucumán Province Government of Entre Ríos Province Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS) Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP) Ministry of Justice and Human Rights ? National Institute of Indigenous Affairs ? (INAI)	Community-Based Adaptation actions are supported in the identified basins and sub-basins	Indicator 2.1.3 Community-Based Adaptation Principles applied, identifying and executing adaptation measures that reduce the vulnerability of the community to climate change		<p><b>GEF Core Indicator 3.1: 22,000 ha</b></p> <p><b>Tucuman</b></p> <p>1. Community-Based Adaptation (Marapa San Ignacio Sub-Basin) (3500 ha, 200 beneficiaries)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technical and environmental training (100 beneficiaries)</li> </ul> <p>2. Community-Based Adaptation (Cuenca Trancas Hualinchai community)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Livestock control (1500 ha, 100 beneficiaries)</li> <li>- Irrigation management (2000 ha, 100 beneficiaries)</li> </ul> <p><b>Entre Ríos</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Crop management with environmental techniques (Arroyo Gómez sub-basin, 7,000 ha, 400 beneficiaries)</li> </ul> <p><b>Santiago del Estero</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Livestock management</li> </ul>		Verification reports

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participa nts	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptio ns	Means of verificati on
					in buffer zones of protected areas (8,000 ha, 340 beneficiaries)		
2.2 Improvement of land productivity and provision of ecosystem services in the intervention basins, contributing to improving the quality of life of the population							

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptio ns	Means of verificati on
2.2.1 Implement ation of SLM in agri-food systems with gender perspective , integrated into territorial planning systems	Governme nt of Tucum?n Province Governme nt of Entre R?os Province Governme nt of Santiago del Estero Province Ministerio de Ministry of Environm ent and Sustainabl e Developm ent (MAyDS) Secretariat of Agricultur e, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP) ? National Institute of Agricultur al Technolog y ? INTA Ministry of Public Works ? National Water Institute (INA)	Training is carried out and small and medium producers are supported in the transition to practices of Sustainabl e Land Managem ent, erosion and water degradatio n control.	Indicator 2.2.1 Area of productive systems under sustainable land management (hectares).		<b>GEF Core            Indicator            4.3: 39,000            ha            Tucuman            Sustainable            Land            Management            with small            and medium            local            producers            (Cuenca            Marapa, 4000            ha, 200            beneficiaries)            Entre R?os            - Terraced            reservoirs.            Avoid water            degradation            by improving            the quantity            and quality of            productive            soils (5000            hectares)            - Sustainable            Land            Management            (30,000 ha)</b>	Producers adopt and implement sustainable land managem ent practices.	Verificati on reports

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participa nts	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptio ns	Means of verificati on
		Activities for the restoration of agricultural lands are supported	Indicator 2.2.1 Area of restored degraded agricultural land (hectares). Forest surfaces restored by climatic events (floods, droughts) and anthropic actions (fire)		<p><b>GEF Core Indicator 4.3: 21,000 ha</b></p> <p><b>Tucuman</b> Investment Plans and Sustainable Land Management (Marapa San Ignacio Sub Basin, 4000 ha)</p> <p>Sustainable Land Management with small and medium local producers (Cuenca Marapa, 2000 ha)</p> <p><b>Entre R?os</b> Investment Plan Butia project (6000 ha)</p> <p><b>Santiago del Estero</b> Forest Management with Integrated Livestock (MBGI) (9000 ha)</p>	Efficient implementation by farmers of restoration techniques.	Verification reports

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptions	Means of verification
<p>2.2.2 Execution of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) actions in protected natural areas</p>	<p>Government of Tucumán Province Government of Entre Ríos Province Government of Santiago del Estero Province Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS) MAyDS - Administration of National Parks (NPA)</p>	<p>Fire risk analysis is developed Ecosystem-based Adaptation measures are supported in the identified Conservation Units</p>	<p>Indicator 2.2.2 Number of EbA measures identified, prioritized, implemented and coordinated with planning policies</p>		<p><b>GEF Core Indicator 1.2: 134,727 ha</b>  <b>GEF Core Indicator 4.4: 14,300 ha</b>  <b>GEF Core Indicator 6.1: 5,231,544 tCO2e (direct) sequestration and/or avoided emissions Tucuman Santa Ana Provincial Park</b>  - Fire risk analysis (5000 ha)  - Control of Overgrazing and control of exotics (2000 ha)  <b>Entre Ríos Pre-Delta National Park</b>  - Control of invasive alien species (300 ha)  <b>Santiago del Estero Copo National Park</b>  - Control of exotic invasive species (4000 ha)  - Fire risk analysis to work in Fire</p>	<p>There is an active participation of local actors in the identification and prioritization of Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EbA) measures. There is effective coordination between implemented EbA measures and existing planning policies.</p>	<p>Verification reports</p>

