

Enabling Preparation of Nicaragua's Fourth National Communication and First Biennial Update Report to UNFCCC

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10450

Countries

Nicaragua

Project Name

Enabling Preparation of Nicaragua's Fourth National Communication and First Biennial Update Report to UNFCCC

Agencies

FAO

Date received by PM

12/18/2019

Review completed by PM

Program Manager

Milena Vasquez

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

EA

Expedited Enabling Activity req (CEO)

Part 1: Project Information

Focal area elements

Is the enabling activity aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as indicated in Table A and as defined by the GEF 7 Programming Directions?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: Yes, the enabling activity is aligned with the GEF climate change focal areas as identified in Table A.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.

Project description summary

Is the project structure/ design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs as in Table B and described in the project document?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: Yes, overall the project structure is appropriate. Please address the following comments:

- We note that the submission date of each report is missing. Please add to Part I as well as to Table B in the appropriate project output.
- Please comment on the decision to carry out the inventory under the first BUR for 2016-2018 and whether this will include a complete time series through 2018.
- We note that the project output on climate scenarios includes one for 2020. Please clarify as it is already the year 2020 and scenarios should not look backward.

1/21/2020:

1. Thank you for adding the submission dates for each report, as well as the other dates under Project Information. Please include the expected submission dates under the expected outcomes or outputs in Table B as well.

Please also clarify the need for three years to prepare the Biennial Update Report.

Considering that the expected completion date in 3/21/2023, it appears that the project duration of 24 months is not enough. Please change accordingly.

2. Considering an expected submission date of 2022, an inventory up to 2018 would be within the 4-year limit (y-4). Nevertheless, we would hope that Nicaragua can work towards developing inventories y-2. Please comment if the project, alongside the CBIT project under way, will support Nicaragua to develop inventories on an annual basis, so that it can continue to prepare and submit inventories as part of its national reports, particularly considering the modalities, procedures and guidelines adopted at COP 24.

3. Comment cleared.

1/28/2020:

1. Project duration has been changed to 36 months. Thank you for the additional clarification on the timelines. Comment cleared.

2. Nicaragua will continue to work on its capacity to develop inventories in a 2-year basis. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

Jan. 27 2020: Points taken

1- Submission dates have been added to the project logframe (Table B).

The county will need 3 years to prepare the BUR because it will be improving the methodology and data developed for the reference level presented in 2019. In addition, since the same team will be preparing the 4NC by December 2021, the country considers that having the BUR by December 2022 is an achievable objective. The government will prioritize the update of their NDC during 2020. The same team will be developing these processes.

The project duration is 36 months (i.e. 2020, 2021, and 2022). The project will close in March 2023.

2- Nicaragua will make every effort to develop inventories on a 2 year limit (y-2). The goal of the country is to build their capacity so that they can develop inventories on an annual basis, but this process will take some time. The CBIT will support this capacity building and will be coordinated with the proposed BUR/4NC project.

3- No response required.

Jan 2020: Points taken.

1. Submission date for each report has been included in part 1 and in table B as follows:

* 4NC: December 2021

*BUR: December 2022

2. According to the commitments acquired by Nicaragua with the MTR Roadmap agreed during COP 24 (Katowice, Poland), the country considers that the inventory for 2016-2018 must be presented to the UNFCCC in 2022 with the first BUR. Within this context, Nicaragua's Third National Communication presented significant

qualitative and quantitative improvements regarding inventories and quantification of emission by (i) applying the IPCC 2006 guidelines, (ii) by using Landsat images to classify land use, and (iii) by using geographic information systems to process the inventory for the AFOLU sector. With these improvements, the country was able to reach a Tier 2 level. In addition, the use the IPCC software recommended by the UNCAC to prepare the GHG inventories improved the information available in the national databases.

3. Dates for climate scenarios have been corrected in Table B for 2030, 2050, and 2100.

Co-financing

Are the confirmed expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented, with supporting evidence and a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified [and meets the definition of investment mobilized, and a description of any major changes from PIF, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?]

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: We note the cofinancing listed as donor agency support from the World Bank program; however, as it is described under the investment mobilized section, we believe that these resources are part of the baseline not really cofinancing for the project in question. Please clarify.

1/21/2020: Thank you for the clarification. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

Jan 2020.

