

GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

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General Project Information

Project Title

Integrated marine coastal management for biodiversity conservation in the coasts and beaches of Ecuador

Region

Latin America and the Caribbean

GEF Project ID

12365

Country(ies)

Ecuador

Type of Project

MSP

GEF Agency(ies):

UNDP

GEF Agency ID

10314

Executing Partner

Conservation International (CI)

Executing Partner Type

CSO

GEF Focal Area (s)

Biodiversity

Submission Date

6/1/2026

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Taxonomy

Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Stakeholders, Beneficiaries, Local Communities, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Academia, Communications, Awareness Raising, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Enabling Activities, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Gender results areas, Access and control over natural resources, Participation and leadership, Access to benefits and services, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Focal Areas, Biodiversity, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, Productive Seascapes, Mainstreaming, Tourism, Fisheries, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Mainstreaming adaptation, Indigenous Peoples

Type of Trust Fund

GET

Project Duration (Months)

54

GEF Project Grant: (a)

4,516,210.00

GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)

0.00

Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)

429,040.00

Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)

0.00

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

4,945,250.00

Total Co-financing

81,847,519.00

PPG Amount: (e)

50,000.00

PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)

4,750.00

PPG total amount: (e+f)

54,750.00

Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)

5,000,000.00

Project Tags

CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No Competitive Window: No

Project Summary

Provide a brief summary description of the project, including: (i) what is the problem and issues to be addressed? (ii) what are the project objectives, and if the project is intended to be transformative, how will this be achieved? (iii), how will this be achieved (approach to deliver on objectives), and (iv) what are the GEBs and/or adaptation benefits, and other key expected results. The purpose of the summary is to provide a short, coherent summary for readers. The explanation and justification of the project should be in section B "project description". (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

The project will strengthen integrated marine-coastal management for biodiversity conservation along Ecuador's coastline through improved territorial planning, governance mechanisms, and implementation of priority conservation actions. Covering Ecuador's five coastal provinces (Esmeraldas, Manabí, Santa Elena, Guayas and El Oro), the project addresses biodiversity loss driven by unsustainable coastal and marine use practices, habitat degradation, and fragmented governance systems. The project contributes to GEF-8 Biodiversity objectives and supports implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework through integrated seascape management approaches and strengthened enabling conditions for biodiversity conservation.

The project will strengthen institutional and technical capacities for participatory marine-coastal planning, support implementation of Integrated Marine Coastal Management Plans (IMCM) and Marine Beaches and Adjacent Strips Management Plans (MBASMP) and establish sustainable financing mechanisms and knowledge systems for long-term implementation. The project will directly support interventions across approximately 50% of Ecuador's coastal municipalities with marine beaches and coastal strips while establishing scalable governance, planning and financing approaches designed for replication beyond project intervention areas. Interventions are expected to improve management of approximately **60,312 ha of coastal ecosystems (GEF CI 4.1)** and **178,661 ha of marine habitat (GEF CI 5)** and directly benefit approximately **1,118,773 people (GEF CI 11)** across local communities and coastal populations, while improving ecological connectivity, ecosystem resilience and biodiversity conservation outcomes, including strengthened ecosystem services and ecosystem-based approaches that support adaptation and resilience of coastal socio-ecological systems. Through strengthened governance systems, sustainable financing mechanisms and adaptive knowledge systems, the intervention seeks to generate durable global environmental benefits extending beyond direct intervention sites.

Indicative Project Overview

Project Objective

Improved ecosystem and critical habitats conservation, restoration and resilience, and improved welfare of local communities in marine and coastal areas of Ecuador

Project Components

1. Strengthening enabling conditions and planning, management and governance systems for marine-coastal zones

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,289,732.00	11,118,369.00
Outcome:	

1.1 Strengthened technical, institutional and coordination capacities for marine-coastal spatial planning

Indicators:

CI 4.1: 60,312 hectares of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity

CI 5.1: 178,661 hectares of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity

- 400 technical staff from GADs and other key stakeholders trained on marine and coastal management

- A 70% increase in institutional, technical, and coordination capacity for marine-coastal spatial planning, as measured through a standardized capacity assessment such as the UNDP Capacity Development Scorecard (baseline vs. endline) (at least 40% of total participants are women)

- Two (2) CIM technical sub-committees created and demonstrating improved coordination capacity, as evidenced by regular meetings, documented decisions, and implementation of agreed actions (at least 40% of total participants in the CIM technical sub-committees are women)

- Twelve (12) marine and coastal plans (3 ICMP and 9 MBASMP) developed and/or updated (at least 40% of total participants in the plan consultations are women)

Output:

1.1.1. Comprehensive technical, institutional and participatory assessment of marine-coastal zones conducted

1.1.2 Capacity-building program for local governments (GADs) and key stakeholders implemented

1.1.3 Inter-institutional governance and coordination mechanisms for ICM established

1.1.4 Marine-coastal management plans for prioritized local governments (GADs) developed

2. Implementation and financing of prioritized ICM initiatives

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,242,419.00	62,810,324.00

Outcome:

2.1 Improved ICM plans financing and implementation by local governments (GADs), institutional actors, and local stakeholders

Indicators:

- CI 11: 1,118,773 total direct project beneficiaries (571,621 women; 547,152 men)

- Three (3) mechanisms developed and adopted for implementation of marine and coastal plans through a multi-cultural and gender-sensitive approach.