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptions	Means of verification
					Management (3000 ha)		
3. Innovative financing and resource mobilization							
3.1 Innovative financial mechanisms designed and implemented							
3.1.1 Resource mobilization strategy designed and implemented with gender perspective	Government of Tucumán Province Government of Entre Ríos Province Government of Santiago del Estero Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS) Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP)	The project convenes, supports and boosts meetings of the working group to develop and implement the Resource Mobilization Strategy throughout its duration. Institutional participation in these working groups implies a commitment to the Resource Mobilization Strategy. The invitations take into account the gender and territorial balance	Indicator 3.1.1 New public and private participants brought to the working group, with specific commitments within the Resource Mobilization Strategy, classified by jurisdiction (national/subnational)	<b>Tucuman</b> - Ministry of Productive Development of Tucumán, National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA), National University of Tucumán, indigenous communities and cooperatives of small producers make up the Multisectoral Committee - The mechanism of the Revolving Fund for desertification is not well adapted to fulfil its mission <b>Santiago del Estero</b> - The environmental deterioration in the productive	<b>Tucuman</b> Financing Search - Green bonds - PIC <b>Entre Ríos</b> - Promote the PASE Producers program <b>Santiago del Estero</b> - Financing Green Bonds Sustainable Forestry - Financing producers MBGI Sustainable Landscapes Project World Bank National Parks (Semi-arid Chaco Landscape)	Attractive investment opportunities are identified in the forestry and agri-food systems of the hydrographic basins.	Written records of participation. Photographic Records. Proposal Documents

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptio ns	Means of verificati on
3.1.2. Incentive mechanism s co- developed with gender perspective shared, and promoted	Governme nt of Tucum?n Province Governme nt of Entre R?os Province Governme nt of Santiago del Estero Province Environm ent and Sustainabl e Developm ent (MAyDS) Secretariat of Agricultur e, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP)	Participato ry developme nt of economic instrument s that promote and strengthen productive activities that implement LDN guidelines and resilience to climate change is encourage d	Indicator 3.1.2 Number of economic instruments for the promotion of productive activities aligned with the LDN guidelines and resilience to climate change	areas is mainly due to the overexploitatio n of forests, inadequate management of agriculture and livestock, and unsustainable management of water for irrigation. <b>Entre R?os</b> - The root causes are extreme weather and climate events, unsustainable agricultural/liv estock management, deforestation, agricultural use of fire, and agricultural intensification	<b>Entre Rios</b> - PASE Producer Seal (Sustainable Environment al Producer of Entre R?os) - Sustainable Soy Seal - Grassland Meat Seal Calculation of environmenta l economic benefits and proposal of compensatory mechanisms (provincial and municipal interference) <b>Santiago del            Estero</b> - Sustainable Forest Product Seal - Grassland Meat Seal	Support and commitme nt of governmen t authorities in the implement ation of economic instrument s.	Written records of participat ion. Photogra phic Records. Proposal Document s

Component Expected outcomes Outputs	Participants	Activities	Indicators	Baseline (current situation)	Target	Assumptions	Means of verification
3.1.3 Promotion of markets that integrate the entire value chain of sustainable local production models	Government of Tucumán Province Government of Entre Ríos Province Government of Santiago del Estero Province Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS) Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP)	The development and promotion of markets will be promoted within sustainable production models that also promote gender-balanced participation.	Indicator 3.1.3 Number, gender and type of beneficiaries who go to the market within sustainable production models		<b>Entre Ríos</b> Sustainable seals (1000 beneficiaries) <b>Tucuman</b> Commercialization of livestock and agricultural products with sustainable management (750 beneficiaries) <b>Santiago del Estero</b> Forest products (500 beneficiaries) Grassland meats (750 beneficiaries) Sustainable Landscapes Projects (250 beneficiaries) <b>GEF Core Indicator 11: 15,000 or more total project beneficiaries (36% or more women)</b>	Access to training and resources so that beneficiaries can actively participate in the markets.	Written records of participation. Photographic Records. Proposal Documents

