

# GEF-8 PPG REQUEST FOR GBFF PROJECTS

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## General Project Information

Project Title:

Blue Corridor: connectivity for the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of marine ecosystems of global importance in the Southern Caribbean of Costa Rica.

Region:

Costa Rica

GEF Project ID:

11780

Country(ies):

Costa Rica

Type of Project:

GBFF

GEF Agency(ies):

IUCN

GEF Agency Project ID:

P04965

Anticipated Executing Entity(s):

OTS- Organization of Tropical Studies

Anticipated Executing Type:

CSO

GEF Focal Area (s):

Biodiversity

Submission Date:

9/27/2024

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Mixed & Others

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Biodiversity, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Landscapes, Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, Productive Seascapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Biomes, Coral Reefs, Sea Grasses, Financial and Accounting, Payment for Ecosystem Services, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Demonstrate innovative approach, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Stakeholders, Beneficiaries, Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Academia, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Access to benefits and services, Capacity Development, Access and control over natural resources, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Adaptive management

Type of Trust Fund:

GBFF

Project Duration (Months)

48

GEF Project Financing: (a)

3,565,596.00

GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)

0.00

Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)

320,904.00

Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant: (d)

0.00

Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)

3,886,500.00

Total Co-financing:

778,000.00

PPG Amount: (e)

PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)

150,000.00	13,500.00
PPG total Amount: (e+f)	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)
163,500.00	4,050,000.00
Project Tags:	
GBF Target 1, GBF Target 2, GBF Target 3, GBF Target 8, GBF Target 10, GBF Target 22	

## Indicative Project Overview

Government entities, local community groups and indigenous peoples effectively and sustainably create and manage a marine corridor between Cahuita National Park (NP) and the Gandoca-Manzanillo National Wildlife Refuge (WR) to improve the restoration and connectivity of key ecosystems in Costa Rica's southern Caribbean and diversify the income of local communities and indigenous peoples in the area.

## Project Components

### 1. Design and establishment of the marine corridor.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GBFF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
848,950.00	185,238.00

#### Project Outcomes:

**1.1** A marine corridor is designed and established to provide connectivity between the marine ecosystems of Cahuita National Park and the Gandoca-Manzanillo National Wildlife Reserve.

**1.2** A participatory and sustainable governance structure is established, ensuring the coordinated and efficient management of the marine resources of the corridor.

#### Project Outputs:

1.1.1 Technical and administrative design for the establishment of the Cahuita-Gandoca marine corridor.

1.1.2 Structure and procedures for participatory governance of the marine corridor, including national and local government, chamber of tourism, chamber of commerce and local groups linked to the ecosystem services provided by the marine corridor.

1.2.1 Strengthened management capacities of the governance structures of the marine corridor, such as the General Assembly of Members and the Board of Directors.

1.2.2 Accompanying actions and continuous assistance for governance structures in the management of the marine corridor.

1.2.3 Pilot management plan for the marine corridor developed participatively, validated, and approved.

## 2. Sustainable management for the restoration and connectivity of the marine corridor.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GBFF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,188,532.00	259,334.00

### Project Outcomes:

**2.1** The restoration of coral reefs and the effective management of marine areas in Cahuita National Park and the Gandoca-Manzanillo National Wildlife Refuge, along with improvements in solid waste and wastewater management, contribute to the conservation of key species and ecosystems in the marine corridor.

**2.2** Local and indigenous communities expand their sources of income through sustainable productive activities (responsible fishing, diving, use of invasive species, nautical archeology, etc.) that promote a model of sustainable tourism and fishing in the marine corridor.

### Project Outputs:

2.1.1 Assessment and definition of actions to improve management effectiveness in the marine areas of Cahuita National Park and the Gandoca-Manzanillo National Wildlife Refuge.

2.1.2 Restoration actions implemented in prioritized sites of the marine corridor to improve the mechanical and ecological connectivity of coral reefs.

2.1.3 Strengthened municipal capacities in waste management and wastewater management in the watersheds that flow into the marine corridor.

2.2.1 Number of projects, funds distributed, and reports on the results of small-scale productive and restoration projects implemented by local communities and indigenous peoples.