- Eleven (11) marine and coastal conservation action plans (ICMP and MBASMP) implemented (at least 40% of total participants in the implementation of marine and coastal conservation actions are women)

- Six (6) certified Sustainable Tourist Beaches (at least 40% of total participants in consultations and in the development of the certification process are women).

Output:

2.1.1 Financing mechanisms to support local governments (GADs) and community organizations in the implementation of ICM plans and initiatives designed and operational

2.1.2 Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) priority actions for improved marine and coastal biodiversity implemented

3. Knowledge management and outreach, gender mainstreaming, mitigation of social and environmental risks and capitalization of lessons learned for strengthening ICM

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
553,950.00	2,798,933.00

Outcome:

3.1 Strengthened knowledge management and institutional learning for marine-coastal conservation and ICM.

Indicators:

- Nine (9) good practices, tools, communication events and KM products related to marine coastal conservation and integrated coastal management codified, adapted, and disseminated nationally and internationally.

- One (1) dashboard/monitoring tool developed, implemented and maintained for monitoring the implementation of integrated coastal management and marine spatial planning within the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MAE), in alignment with national government systems.

3.2 Mainstreamed gender and social and environmental strategies

Indicators:

- Eight (8) tools (e.g., protocols, plans) for safeguards and gender mainstreaming implemented

- 100% of diagnostic assessments, planning instruments (ICMP/MBASMP), and field actions that fully meet SES quality criteria (screening completed; mitigation measures integrated; SESA applied if required; site-specific environmental assessments and ESMPs prepared when needed; consultations properly documented).

Output:

3.1.1 Knowledge management and communication strategy developed and implemented, incorporating a gender-responsive and culturally relevant approach

3.1.2 Harmonized information management system and spatial data platform for ICM established

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
215,052.00	1,086,588.00

Outcome:

3.3 Strengthened M&E to support adaptive management

Indicators:

- Annual Project Implementation Reports (PIRs), one (1) Mid-Term Review (MTR) and one (1) Terminal Evaluation (TE) report

Output:

3.3.1 Project Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan implemented

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1. Strengthening enabling conditions and planning, management and governance systems for marine-coastal zones	1,289,732.00	11,118,369.00
2. Implementation and financing of prioritized ICM initiatives	2,242,419.00	62,810,324.00
3. Knowledge management and outreach, gender mainstreaming, mitigation of social and environmental risks and capitalization of lessons learned for strengthening ICM	553,950.00	2,798,933.00
M&E	215,052.00	1,086,588.00
Subtotal	4,301,153.00	77,814,214.00
Project Management Cost	215,057.00	4,033,305.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	4,516,210.00	81,847,519.00

Please provide justification

PROJECT OUTLINE

A. PROJECT RATIONALE

Briefly describe the current situation: the global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address, the key elements of the system, and underlying drivers of environmental change in the project context, such as population growth, economic development, climate change, sociocultural and political factors, including conflicts, or technological changes. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

Current situation and environmental context

1. Ecuador's marine and coastal ecosystems are globally significant due to their high biodiversity, ecological connectivity and provision of ecosystem services that sustain livelihoods, productive sectors and climate resilience. Ecuador's continental coastline is part of the Eastern Tropical Pacific, one of the most productive and diverse marine regions on the planet. The country has a coastline of approximately 5,271 km, which extends across the five coastal provinces of Ecuador (Esmeraldas, Manabí, Santa Elena, Guayas and El Oro) and in more than 20 Decentralized Autonomous Governments (GADs) and is part of the National Marine-Coastal Area, whose total area amounts to 1,367,188 km², including inland waters, territorial sea and exclusive economic

zone^[1]. These ecosystems—mangroves, beaches, estuaries, wetlands, and shallow seabeds—sustain rich biodiversity and provide essential services such as coastal protection, fishery resources, climate mitigation, and support for tourism and commercial activities.