**ANNEX B: 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).**

At PIF review, the following items were highlighted for further development/confirmation at PPG stage:

GEFSec comment	Response
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<p><b>Climate impacts.</b> The GEFSec recommended a deep analysis of foreseen climate change impacts to be undertaken during the design phase, so to ascertain what implications that impacts could have for project outputs and outcomes.</p>	<p>That analysis was carried out and is presented in the Climate Risk Screening Summary annexed to the ESMF (ProDoc's Annex 10). Project output has been designed with these elements in consideration, so it provides mitigation for the foreseen impacts without risking the outputs themselves.</p>
<p><b>Pandemics.</b> The GEFSec recommended an elaboration on the impact of pandemics on the project, and the analysis of opportunities for the project to mitigate the impact of future pandemics.</p>	<p>Specific risk analysis and measures for pandemics and their impact in project activity (in particular travel and gatherings), its feasible impact on the start of project execution, and any project opportunities to mitigate the impact of future pandemics, have been taken into account and included in project design.</p>
<p><b>Indigenous peoples.</b> GEFSec indicated the need to develop specific measures related to indigenous peoples' participation in the project.</p>	<p>A full review has been undertaken to identify indigenous peoples participating in the project, which finetuned it to presence in the Copo National Park. The National Park will coordinate activities with these communities with the National Institute for Indigenous Peoples Affairs (INAI) to carry out a formal FPIC process for the activity with these communities. Key reference: GEF Principles and Guidelines for Engagement with Indigenous Peoples</p>
<p><b>Gender considerations.</b> Both GEFSec and STAP underscored the need to carry out a full gender-perspective analysis.</p>	<p>This has been done during the design phase, showing that gender dynamics in the territories is deeply ingrained within the socioecological dynamics that underpin land degradation in these landscapes. Minimum women participation has been set up in each project activity within a very difficult setting of women fleeing these rural areas due to harsh living conditions and deeply ingrained <i>machismo</i>.</p>

<b>STAP comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
<p><b>EWS.</b> STAP recommended that a closer look was applied to Early Warning Systems, and their capacity to provide forward information to vulnerable populations.</p>	<p>All project intervention sites are equipped with EWS both for deforestation and extreme climate events, and Component 1 has been designed with this feature in sight.</p>
<p><b>Gender considerations.</b> Both GEFSec and STAP underscored the need to carry out a full gender-perspective analysis.</p>	<p>This has been done during the design phase, showing that gender dynamics in the territories is deeply ingrained within the socioecological dynamics that underpin land degradation in these landscapes. Minimum women participation has been set up in each project activity within a very difficult setting of women fleeing these rural areas due to harsh living conditions and deeply ingrained <i>machismo</i>.</p>
<p><b>Clarify objectives, Assumptions in outcomes.</b> STAP recommended that objectives and assumptions were further developed.</p>	<p>Specific attention has been devoted to do so during project design, that reflects in the project's logical framework and results framework.</p>

<p><b>Coordination with other projects, Other, non-GEF projects in Argentina.</b> STAP recommended to look for opportunities to exchange knowledge with other, like-minded projects in the intervention area.</p>	<p>This has been systemically tackled through the design of knowledge management mechanisms that are located within project governance, instead of as separate devices. These mechanisms are in turn situated within the National Action Plan's governance mechanism under the aegis of MAYDS, therefore as central as possible for the project purpose. Key Reference: Knowledge management and learning: a STAP brief</p>
<p><b>ToC, Behavioural mechanisms Component 2, Monitoring tools.</b> STAP recommended that behavioural mechanisms were considered for Component 2 activities.</p>	<p>This recommendation has been incorporated in both Component 2, Component 3, and in wider terms in the Project's Theory of Change, which relies in the combination of stimulus at different levels (normative, pilots, economic opportunities) to achieve change at scale. Key Reference: STAP Behavior Change Interventions in Practice: A synthesis of criteria, approaches, case studies &amp; indicators Key Reference: STAP Information brief: Achieving transformation through GEF investments</p>