2.2.2 Sustainable tourism initiatives implemented in the marine corridor, including fishing, diving and nautical archeology tours.

2.2.3 Plan for sustainable artisanal and commercial fishing in the marine corridor prepared in a participatory manner, validated and approved.

2.3.1 Number of hectares of indigenous territories under PES in the upper and middle watersheds that flow into the marine corridor.

## 3. Financial and regulatory sustainability of the marine corridor.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GBFF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
679,163.00	148,190.00

### Project Outcomes:

**3.1** Public-private financial mechanisms are established to ensure the long-term economic sustainability of conservation and management activities in the marine corridor.

**3.2** Regulatory proposals are developed, including drafts of decrees and regulations, for the formalization of marine OECMs as a management figure in Costa Rica, based on the experience gained from the Cahuita-Gandoca corridor

Project Outputs:

- 3.1.1 Design and validation of public-private financial mechanisms for the management of the marine corridor.
- 3.1.2 Design of a pilot marine PES program for prioritized stakeholders and activities in the Cahuita-Gandoca marine corridor, based on lessons learned from the marine PES in the Gulf of Nicoya.
- 3.2.1 Proposed regulations (decree and regulation) for the formalization of marine OECMs.

#### 4. M&E of the management, conservation and restoration of the marine corridor.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GBFF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
509,371.00	111,142.00

Project Outcomes:

- 4.1** Participatory monitoring facilitates ongoing assessment of the management of the marine corridor and the state of its ecological integrity.
- 4.2** Regulations for fishing and shipping in the Marine Corridor are established and implemented in close coordination with national authorities and the marine corridor management plan.
- 4.3** The integration of control and surveillance actions in the marine corridor reduces pressures from illegal activities in the marine corridor.

Project Outputs:

- 4.1.1 Design, validation and implementation of the monitoring system for the management of the biological corridor.
- 4.1.2 Design and implement of the participatory monitoring system for the ecological integrity of the marine corridor.
- 4.2.1 Registry of licenses and permits for fishing and maritime transportation in the marine corridor.
- 4.3.1 Coordinated actions for effective control and surveillance of the biological corridor with a focus on conservation.

## M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GBFF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
169,790.00	37,048.00

Project Outcomes:

Project monitoring and evaluation

Project Outputs:

Project annual reports, mid-term and final external evaluations.

## Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1. Design and establishment of the marine corridor.	848,950.00	185,238.00
2. Sustainable management for the restoration and connectivity of the marine corridor.	1,188,532.00	259,334.00
3. Financial and regulatory sustainability of the marine corridor.	679,163.00	148,190.00
4. M&E of the management, conservation and restoration of the marine corridor.	509,371.00	111,142.00
M&E	169,790.00	37,048.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,395,806.00</b>	<b>740,952.00</b>
Project Management Cost (PMC)	169,790.00	37,048.00
<b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b>	<b>3,565,596.00</b>	<b>778,000.00</b>