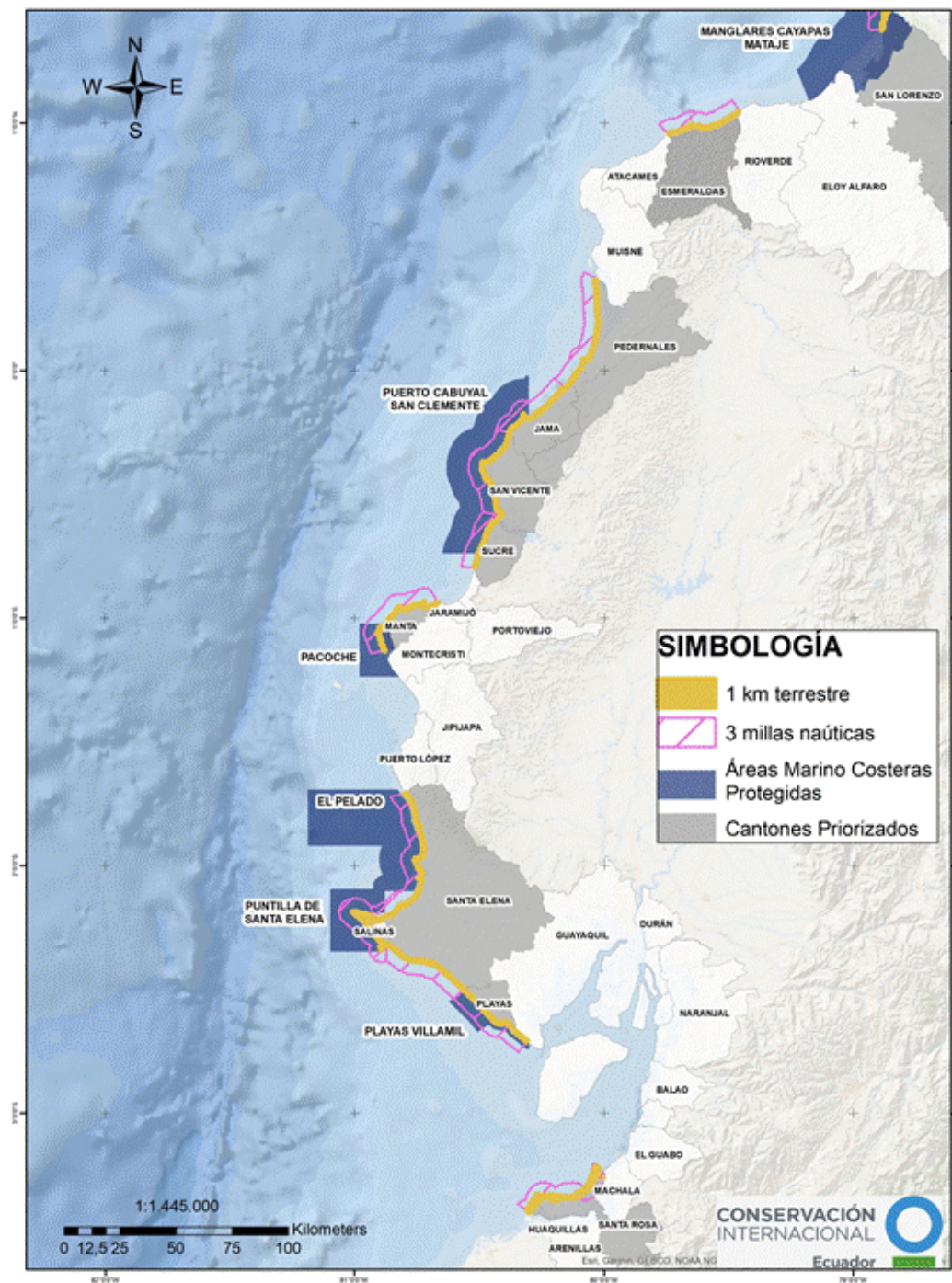


Figure 1: Project implementation area (Please refer to separate file)

2. However, these ecosystems are increasingly exposed to cumulative pressures generated by anthropogenic and climate-related drivers. The Coastal Marine Space Management Plan (POEMC, 2017–2030) identifies 29 types of coastal ecosystems recognized

by the Ministry of the Environment, of which about 45% present degrees of intervention or fragmentation^[2]. Unsustainable land and marine use practices, expansion of infrastructure and tourism activities, marine litter and pollution, habitat degradation, unregulated resource use and increasing pressure on coastal resources have progressively weakened ecosystem integrity and ecological connectivity. Climate change compounds these pressures through sea level rise, changing ocean conditions, coastal erosion, flooding and increasing exposure of coastal populations and ecosystems to extreme climatic events^{[3],[4]}.

- The resulting challenge is not solely ecological but systemic in nature. The degradation of marine–coastal ecosystems is driven by interacting environmental, institutional, social and economic factors that operate across governance levels and sectors. While direct pressures such as habitat degradation, unsustainable use of marine and coastal resources and climate impacts affect ecosystem integrity, these pressures are reinforced by underlying root causes related to governance fragmentation, information gaps, uneven institutional capacities, financing limitations and barriers to inclusive participation. The main problem and root causes identified for the project are summarized below:

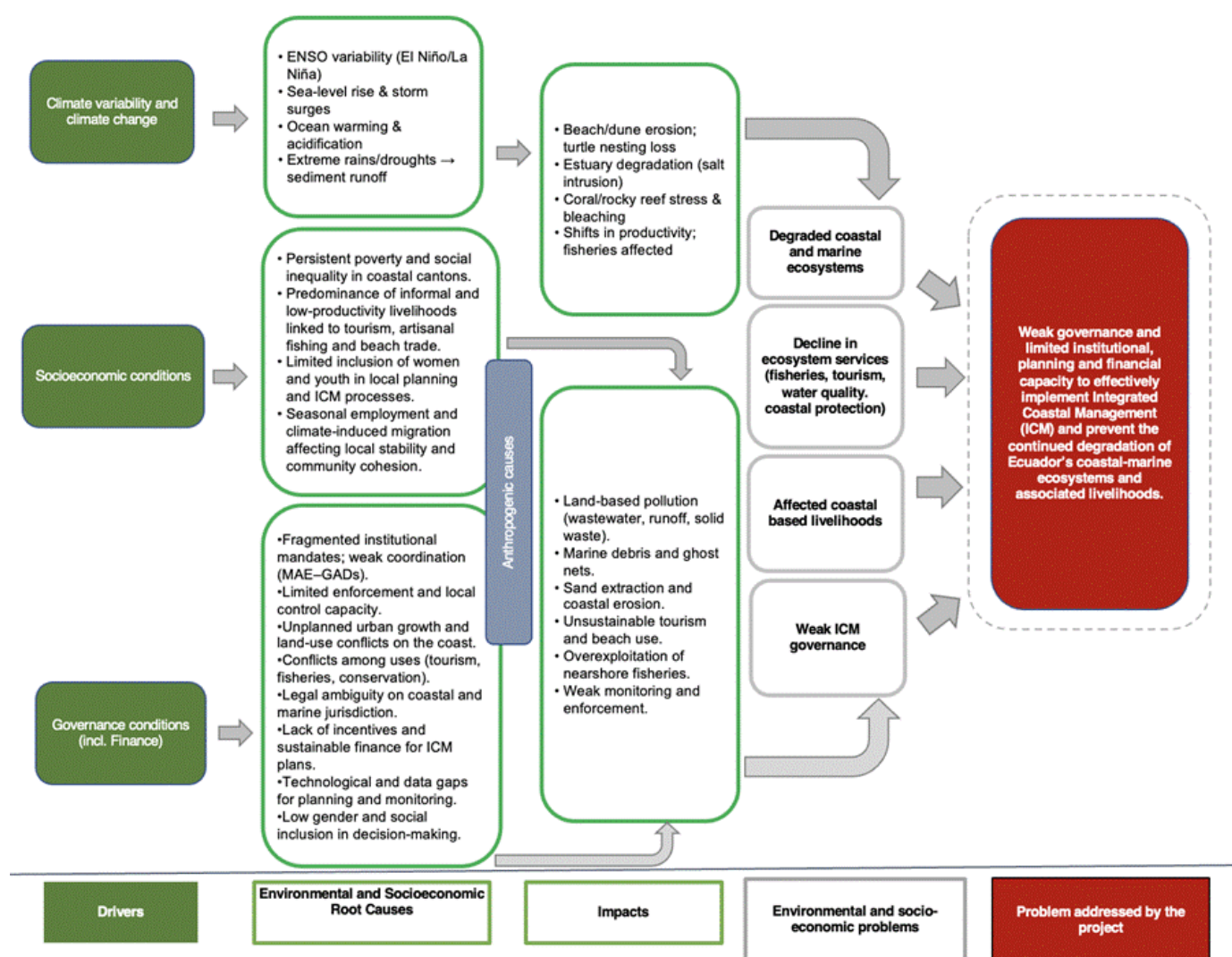


Figure 2: Underlying System Drivers, Root Causes, Impacts and Resulting Problems (Please refer to separate file)

4. Without intervention, these interacting drivers are expected to reinforce one another. Under a business-as-usual scenario, increasing population and economic pressures along coastal areas, combined with climate impacts, are likely to intensify habitat degradation and biodiversity loss. Local governments may continue facing difficulties in incorporating ecosystem-based management into territorial planning instruments, while fragmented management approaches may limit the effectiveness and sustainability of conservation actions. This could result in further degradation of critical habitats, increasing vulnerability of coastal populations and declining ecosystem services upon which local livelihoods and economic sectors depend.

Baseline situation and existing investments

5. Ecuador has developed an important policy and institutional basis for integrated coastal management over recent decades. The country was an early regional leader in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), and more recently the Organic Environmental Code (COA) and its regulations (RCOA) established requirements for marine–coastal planning instruments, including Integrated Marine Coastal Management Plans and Beach and Adjacent Coastal Strip Management Plans.
6. The baseline scenario includes multiple ongoing public and donor-supported initiatives addressing marine biodiversity conservation, coastal management, sustainable finance and territorial planning. These include national investments and complementary initiatives such as BIOFIN and broader biodiversity and coastal management interventions aimed at strengthening financing mechanisms and sustainable management approaches.
7. Despite these efforts, important limitations remain:
 - existing initiatives often address specific geographic areas or sectors rather than applying an integrated systems approach;
 - limited technical and institutional capacities constrain implementation of planning instruments at local levels;
 - sustainable financing mechanisms remain insufficient to support long-term implementation;
 - information systems and monitoring approaches remain fragmented;
 - mechanisms for effective coordination among actors and sectors require strengthening;
 - gender and inclusion considerations are not systematically integrated into marine–coastal management processes.
8. Consequently, the baseline scenario remains characterized by fragmented interventions with limited ability to generate systemic and sustained improvements in marine–coastal governance and biodiversity outcomes.

Key barriers and enabling conditions

9. The transition toward effective integrated marine–coastal management faces several interconnected barriers:
 - Institutional and governance barriers. Although legal and policy frameworks exist, local implementation capacities remain uneven. Institutional fragmentation among sectors and levels of government limits coordinated decision-making and reduces the effectiveness of management actions⁵⁵.
 - Information and technical barriers. Limited availability and harmonization of ecological, social and territorial information constrain evidence-based planning and adaptive management. Existing information is frequently dispersed among institutions and not systematically incorporated into planning and monitoring processes.
 - Financial barriers. Long-term financing mechanisms to sustain marine–coastal management actions remain limited. Local governments frequently face constraints in mobilizing financial resources and designing investment mechanisms for implementation of planning instruments.
 - Social and participation barriers. Women, youth and local community organizations continue to face barriers to participation in governance and decision-making processes. Exclusion from planning and implementation processes can reduce legitimacy and effectiveness of management interventions.
 - Key enabling conditions nevertheless exist, including a favorable national policy framework, institutional mandates established under COA and RCOA, ongoing donor investments, established interinstitutional structures, and increasing national recognition of the role of ecosystem-based approaches for biodiversity conservation and climate resilience.