<b>Council comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
<b>USA</b>	
<p>We have strongly opposed the use of non-voluntary land degradation neutrality (LDN) targets because Land Degradation Neutrality is only one approach of many to combat the impacts of drought and desertification. We support in a general sense the aim or aspiration of land degradation neutrality, but we want to ensure that LDN is not promoted to the exclusion of other approaches or being codified with mandatory targets.</p>	<p>The project does not promote or apply mandatory LDN targeting. All measures and targets included have been voluntarily proposed by local agents, and will be undertaken by these actors with incremental support from the project.</p>
<b>Germany</b>	

<p>Explore potentials to align LDN targets and NDC targets in order to increase synergies in monitoring and reporting as well in integrated planning for coordinated implementation of the UNCCD and the UNFCCC in order to ensure outputs that combine multiple objectives regarding LDN, adaption to and mitigation of climate change. Consider linking to ongoing global initiatives working on related objectives, such as the Group on Earth Observations Land Degradation Neutrality (<a href="#">GEO LDN Initiative</a>). Tools like <a href="#">LUP4LDN</a> (Land Use Planning for Land Degradation Neutrality) may be helpful to better plan and monitor LDN interventions, thereby addressing barrier 1 mentioned in the proposal (weak and uncoordinated planning and oversight of land use at landscape scale).</p>	<p>The project's monitoring mechanisms are placed within the National Action Plan's governance mechanism under the aegis of MAYDS, which will keep reviewing existing international/regional initiatives to participate in those which show potential to enhance national LDN efforts. Progress and inputs for the various initiatives may be reported during project implementation.</p>
<p><b>Canada</b></p>	
<p>The project, if successful, will address existing issues in Argentina's land management approach to make the land targeted by the project more resilient to climate change, more productive and reduce GHGs from soil erosion. The project's goals are linked with Argentina's NDC, as noted in the STAP Review, the project could also utilize tools and resources from the UNCCD. However, it is interesting that the co-funding for this initiative is from domestic public entities only.</p>	<p>The project contributes to the NDC of Argentina, by helping to avoid deforestation of native forests by reducing emissions associated with deforestation; and by supporting the implementation of conservation and sustainable management plans, promoting recovery and restoration, to maintain the extent and condition of forests, reducing emissions associated with degradation. It does so within the framework of the UNCCD National Action Plan, which is to say in a coordinated manner</p>
<p>The proposal describes different target beneficiaries of the project. It's important to clarify who are the 'target population' (Project Outcome Indicator 1.2.1) and 'target audience' (Project Outcome indicator 1.2.2) in these respective indicators.</p>	<p>Project design included a participatory phase that was carried out during 2023, with the input of public and private institutions from the 3 provinces. More than a hundred persons participated from more than forty institutions. Representatives of three levels of Government (Central, Departmental and Municipal) attended, including MAYDS, environment and agriculture departments from the three provinces, Community-based Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations and entrepreneurs. Male participation came to 50%, and female, 50%. Beneficiary populations for the project, as well as audiences for each output to be produced under participatory methods, have been identified.</p>

<p>The project aims to increase agricultural productivity. Therefore, it is important for the project to monitor changes in the agricultural productivity as a result of the interventions. If appropriate, consider adding a SDG indicator 2.3.1 Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming / pastoral / forestry enterprise size (source: <a href="https://www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/indicators/231/en/">https://www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/indicators/231/en/</a>).</p>	<p>The incorporation of SDG 2.3.1 has been considered for inclusion within the project's logical framework and/or results framework. Unfortunately, production volume data are not gathered during national statistical operations (Censo Nacional Agropecuario), and asking for them at the individual level would make participation in project activities undesirable. Therefore, a decision has been made to measure project outcomes in area, avoided emissions, and beneficiaries. Other indirect indicators will be sought for the restoration of ecosystem services, included in Argentina's Soil Information System and Integrated Environmental Information System (SInIA in its Spanish acronym).</p>
<p>Deforestation: As the project aims to reduce land degradation, the project should consider monitoring a net change of forest covers in the water basins - the sum of all forest losses (deforestation) and all forest gains (forest expansion) (reference: <a href="https://www.fao.org/forest-resources-assessment/2020/en/">https://www.fao.org/forest-resources-assessment/2020/en/</a>) that tells an overall trend of forest cover at the landscape level.</p>	<p>The national forest monitoring system (Sistema Nacional de Monitoreo Forestal de Bosques Nativos de la República Argentina, <a href="https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/bosques/monitoreo-bosques-nativos">https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/bosques/monitoreo-bosques-nativos</a>) includes the monitoring of forest area in line with FAO's FRA. Although the measure is dependent on factors outside the control of the project, and therefore has not been included in the results framework, the national forest monitoring system is included within the Argentinian public facilities with which the project coordinates actions and knowledge management.</p>

**ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG).  
(Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status  
in the table below:**

<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent To date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
<b>Consultancies and contracts to develop program and/or project options</b>			
Additional baseline/mapping information	3670	3670	0
Outsourcing to elaborate key technical components of CEO Endorsement	45872	39872	6000
<b>Free prior and informed consent and related consultations</b>			
Local stakeholders participations and Consultations	27523	27523	0
Translations of project documents for public consultations	7339	7339	0
Travel expenses	7339	7339	0
<b>Total</b>	91743	85743	6000

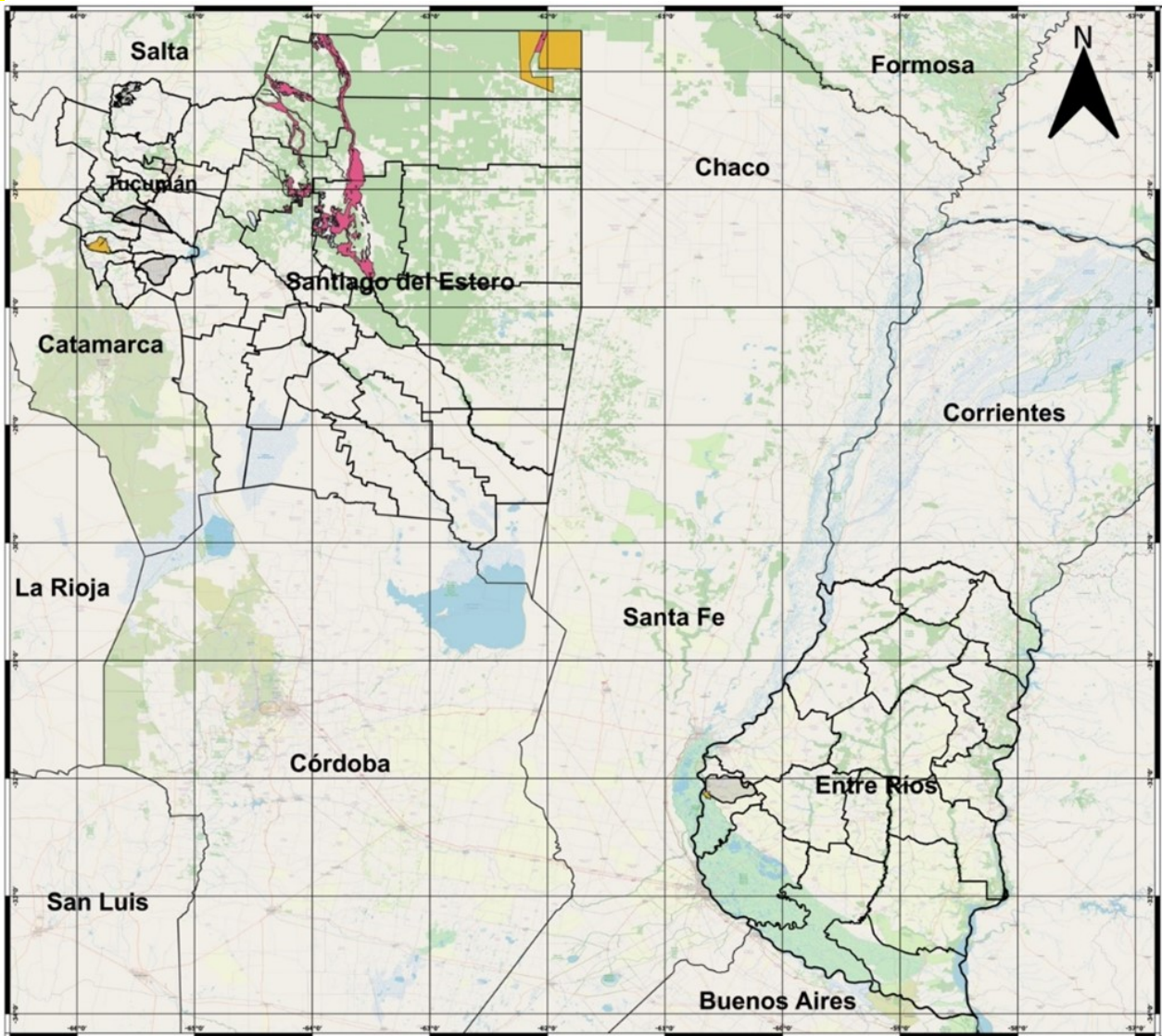
If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue to undertake exclusively preparation activities up to one year of CEO Endorsement/approval date. No later than one year from CEO endorsement/approval date. Agencies should report closing of PPG to Trustee in its Quarterly Report.

**ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates**

**Please attach the geographical location of the project area, if possible.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Coordinates</b>	
	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
Copo National Park	-25,844	-62,032
Pre-Delta National Park	-32,1375	-60,646
Santa Ana Provincial Reserve	-27,476	-65,808
Intervention Area (Santiago del Estero)	-26,189	-65,586
Balderrama sub-basin (Tucuman)	-27,237	-65,448
Marapa sub-basin (Tucuman)	-27,6785	-65,3102
Ensenada basin (Entre R?os)	-32,088	-60,483





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BANCO DE DESARROLLO  
DE AMÉRICA LATINA

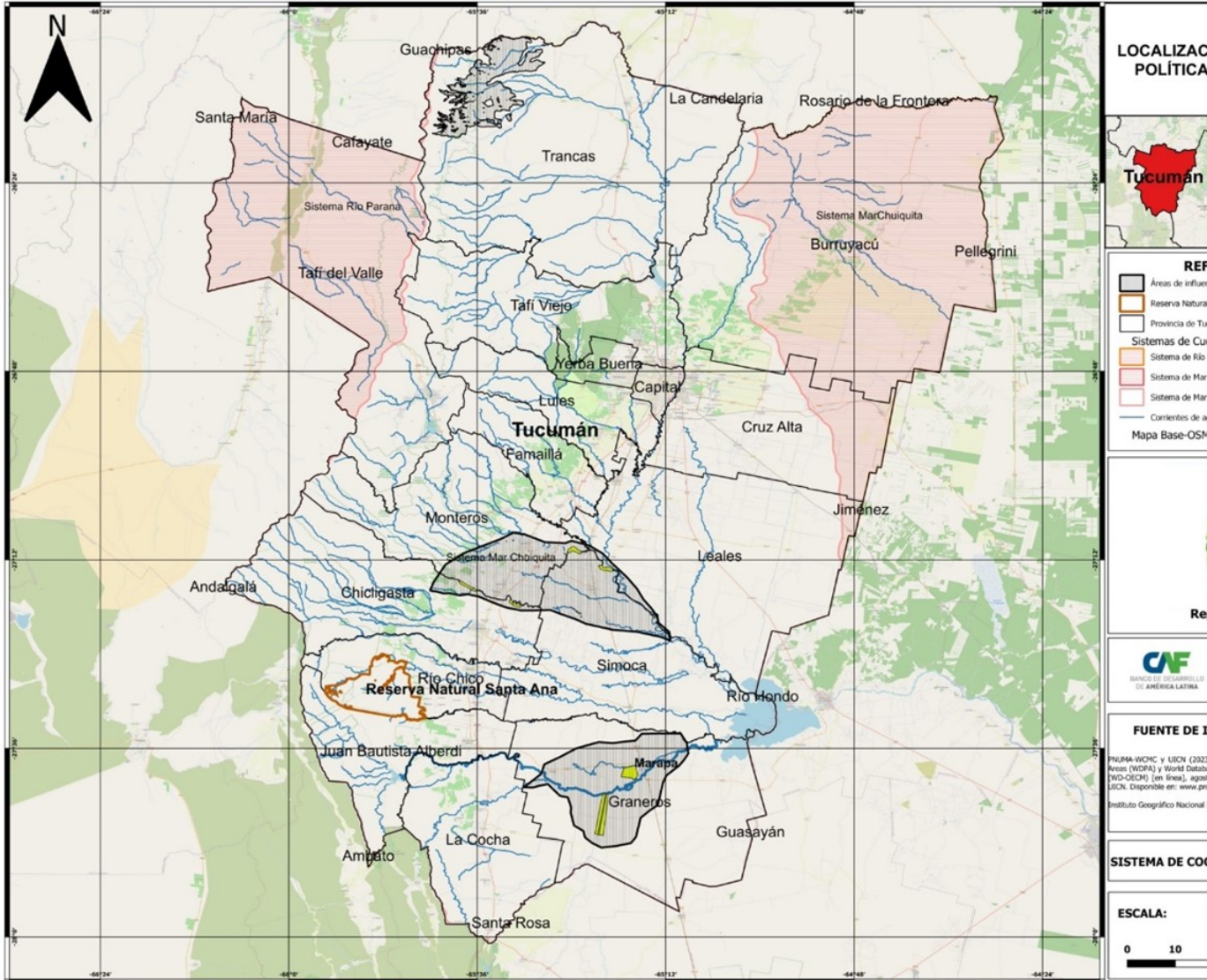
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PROGRAMA MONC y LICN (2022)  
Areas (OEPA) y World Database  
(WD-OEPA) (en línea), agosto  
LICN. Disponible en: [www.pnig](http://www.pnig)  
Instituto Geográfico Nacional