Please provide justification

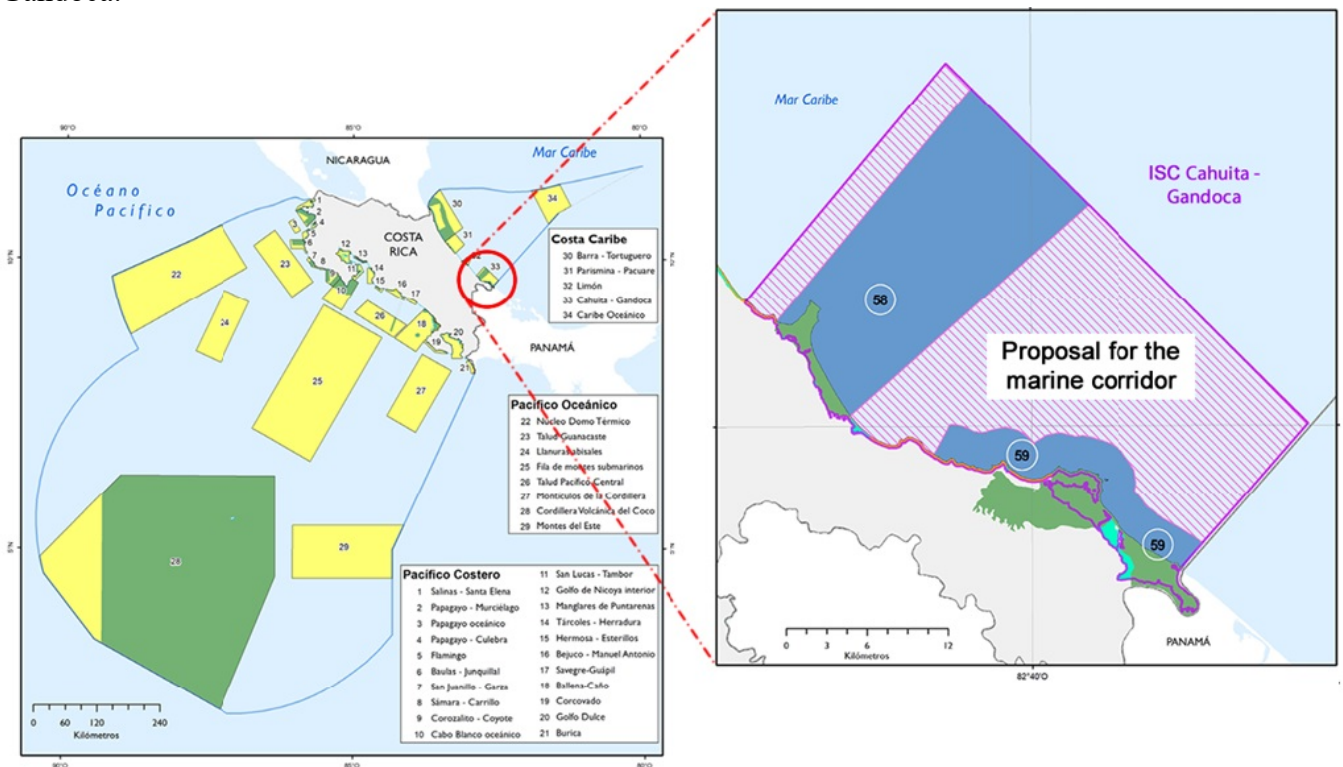
## PROJECT CONCEPT DESCRIPTION

Project Concept Description (No more than seven pages total, including 5 pages of text maximum. Concepts longer than 7 pages will be returned. Please note the portal entry will be limited to up to 19,400 characters of text and up to two figures.)

### 1) Project Rationale

#### (i) baseline

In 2008, Costa Rica initiated a national land-use planning process for biodiversity conservation (Grúas II project) to preserve representative samples of its natural wealth through Protected Wildlife Areas and innovative conservation initiatives. In 2023, as part of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, SINAC updated this analysis with a focus on conservation and management gaps in marine-coastal and oceanic environments, involving experts and data from 2008 onward. This study identified 34 Important Sites for Conservation and Management (ISC) through spatial prioritization, focusing on conserving biodiversity, establishing measurable goals, and developing networks of new conservation areas. The update resulted in a portfolio of 34 ISCs, including 25 marine-coastal and 9 oceanic, with 5 marine-coastal ISCs on the Caribbean coast. The proposed intervention area for this project is ISC 33 Cahuita-Gandoca.



**Figure 1. Geographic area of the project: ISC Cahuita-Gandoca**

The Cahuita-Gandoca ISC encompasses 54.45 km<sup>2</sup> of coastal area and 720.60 km<sup>2</sup> of marine area, featuring two vital protected regions: Cahuita NP and Gandoca-Manzanillo WR.

An update on marine-coastal conservation gaps identified 24 Management Focal Elements (MFE) in this ISC, including:

- Key marine habitats for megafauna like seabirds, cetaceans, green turtles, and hawksbill turtles.



- Seabed ranging from shallow waters to 1,000 meters, with shallow areas dominated by coral and rocky reefs housing species such as snappers, scorpion fish, octopus, and lobsters.
- At least six seagrass species vital for manatees.
- The only Guyana dolphin aggregation area in Costa Rica.
- The entire marine-coastal area is crucial for bivalves.
- Coastal environments mainly consist of marshes, sandy beaches, and rocky coastlines.
- Negra, Cahuita, Grande, and Gandoca beaches are priority nesting sites for sea turtles.
- A mangrove swamp and lagoon near Playa Gandoca, significant for manatees.