The project to support the preparation for REDD + (i.e. FCPF grant no. TF099264) will support in 2020 the development of the National Inventory of Greenhouse Gases for the Fourth National Communication. Within the framework of the proposed GEF project, GEF funds will support the conclusion of the GHG emissions inventory as well as the compilation of the final report, public consultations and the publication of the NC. This collaboration and synergy of resources between FCPF-BM and GEF has as background the work done during the Third National Communication.

GEF Resource Availability

Is the proposed GEF financing in Table D (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: Yes, the amount listed in Table D is appropriate for this combined EA.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.

Are they within the resources available from:

The STAR allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: N/A the resources requested will come from the climate change set aside resources.

Agency Response N/A

The focal area allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: N/A the resources requested will come from the climate change set aside resources.

Agency Response N/A

The LDCF under the principle of equitable access

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

N/A

Agency Response N/A

The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

N/A

Agency Response N/A

Focal area set-aside?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: Yes, the amounts are available in the climate change focal area set aside.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.

Is the financing presented adequate and demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: Yes.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.

Part 2: Enabling Activity Justification

Background and Context.

Are the achievements of previously implemented enabling activities cited since the country(ies) became a party to the Convention?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: Yes, information on previously implemented enabling activities are properly described. Please fill out Part III B. Convention Participation with the relevant information of Nicaragua's ratification of the UNFCCC.

1/21/2020: Comment cleared.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.

Goals, Objectives, and Activities.

Is the project framework sufficiently described?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: Yes.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.

Stakeholders.

Does the project include detailed report on stakeholders engaged during the design phase? Is there an adequate stakeholder engagement plan or equivalent documentation for the implementation phase, with information on Stakeholders who will be engaged, the means of engagement, and dissemination of information?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: Yes.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.

Gender equality and women's empowerment.

Has the gender analysis been completed? Did the gender analysis identify any gender differences, gaps or opportunities linked to project/program objectives and activities? If so, does the project/program include gender-responsive activities, gender-sensitive indicators and expected results?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: Yes.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.
Monitoring and Evaluation.

Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion
12/23/2019: Yes.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.
Cost Effectiveness.

Is the project cost effective?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion
12/23/2019: Yes.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.
Cost Ranges

If there was a deviation in the cost range, was this explained?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion
12/23/2019: No deviation in the cost range.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.
Part III. Endorsement/ Approval by OFP

Country endorsement

Has the project been endorsed by the country's GEF Operational Focal Point and has the name and position been checked against the GEF database?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: Yes, Mr. Xavier Gutierrez Ramirez has endorsed the enabling activity.

Agency Response Jan 2020: No response required.

Response to Comments

Are all the comments adequately responded to? (only as applicable)

GEF Secretariat Comment

Agency Response N/A

Other Agencies comments?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response N/A

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response N/A

STAP Comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response N/A

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response N/A

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response N/A

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

Is CEO Endorsement/approval recommended?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

12/23/2019: Not yet. Please address comments above.

In addition, please finish filling out Part I correctly. We note that the executing agency is not listed (MARENA). In addition, the taxonomy selected is not all relevant. Further, under Rio Markers, please change the adaptation rio marker to 1. Please also complete the information on dates (submission date, type of report, expected implementation start, expected completion date, expected report submission to convention for each report.

1/21/2020: Not yet. See comments above. The executing agency has been added. This comment cleared.

1/28/2020: PM recommends CEO approval.

Review Dates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

Response to Secretariat comments

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

This enabling activity will assist Nicaragua in the preparation of its Fourth National Communication and its First Biennial Update Report and strengthen national capacity for the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Nicaragua submitted its Third National Communication on August 2018. In 2020, Nicaragua is focused on updating its NDC. With this project, it plans to submit its Fourth National Communication by December 2021 and its First BUR by December 2022.

The enabling activity consists of the following components:

1. National Circumstances and Institutional Arrangements;
2. National Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventories of 2000-2015 for 4NC and 2016-2018 for BUR;
3. Vulnerability and Adaptation;
4. National Contributions and Mitigation Actions; and
5. Report of the Fourth Communication, First BUR and knowledge management.

This is the first time that FAO is supporting an enabling activity under the UNFCCC. However, FAO is also supporting Nicaragua with its CBIT project, and will ensure coordination of activities under both projects.