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## GEO LOCATION INFORMATION

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. These IDs are available on the [GeoNames? geographical database](#) containing millions of placenames and allowing to freely record new ones. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as [OpenStreetMap](#) or [GeoNames](#) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking [here](#).

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID	Location & Activity Description
Copo National Park	-25.844	-62.032		
Pre-Delta National Park	-32.1375	-60.646		
Santa Ana Provincial Reserve	-27.476	-65.808		
Intervention Area (Santiago del Estero)	-26.189	-65.586		
Balderrama Sub Basin (Tucuman)	-27.237	-65.448		
Marata Sub Basin (Tucuman)	-27.6785	-65.3102		
Ensenada Basin (Entre R?os)	-32.088	-60.483		

**ANNEX E: Project Budget Table**

**Please attach a project budget table.**



Component Outcome Output Detailed Description	1. Comprehensive governance of land management within a LDN framework			2. Sustainable management in forests and agri-food systems that contribute to LDN				3. Innovative financing and resource mobilization			4. Monitoring and Evaluation		Subtotal	PMC	Total	of which KM	Executing Entity	
	1.1 Consolidation of the institutional political structure in charge of territorial planning and planning at the national and subnational level, within the framework of NDT and in synergy with the adaptation and mitigation of climate change			2.1. Increased resilience of LD-affected ecosystems to climate variability and extreme weather events		2.2. Improvement of land productivity and provision of ecosystem services in the intervention basins, contributing to improving the quality of life of the population		3.1. Innovative financial mechanisms designed and implemented			4.1 Effective project management, monitoring and evaluation, in accordance with the standards defined by CAF/GEF and the Argentinean legal framework.							
	1.1.1. Provincial and local regulatory framework linked to land use planning and management developed and/or updated with LDN and climate change concepts	1.1.2. Strengthened participation mechanisms for co-production and consultancy for comprehensive land management in multi-stakeholder spaces.	1.1.3. The Provincial Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Mitigation.	2.1.1. Integration of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) measures into land use planning systems to avoid, reduce and reverse LD.	2.1.2. Design and execution of investment plans (for example, green infrastructure, sustainable mechanization)	2.1.3. Execution of Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) actions in native forests, wetlands and natural grasslands	2.2.1. Implementation of SLM in agri-food systems, integrate into territorial planning systems	2.2.2. Execution of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) actions in protected natural areas	3.1.1. Resource mobilization on strategy designed and implemented	3.1.2. At least one incentive mechanism developed and available to producers	3.1.3. Promotion of markets that integrate the entire value chain of sustainable local production models	4.1.1. Annual Work Plans, Annual Progress Reports.						4.1.2. Budgeted Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, Mid-Term Evaluation Report, Terminal Evaluation Report prepared and completed.
Works																		
Goods																		
Vehicles																		
<b>Grants/ Sub-grants.</b> Awarded to CSOs, Institutes and other local public/private autonomous bodies, selected on a competitive basis, for: Tucumán: Forest Management in conjunction with Livestock. Investment plans for optimisation of irrigation and water use. Investment plans and green infrastructure for riparian forests. Community adaptation, livestock control and irrigation management. Sustainable Land Management with local producers, Investment Plans and Sustainable Land Management. Entre Ríos: Sustainable management and enrichment of native forest. Management plan and construction of infiltration terraces. Crop management with environmental techniques. Reservoirs in terraces. Santiago del Estero: Livestock management in buffer zones of protected areas. Enrichment of degraded areas in riparian zones. Integrated Livestock Management (MBGI).				249,043	27,540	492,068	609,299	146,475						1,524,425		1,524,425		MAYDS through PMU