Various pressures and uses impacting conservation in SIC Cahuita-Gandoca have been identified. Low to medium magnitude activities dominate, covering 200 to 400 km<sup>2</sup>. However, climate change impacts, such as coastal flooding, affect up to 1,000 km<sup>2</sup>. Pressures from human activities include semi-industrial fishing, sport fishing, and small-scale commercial fishing, spanning 300 to 450 km<sup>2</sup>. Additionally, solid waste pollution, particularly plastics, exerts ongoing pressure on marine ecosystems. Climate change effects are evident in warming surface waters and coral bleaching. Invasive species like lionfish and river sedimentation from the mid-basin of rivers that flow into this area exacerbate the conservation challenges faced by the site. These combined pressures highlight the need for integrated management to mitigate their impact on regional ecosystems.

#### (ii) the problem

The project aims to address the increasing threats to marine and coastal biodiversity in the SIC Cahuita-Gandoca, a KBA site in the Southern Caribbean of Costa Rica. Despite protected areas like Cahuita NP and Gandoca-Manzanillo WR, the marine ecosystems face pressures from human activities such as commercial fishing, plastic pollution, and climate change, including coral bleaching. These pressures, along with habitat loss for species like turtles, manatees, and dolphins, highlight gaps in the conservation and management of the area. The project seeks to mitigate these threats by creating and managing a marine corridor that connects the protected areas and promotes participatory ecosystem restoration and sustainable use.

#### (iii) goal and objectives

**Project objective:** To establish a marine corridor that ensures ecological connectivity between Cahuita NP and the Gandoca-Manzanillo WR with the aim of enhancing the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources that benefits both ecosystems and indigenous peoples as well as local communities.

#### Components:

- **1. Design and establishment of the marine corridor:** This will connect Cahuita NP with Gandoca-Manzanillo National Wildlife Reserve, facilitating species flow and ecosystem health. A participatory governance structure will involve local communities, authorities, and experts in managing the corridor effectively.
- **2. Sustainable management for the restoration and connectivity of the marine corridor:** Focused on coral reef restoration and pollution reduction, this will improve water quality and conserve key

species. Sustainable activities like artisanal fishing and responsible tourism will be promoted to support local and indigenous economies, fostering a sustainable relationship with natural resources.

- **3. Financial and regulatory sustainability of the marine corridor:** Development of public-private financial mechanisms to secure long-term funding for the corridor's conservation. Regulatory proposals, including decrees for the formalization of marine OECMs, will establish a legal framework for the corridor's effective management.
- **4. M&E of the management, conservation and restoration of the marine corridor:** Regulations on fishing and maritime transport will minimize ecosystem impacts, and a participatory monitoring system will track the corridor's health and the effectiveness of management measures, ensuring adaptive management.