Project justification

10. The objective of the project is to improve ecosystem and critical habitat conservation, restoration and resilience, and improve welfare of local communities in marine and coastal areas of Ecuador. The project was selected because it addresses underlying systemic drivers rather than isolated symptoms of environmental degradation. Rather than focusing exclusively on restoration activities or individual conservation interventions, the project aims to strengthen enabling conditions for integrated management through improvements in governance systems, institutional capacities, planning instruments, sustainable financing mechanisms and knowledge management.
11. The proposed approach recognizes that biodiversity loss results from interactions among governance failures, information gaps, financing limitations and environmental pressures. By strengthening these enabling conditions simultaneously, the project seeks to create a reinforcing system in which improved information supports planning, planning strengthens governance, governance and financing facilitate implementation, and implementation generates ecological and social benefits.
12. This integrated approach is expected to support long-term sustainability and resilience by strengthening institutional capacities, embedding planning tools within governance systems and establishing adaptive management and learning mechanisms that can respond to evolving environmental and socioeconomic conditions.

Stakeholders and roles within the system

13. The project will involve a broad range of stakeholders whose participation is essential for achieving global environmental benefits and sustaining project outcomes. Participation of women and youth will be integrated as a cross-cutting element to strengthen inclusiveness and improve long-term sustainability.

Key actors include:

Table 1: Stakeholders general description

Partner	Roles and Responsibilities
Ministry of Environment (MAE)	Provides policy leadership, technical oversight and coordination of marine–coastal management processes and ensures alignment with national environmental priorities and planning frameworks.
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Aquaculture and Fisheries (MAGP)	Provides sectoral leadership on fisheries, aquaculture and sustainable production practices and supports integration of marine resource management into territorial planning processes.
Local governments (GADs)	Lead territorial planning and implementation of marine–coastal management instruments, support integration of biodiversity considerations into local development processes, coordinate implementation of local actions and facilitate long-term sustainability and scaling of project interventions within priority coastal areas.
Inter-Institutional Committee of the Sea (CIM)	Supports intersectoral coordination and integration of institutions and policies relevant to marine–coastal management.
Local communities, community organizations, Afro-Ecuadorian and Montubio communities, and Indigenous Peoples where relevant	Contribute local knowledge, participate in the co-designing, planning, and implementation of marine-coastal management interventions governance, support locally led conservation and sustainable resource management practices, and provide feedback to inform adaptive management and continuous improvement of planning and implementation processes..
Private sector actors	Including fisheries, tourism and other coastal productive sectors, which are expected to contribute to sustainable practices, implementation and financing opportunities.
Financial institutions and public development banking actors	Including public financial institutions, social and solidarity economy institutions, and financing partners that support resource mobilization and development of financial mechanisms for long-term implementation and scaling.
Academic and research institutions	Provide scientific evidence and support knowledge generation and monitoring systems.
Civil society organizations and Conservation International	Provide technical expertise and support implementation and stakeholder engagement processes.

Strategic fit:

14. The project builds on existing national and international investments and lessons learned from previous coastal and marine management experiences in Ecuador and the region. It complements ongoing biodiversity and financing initiatives while addressing gaps related to institutional capacity, coordination and implementation.
15. The project contributes directly to national priorities related to biodiversity conservation, territorial planning and climate resilience, while supporting implementation of international commitments under the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, particularly Targets 1, 2 and 10 related to integrated spatial planning, ecosystem restoration and sustainable management.
16. The GEF incremental value lies in enabling Ecuador to transition from fragmented project-based interventions toward an operational, participatory and financially sustainable national system for integrated marine–coastal management capable of sustaining biodiversity outcomes and resilience over the long term.

[1] Ministerio del Ambiente (MAE). 2017. Plan de Ordenamiento del Espacio Marino Costero del Ecuador (POEMC) 2017–2030. Quito: MAE.

[2] MAE. 2017

[3] Ministerio del Ambiente, Agua y Transición Ecológica (MAATE). 2023. Plan Nacional de Adaptación al Cambio Climático 2023–2027. Quito: MAATE.

[4] Banco Mundial. 2024. Informe sobre el Clima y el Desarrollo del País: Ecuador (CCDR). Washington, DC: Banco Mundial.

[5] Vásconez, M. 2025. Evaluación de la capacidad de gestión institucional de los GAD para la implementación del Manejo Costero Integrado. Documento interno. Quito: Conservación Internacional Ecuador (CI).

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project description

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

Theory of change (TOC)

17. The project assumes that biodiversity loss and degradation in Ecuador’s marine and coastal ecosystems result from reinforcing interactions among fragmented governance arrangements, uneven institutional capacities, insufficient integration of information into planning and decision-making processes, limited financing for implementation, and increasing environmental pressures, including habitat degradation, unsustainable resource use, marine pollution and climate-related risks. These interacting drivers reduce ecosystem integrity and limit the ability of institutions and stakeholders to implement coordinated responses capable of sustaining biodiversity conservation and ecosystem resilience over time.
18. The project theory of change assumes that if enabling conditions for integrated marine–coastal management are strengthened through improved governance systems, evidence-based planning instruments, strengthened institutional and technical capacities, sustainable financing mechanisms and adaptive knowledge systems, then public institutions, local governments, communities and private actors will be better equipped and incentivized to adopt and sustain ecosystem-based management approaches capable of reducing pressures on biodiversity and strengthening ecosystem resilience.
19. The intervention follows three mutually reinforcing causal pathways. First, strengthening governance and planning systems will improve the ability of institutions and stakeholders to coordinate decisions and integrate biodiversity considerations into territorial management processes. Marine–coastal assessments, Integrated Coastal Management Plans (ICMPs), Marine Beaches and Adjacent Coastal Strip Management Plans (PMPMFAs), strengthened governance arrangements and capacity-building processes are expected to increase institutional effectiveness, improve coordination and support evidence-based management decisions. Second, strengthening implementation mechanisms through sustainable financing approaches and innovative operational tools will facilitate the transition from planning to action. Development of a financing strategy, financial mechanisms and demonstration initiatives is expected to reduce implementation barriers and mobilize the resources necessary for long-term

management and conservation actions. Third, strengthening knowledge generation, monitoring and learning systems will improve adaptive management and increase the ability of institutions and stakeholders to respond to changing conditions over time. Information systems, monitoring platforms and knowledge-sharing mechanisms are expected to strengthen learning processes and support replication and scaling.