Revolving funds/ Seed funds / Equity																		
Sub-contract to executing partner/ entity																		
<b>Contractual Services – Individual</b>																		
National consultants, to support: The preparation or implementation of PAPs for the three provinces. Tucuman_ Financing mechanism search. Identification of enhancements for the commercialization of livestock and agricultural products with sustainable management. Entre Ríos: Promote the PASE Producers program. Support actions for PASE Producer Seal, Sustainable Soy Seal, Grassland Meat Seal. Calculation of environmental economic benefits and proposal of compensatory mechanisms (provincial and municipal). Santiago del Estero: explore Green Bonds for Sustainable Forestry. Explore financing producers MBGI. Promotion of Sustainable Forest Product Seal, Grassland Meat Seal			50,937			27,540			17,708	11,458	36,459	7,000	12,300	163,402		163,402		MAYDS through PMU
<b>Contractual Services – Company</b>																		
National consultancy, selected through competitive process, for: - Design and implementation of a Communication Strategy with gender perspective that improves the population's access to quality information on LD, LDN and climate change adaptation and mitigation - Risk analysis and prevention in Protected Areas (Fire risk, control of overgrazing and control of invasive alien species)		90,000				27,540						6,000	11,000	134,540	12,000	146,540	90,000	MAYDS through PMU
<b>International Consultants</b>						55,080						5,000	6,500	66,580		66,580		MAYDS through PMU
International consultants, selected through competitive process, to identify and systematise SFM best practices						55,080						5,000	6,500	66,580		66,580		MAYDS through PMU
<b>Local Consultants</b>																		
Consultants, legal specialists, land management, soil conservation, forestry, to support the development of regulatory proposals according to the existing regulatory framework. Incorporate proposals in provincial plans.	126,660	6,400	13,508	27,540					50,400	48,000		53,520	8,300	334,328		334,328		MAYDS through PMU
<b>Project Coordinator (PMU)</b>																		
National consultants, selected through competitive process														-	45,969	45,969		MAYDS through PMU
<b>Technical Assistant (PMU)</b>																		
National consultants, selected through competitive process														-	40,972	40,972		MAYDS through PMU

**ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet**

Instructions. Please submit an finalized termsheet in this section. The NGI Program Call for Proposals provided a template in Annex A of the Call for Proposals that can be used by the Agency. Agencies can use their own termsheets but must add sections on Currency Risk, Co-financing Ratio and Financial Additionality as defined in the template provided in Annex A of the Call for proposals. Termsheets submitted at CEO endorsement stage should include final terms and conditions of the financing.

Does not apply

**ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows**

Instructions. Please submit a reflows table as provided in Annex B of the NGI Program Call for Proposals and the Trustee excel sheet for reflows (as provided by the Secretariat or the Trustee) in the Document Section of the CEO endorsement. The Agency is required to quantify any expected financial return/gains/interests earned on non-grant instruments that will be transferred to the GEF Trust Fund as noted in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy. Partner Agencies will be required to comply with the reflows procedures established in their respective Financial Procedures Agreement with the GEF Trustee. Agencies are welcomed to provide assumptions that explain expected financial reflow schedules.

Does not apply

**ANNEX H: (For NGI only) Agency Capacity to generate reflows**

Instructions. The GEF Agency submitting the CEO endorsement request is required to respond to any questions raised as part of the PIF review process that required clarifications on the Agency Capacity to manage reflows. This Annex seeks to demonstrate Agencies' capacity and eligibility to administer NGI resources as established in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy, GEF/C.52/Inf.06/Rev.01, June 9, 2017 (Annex 5).

Does not apply