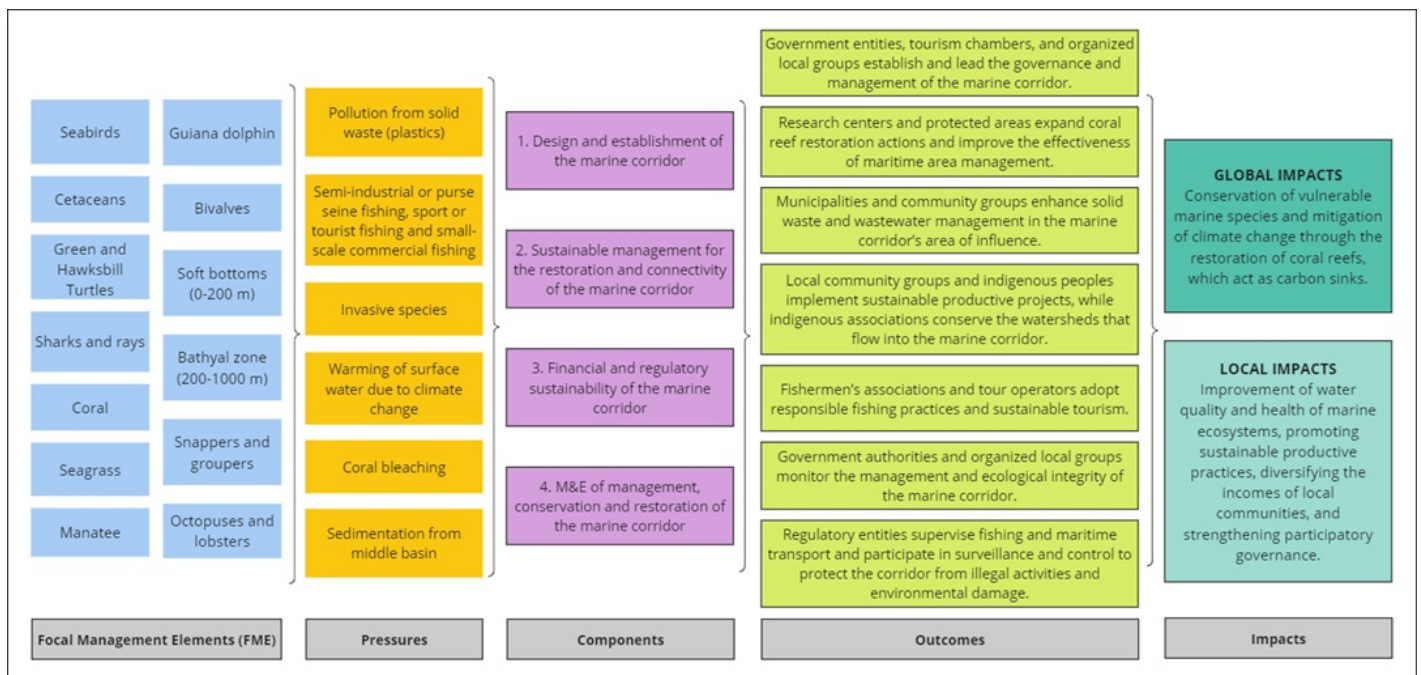
#### (iv) justification

The project aims to address the existing gaps in the conservation of coastal and marine ecosystems in Costa Rica's southern Caribbean. Despite previous efforts, critical biodiversity elements such as coral reefs, seagrass beds, and megafauna species remain underprotected and are threatened by commercial and artisanal fishing, pollution, and climate change. This intervention seeks to connect two protected areas by creating and managing an ecological corridor, emphasizing the involvement and leadership of both government and local stakeholders. This collaborative approach promotes an innovative model for the restoration, conservation and sustainable use of vital ecosystems.

#### (v) expected results

- **Marine conservation:** The project will support the conservation of marine biodiversity by safeguarding internationally significant species and ecosystems, such as sea turtles and coral formations.
- **Ecosystem restoration and pollution reduction:** By restoring coral reefs and enhancing waste and wastewater management, the project will help reduce pollution, improve ecosystem health, and enhance the ability of marine habitats to function as carbon sinks, contributing to global climate mitigation efforts.
- **Marine area protection:** The project will contribute to expanding marine areas under effective protection, improving the quality of marine habitats and increasing the resilience of ecosystems.
- **Sustainability and replicability:** The introduction of financial mechanisms and inputs for the formalization of marine OECMs will ensure the long-term sustainability of the Cahuita-Gandoca marine corridor. Additionally, the project will serve as a replicable model for similar conservation initiatives in Costa Rica and beyond.

## 2) Project description



**Figure 2. Theory of change of the project**

The project aims to address the **main threats affecting priority marine-coastal ecosystems** in the southern Caribbean of Costa Rica, with the goal of generating both local and global environmental benefits. The intervention is based on the identification of **24 key MFEs** (according to Grúas III - Volume III, 2024), which include coral reefs, seagrasses, sea turtles, and megafauna species, all facing pressures such as pollution, unsustainable fishing, invasive species, and climate change impacts. The proposed marine corridor is strategically located between two iconic protected areas, and its creation will strengthen ecological connectivity between these zones. To mitigate these threats and restore ecosystems, a participatory management approach will empower local communities to sustainably use marine resources. The project will be structured around four key components:

**C1. of the project focuses on the design and establishment of the Cahuita-Gandoca marine corridor**, which includes the development of a technical and administrative design to establish the corridor, as well as the definition of a participatory governance structure that integrates the national government, municipalities, tourism and commerce chambers, and local communities linked to these marine ecosystems. Additionally, the management capacities of governance structures will be strengthened, with ongoing assistance to ensure coordination and efficiency in managing the corridor. Finally, a pilot management plan will be developed and validated, serving as a framework for the sustainable operation of the marine corridor.