20. These pathways are expected to create reinforcing feedback mechanisms in which improved information supports planning, planning strengthens governance, governance and financing facilitate implementation, and implementation generates environmental and socioeconomic benefits that reinforce stakeholder engagement and institutional ownership. The intervention assumes that key stakeholders maintain active engagement and institutional commitment throughout implementation; that local governments and sectoral actors continue integrating marine–coastal considerations into planning and decision-making processes; that enabling policy and regulatory conditions remain supportive; and that public and private actors demonstrate willingness to participate in financing and implementation mechanisms.
21. The project is designed to strengthen resilience under changing future conditions by institutionalizing planning processes, strengthening local and institutional capacities and establishing adaptive monitoring and learning systems capable of responding to changing environmental, climate and socioeconomic conditions. Rather than relying on isolated interventions, the project seeks to establish mechanisms and capacities capable of maintaining environmental benefits under uncertain future scenarios.
22. By addressing underlying systemic drivers and creating conditions for replication and scaling, the project is expected to contribute to durable global environmental benefits through improved management of approximately 238,973 hectares of marine and coastal ecosystems, improved conservation of critical habitats and strengthened resilience and well-being of coastal communities.

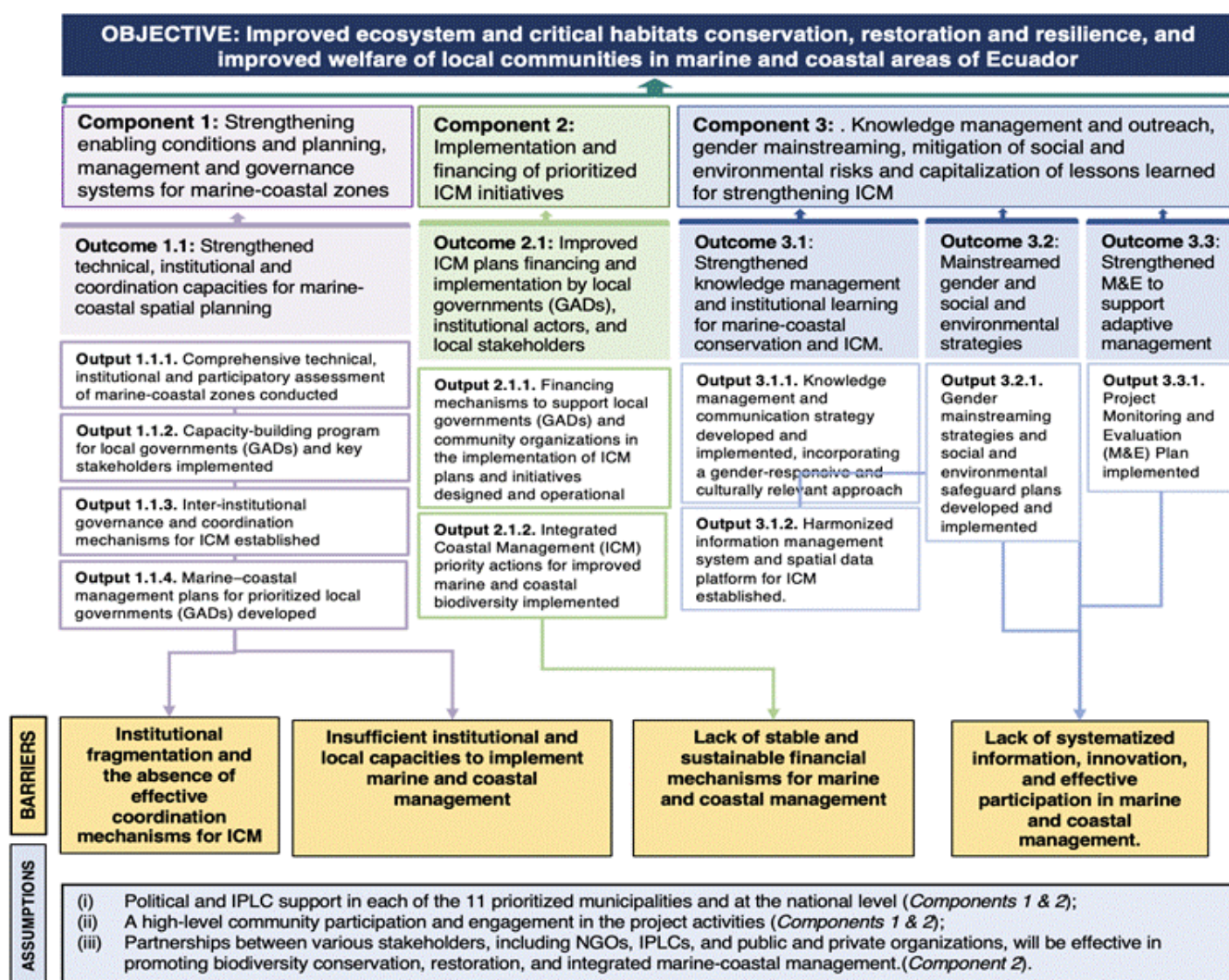


Figure 2: Theory of Change diagram (Please refer to separate file)

Project Components and Interventions

23. The project will operationalize the theory of change through three mutually reinforcing components designed to address the systemic barriers limiting integrated marine–coastal management and biodiversity conservation in Ecuador.

24. Component 1. Strengthening enabling conditions and governance systems for integrated marine–coastal management. This component addresses institutional, technical and governance barriers that limit effective planning and implementation of integrated marine–coastal management approaches. Although Ecuador has an enabling regulatory framework and planning instruments, implementation remains constrained by fragmented institutional responsibilities, limited technical capacities and insufficient integration of biodiversity information into territorial planning processes. The component will therefore strengthen the enabling environment through generation of technical information and development of planning and coordination mechanisms that facilitate evidence-based decision-making and improved institutional coordination. The component is expected to strengthen the capacity of institutions and local actors to integrate biodiversity considerations into planning and decision-making processes while improving governance effectiveness and coordination across scales.

25. Key interventions for Component 1 include:

- conducting marine–coastal assessments with emphasis on critical habitats, ecosystem conditions and management needs;
- strengthening capacities of local governments and key stakeholders through training programs, practical exchanges and learning mechanisms;
- strengthening multi-stakeholder governance arrangements and institutional coordination mechanisms;
- developing and supporting implementation of Integrated Coastal Management Plans (ICMPs) and Marine Beach and Adjacent Coastal Strip Management Plans (PMPMFAs).

26. Component 2. Improving implementation and sustainable financing mechanisms for marine–coastal management. This component addresses barriers associated with implementation and sustainability of planning instruments. Existing management plans frequently face constraints related to limited access to financing and weak mechanisms capable of translating planning processes into sustained management actions. The component therefore seeks to strengthen implementation mechanisms through development and testing of sustainable financing approaches and practical interventions capable of supporting biodiversity conservation and sustainable use objectives. This component is expected to strengthen incentives and mobilize public and private participation while creating mechanisms capable of sustaining implementation beyond the life of the project.

Key interventions include:

- development of a financing strategy and toolbox of financial mechanisms;
- implementation of pilot financial mechanisms supporting marine–coastal management;
- support for implementation of biodiversity conservation and sustainable tourism initiatives;
- support to local governments in obtaining Sustainable Tourist Beaches recognition.

27. Component 3. Knowledge management, monitoring and adaptive learning for long-term sustainability. This component addresses information and learning barriers that limit adaptive management and opportunities for replication and scaling. Strengthening management effectiveness requires systems capable of generating, integrating and sharing knowledge to support evidence-based decision-making. The component therefore seeks to establish knowledge and monitoring systems that strengthen learning processes and facilitate adaptive management over time. This component is expected to improve adaptive capacity, facilitate replication and support scaling pathways capable of generating broader and more durable environmental outcomes.

Key interventions include:

- development and implementation of a national digital dashboard for monitoring marine–coastal management instruments;
- development of knowledge products and dissemination mechanisms;
- implementation of monitoring, evaluation and learning processes;
- strengthening information management and exchange among institutions and stakeholders.

28. Knowledge generation, management and exchange constitute a central mechanism for supporting adaptive management and strengthening the durability and expansion of project outcomes. The project will establish a national digital dashboard and monitoring system designed to facilitate collection, integration and analysis of environmental and implementation information while supporting evidence-based decision-making processes. Knowledge products, learning exchanges and dissemination mechanisms will support knowledge transfer among GADs, institutions and stakeholders. Monitoring, evaluation and learning processes will capture lessons generated during implementation and facilitate adaptive management while strengthening opportunities for replication and future investments.
29. Transformational change is expected to emerge through strengthening institutional systems, financing mechanisms and management capacities capable of extending benefits beyond direct intervention areas. Building upon previous experiences, including pilot initiatives and marine–coastal management processes developed in Ecuador and the wider region, the project seeks to amplify and institutionalize successful approaches through broader uptake and replication pathways. By targeting approximately 50% of Ecuador’s coastal GADs and creating planning tools, financing mechanisms and management models designed for replication, the project seeks to establish conditions through which successful experiences can progressively expand beyond project intervention areas and contribute to broader systems-level change.
30. The achievement and durability of project outcomes will depend on active participation and ownership among institutions and stakeholders operating across different levels of the marine–coastal system. National institutions, local governments, communities, academia, civil society organizations and private sector actors play complementary roles in translating enabling conditions into sustained implementation and long-term environmental benefits.
31. The Ministry of Environment and Energy (MAE) will provide policy leadership and technical oversight, ensuring alignment with national biodiversity and marine–coastal priorities and supporting institutional sustainability of project outcomes. Coastal GADs will play a central role in implementation through territorial planning processes, integration of project-supported instruments into local management systems and operationalization of actions at the local level. Communities and local organizations will contribute local knowledge, participate in planning and monitoring processes and support implementation of biodiversity conservation and sustainable management measures. Academic institutions and civil society organizations will contribute technical expertise, scientific evidence and support knowledge generation and dissemination processes. Private sector actors, particularly those associated with tourism and productive sectors, are expected to support implementation and contribute to sustainable financing opportunities and long-term uptake of improved practices.
32. The project is also expected to generate socioeconomic co-benefits that strengthen incentives for continued stakeholder engagement and sustainability of outcomes. These include strengthened ecosystem services, improved opportunities associated with sustainable tourism, increased local resilience and strengthened institutional capacities. Gender considerations will be integrated across interventions by promoting equitable participation and strengthening opportunities for women and vulnerable groups within decision-making and implementation processes.