**C2. of the project focuses on the sustainable management of the Cahuita-Gandoca marine corridor**, focuses on sustainably managing the Cahuita-Gandoca marine corridor to restore ecological connectivity and conserve marine biodiversity. It includes coral reef restoration in priority areas and enhancing management effectiveness in Cahuita NP and Gandoca-Manzanillo WR. Local government capacity to manage solid waste and wastewater in watersheds flowing into the corridor will be strengthened. The project also aims to improve IPLC living conditions by promoting sustainable income alternatives like responsible fishing, tourism, and utilizing invasive species, fostering an inclusive tourism and fishing model. Additionally, it expands IPLC access to PES schemes for their conservation efforts in the watersheds that feed into the marine corridor.

**C3. of the project focuses on ensuring the financial and regulatory sustainability of the Cahuita-Gandoca marine corridor.** To achieve this, public-private financial mechanisms will be developed to ensure the long-

term continuity of conservation and management activities in the corridor. This includes designing a pilot marine PES program, based on previous experiences in the Gulf of Nicoya, adapted to the prioritized actors and activities for the marine corridor. Furthermore, regulatory proposals will be developed, such as draft decrees and regulations, to formalize marine OECMs as a management figure in Costa Rica, based on the lessons learned from the marine corridor.

**C4. of the project focuses on the M&E of the management, conservation, and restoration of the Cahuita-Gandoca marine corridor.** A participatory monitoring system will be implemented for the continuous assessment of management effectiveness and the ecological integrity of the corridor. This includes the design and validation of tools to evaluate the implementation of the management plan, as well as participatory actions to monitor the ecological status of the corridor. Coordinated regulations will be established for fishing and maritime transportation activities, ensuring their alignment with the corridor's management plan. Lastly, integrated control and surveillance actions will be carried out to mitigate pressures from illegal activities, with a focus on conservation.

In terms of **outcomes**, the project aspires to generate significant changes in the behavior and capacities of key actors linked to the Cahuita-Gandoca marine corridor, promoting participatory and effective governance:

- **Government entities, in collaboration with the tourism chamber and organized local groups**, will become leaders in managing the corridor, establishing a solid governance structure that guarantees the long-term sustainability of its marine resources.
- Cahuita NP and Gandoca-Manzanillo National WR, the two protected areas bordering the marine corridor, will improve the effectiveness of their management of marine zones.
- The **National University and the Center for Research in Marine Science and Limnology** will expand their efforts in coral reef restoration, improving ecological connectivity between the marine ecosystems of Gandoca-Manzanillo.
- The **Municipality of Talamanca** will enhance solid waste and wastewater management practices, leading to significant improvements in water quality and the overall health of ecosystems within the corridor.
- **IPLCs** will improve and diversify their incomes through small sustainable productive projects supported by the project, which will also contribute actively to the restoration and conservation of the marine corridor. **Fishermen's associations and tour operators** in the area will adopt better practices, promoting responsible use of the marine resources of the corridor.
- **Indigenous Integral Development Associations** will expand their conservation efforts in the upper and middle reaches of the rivers to mitigate sedimentation from the watersheds that flow into the marine corridor. Their contributions to the ecological integrity of the corridor will be recognized and valued through economic incentives provided by existing PES.
- **The Ministry of Environment and Energy**, based on the lessons learned from managing the marine corridor, will advance in developing proposals for regulating marine OECMs in Costa Rica, a figure to which the marine corridor could migrate in the future.
- **Government entities and local groups** will carry out participatory monitoring of the management and ecological integrity of the corridor, ensuring adaptive and effective management.

- **INCOPESCA and the Ministry of Public Works and Transport** will collaborate to regulate and supervise fishing and maritime transport activities, along with the support of **the Coast Guard** in control actions, will contribute to the effective protection of the marine corridor.

The Cahuita-Gandoca marine corridor project aims to create **positive environmental and social impacts with local and GEBS**. It will help conserve vulnerable marine species like turtles and corals, protect biodiversity, and restore reefs as carbon sinks. Locally, the project will enhance water quality and environmental health, supporting sustainable practices like artisanal fishing and responsible tourism, thereby diversifying incomes for local and indigenous communities and boosting the regional economy. Additionally, participatory governance will strengthen social cohesion and collective responsibility for natural resources.

#### **d. Specific Action Areas**

**AA 1:** The marine corridor aims to enhance the connectivity and integrity of marine ecosystems in the southern Caribbean, both within and beyond existing protected areas. It will also strengthen SINAC's capacity to manage Cahuita NP and Gandoca-Manzanillo WR while establishing financial mechanisms for the corridor's long-term sustainability.

**AA 2:** Participatory management of the biological corridor will involve IPLCs in governance bodies with voting rights. The project will enhance governance capacities, focusing on IPLC representatives and promoting the inclusion of women and youth. Lessons learned from the corridor's establishment will inform the regulation and formalization of marine OECMs.

**AA 3:** The corridor's management plan will integrate sustainable economic activities, promoting responsible fishing and tourism practices, as well as sustainable productive ventures that generate income through the sustainable use of marine resources. Fishermen's and tourism operators' associations are also expected to participate in the ecological monitoring of the marine corridor.

**AA 6:** As part of the financial mechanisms for the marine corridor's sustainability, the project will develop a marine PES scheme tailored to the stakeholders and economic activities of the region. This initiative will encourage responsible fishing and tourism practices that minimize environmental impact, with potential for adaptation and scaling in other regions.

### **3) Other criteria**

#### **a. Potential to generate GEBS.**

By restoring coral reefs and improving marine habitats, the project aligns with the GBFF Performance Indicators, contributing to the creation and improved management of marine protected areas, improved water quality and increased carbon sequestration.

#### **b. Alignment of the project with NBSAP**

The project aligns with CR's Nat BD Policy, Strategy, and Action Plan by integrating biodiversity conservation and sustainable marine management. Through ecosystem restoration and sustainable fishing/ tourism, it tackles national priorities enhancing livelihoods. A marine corridor serves as a pilot model for the formalization of marine OECMs, as a complement to traditional conservation methods in CR. It also aligns with the 4 pillars of the 2016-2025 Nat. bd Policy and contributes to strategic themes 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 of the NBSAP, as well as to global goals 2, 4, 6, 10, 11, 13, 16, 18, and 22. Globally, the project directly supports targets 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 19, 21, and 22 of the KM- GBF.

#### **c. Project policy coherence and coordination across sectors.**

This project aims to address conservation gaps in priority sites identified by the Costa Rican government in its recent analysis of coastal-marine and oceanic environments (Grúas III - Volume III, 2024). This foundation

ensures the proposal aligns with Costa Rica’s environmental priorities and planning instruments. The project also seeks to promote policy coherence and coordination among key actors, including government ministries, local authorities, academia, IPLCs. By establishing participatory governance structures, it will enhance inter-institutional and inter-sectoral coordination—particularly among MINAE, SINAC, INCOPECA, MOPT, UNA, and CIMAR—to improve the effectiveness of policies and actions for biodiversity conservation and sustainable resource management within the marine corridor.

**d. Resource mobilization of the private sector and philanthropies**

The project seeks to develop strategies for mobilizing private sector and philanthropic resources throughout its implementation, with a focus on creating financial mechanisms that ensure the long-term sustainability of the marine corridor. This involves designing and validating public-private financial mechanisms to support effective corridor management. By engaging the local Chamber of Commerce and Tourism in the governance structures, the project aims to involve the regional private sector through various financial initiatives, such as sustainability certifications, marine usage fees, and Payment for Environmental Services (PES), all of which will be co-designed and validated with industry stakeholders. Additionally, the project will encourage collaboration with philanthropic organizations already active in the region to amplify their contributions to these efforts.

**b. Engagement and support to IPLCs**

The project emphasizes IPLCs' role in conserving and managing the marine corridor not only participating in the corridor's governance but also benefit from it. It promotes the integration of their traditional knowledge into governance structures, ensuring their perspectives are central to decision-making and sustainable marine ecosystem management. IPLCs will also engage in participatory monitoring of the corridor’s management and ecological health. The project supports sustainable livelihoods, like responsible fishing and ecotourism, enhancing income and economic resilience.

**Core Indicators**

**Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management**

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
28650	0	0	0

**Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created**

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

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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**Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness**

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
28650	0	0	0

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)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Cahuita National Park		National Park	23,290.00						
Gandoca-Manzanillo National WR		Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	5,360.00						

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
300	0	0	0

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
300.00			

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

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

#### Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

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

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

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

#### Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

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

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

Title

### Indicator 5 Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
26,000.00			

### Indicator 5.1 Fisheries under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

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

### Type/name of the third-party certification

### Indicator 5.2 Large Marine Ecosystems with reduced pollution and hypoxia

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

LME at PIF	LME at CEO Endorsement	LME at MTR	LME at TE

### Indicator 5.3 Marine 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)

### 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>	912			
<b>Male</b>	1,368			
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,280</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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

- CI2: 28,650 ha of marine protected areas created or under improved management, covering the marine portions of Cahuita NP (23,290 ha) and Gandoca-Manzanillo National WR (5,360 ha).
- CI4: 300 ha of landscapes under improved practices, consisting of areas implementing sustainable production practices promoted by the project and PES schemes in Indigenous territories.
- CI5: 26,000 ha of marine habitat under improved practices through the establishment and consolidation of the Cahuita-Gandoca marine corridor.
- CI11: 2,280 people will benefit from GEF-financed investments, including at least 40% women, representing 5% of the total population of the Municipality of Talamanca.



## ANNEX A: PROJECT FINANCING TABLES

### GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
IUCN	GBFF	Costa Rica	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 1	3,565,596.00	320,904.00	3,886,500.00
<b>Total GEF Resources (\$)</b>					<b>3,565,596.00</b>	<b>320,904.00</b>	<b>3,886,500.00</b>

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

150000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

13500

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	PPG (\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
IUCN	GBFF	Costa Rica	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 1	Grant	37,500.00	3,375.00	40,875.00
IUCN	GBFF	Costa Rica	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 2	Grant	37,500.00	3,375.00	40,875.00
IUCN	GBFF	Costa Rica	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 3	Grant	37,500.00	3,375.00	40,875.00
IUCN	GBFF	Costa Rica	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 6	Grant	37,500.00	3,375.00	40,875.00
<b>Total PPG Amount (\$)</b>						<b>150,000.00</b>	<b>13,500.00</b>	<b>163,500.00</b>

Please provide justification

## Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

(Only for Multi-Trust Fund projects where GEF TF is included)

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>0.00</b>

## Indicative Action Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
GBFF Action Area 1	GBFF	1,494,155.00	326,019.00
GBFF Action Area 2	GBFF	984,784.00	214,877.00
GBFF Action Area 3	GBFF	1,001,762.00	218,580.00
GBFF Action Area 6	GBFF	84,895.00	18,524.00
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>3,565,596.00</b>	<b>778,000.00</b>

**Amount of resource allocated to support actions by IPLCs for the conservation, restoration, sustainable use and management of biodiversity:**

Amount

196,000.00

## Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	SINAC - Annual budget of Cahuita National Park	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	156,000.00

Recipient Country Government	SINAC - Annual budget of Gandoca-Manzanillo Wildlife Refuge	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	462,000.00
Civil Society Organization	Forever Costa Rica	Grant	Investment mobilized	160,000.00
<b>Total Co-financing</b>				<b>778,000.00</b>

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

The project seeks to develop strategies for mobilizing private sector and philanthropic resources throughout its implementation, with a focus on creating financial mechanisms that ensure the long-term sustainability of the marine corridor. Forever Costa Rica provide SINAC an specific ammount annually to developed studies or support conservation related to the Caribbean coast.

## ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

### GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Tea Garcia Huidrobo	9/25/2024	Nadia Mujica	60221799	nadia.mujica@iucn.org

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Enid Chaverri	Director of International Cooperation	Ministry of Environment	9/24/2024