Global Environmental Benefits and Additionality

33. The project will strengthen implementation and alignment of existing national policies and planning frameworks rather than creating parallel systems. Interventions will support implementation of existing marine–coastal management instruments and strengthen coordination among institutions and governance levels. The intervention is expected to improve coherence between local planning processes and broader national biodiversity and territorial priorities, while supporting implementation of Ecuador’s commitments under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and relevant marine and coastal policies. Strengthened institutional coordination and integration of biodiversity considerations into planning and management processes are expected to increase the effectiveness and sustainability of existing policy frameworks.
34. Under the baseline scenario, ongoing investments and institutional efforts are expected to continue generating localized and sector-specific benefits related to biodiversity conservation, territorial management and sustainable development. However, these efforts are likely to remain fragmented in scope and implementation, with limited capacity to generate coordinated, systemic and durable impacts across Ecuador’s marine and coastal systems. Existing initiatives provide important foundations but are constrained by uneven institutional capacities, limited implementation mechanisms, fragmented information systems and insufficient long-term financing arrangements.
35. Without GEF support, marine–coastal management efforts would likely continue to focus primarily on isolated interventions and localized planning processes, limiting opportunities to address the underlying drivers of biodiversity degradation at broader territorial scales. In particular, implementation gaps would remain in translating planning instruments into coordinated action, mobilizing financing mechanisms and strengthening institutional systems capable of sustaining outcomes over time. GEF support provides incremental value by enabling a transition from fragmented and project-based interventions toward an integrated system capable of generating broader and more durable environmental benefits. The intervention combines enabling conditions,

implementation mechanisms and adaptive management systems that together create conditions for long-term sustainability and replication.

36. Through this approach, the project is expected to generate global environmental benefits through improved conservation and management of approximately 238,973 hectares of marine and coastal ecosystems, including 178,661 hectares of marine habitats and 60,312 hectares of terrestrial and coastal landscapes under improved management practices, contributing to improved ecosystem integrity, connectivity and resilience. The project is also expected to contribute to the conservation and improved management of critical ecosystems including mangroves, estuaries, beaches and associated marine habitats that provide important ecological functions and support species of national and global conservation significance. Improvements in ecosystem condition and management effectiveness are expected to reduce pressures associated with habitat degradation, unsustainable use practices and ecosystem fragmentation.
37. Additionality will also be generated through strengthened governance arrangements, improved planning systems and sustainable financing mechanisms that would not emerge under the baseline scenario. By strengthening institutional capacities and establishing mechanisms for adaptive management and knowledge generation, the intervention seeks to ensure that environmental benefits remain functional beyond the project implementation period and become increasingly embedded within broader management and decision-making systems.
38. Beyond direct biodiversity outcomes, the intervention is expected to generate complementary benefits associated with strengthened ecosystem services, improved resilience of coastal communities and more sustainable territorial development pathways. These co-benefits are expected to strengthen stakeholder support and increase the likelihood that environmental gains can be sustained and expanded over time. The project therefore seeks not only to generate site-level improvements but also to establish enabling conditions and pathways capable of supporting longer-term transformation of Ecuador's marine-coastal management system.

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Does the GEF Agency expect to play an execution role on this project?

If so, please describe that role here. Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing

39. The project will coordinate closely with ongoing national and international initiatives to maximize synergies, avoid duplication and facilitate scaling of successful approaches. In particular, the project builds upon the experience and results of the UNDP-supported PACA project – 'Towards a joint, integrated and ecosystem-based management of the Great Coastal Marine Ecosystem of the Central American Pacific (PACA)', which strengthened coastal governance, supported the Inter-Institutional Committee of the Sea (CIM), developed pilot Integrated Coastal Management Plans in Pedernales, Jama and San Vicente, and strengthened capacities of more than 600 stakeholders. The proposed project will scale and institutionalize these approaches across approximately 50% of Ecuador's coastal municipalities with marine beaches and coastal strips.
40. The project will also coordinate with the GCF-funded Mangroves for Climate initiative implemented by Conservation International, particularly in relation to mangrove conservation, coastal resilience, sustainable livelihoods and local governance processes in coastal municipalities. Collaboration with BIOFIN will support the development and piloting of sustainable financing mechanisms under Component 2, ensuring alignment with Ecuador's Biodiversity Finance Plan and facilitating engagement with development banking and social and solidarity finance institutions. Additional cooperation will be pursued with regional initiatives such as Save the Blue Five, as well as academic institutions, civil society organizations and financial sector partners, through knowledge exchange, technical collaboration, monitoring approaches and dissemination of lessons learned. These partnerships will strengthen implementation capacity and enhance the sustainability and scalability of project results.

Core Indicators

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)
60312	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)
60,312.00			

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)
178,661.00			

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)
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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)
Female	571,621			
Male	547,152			
Total	1,118,773	0	0	0

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

Methodological approach and underlying logic to justify target levels for Core and Sub-Indicators:

41. Target levels for the project's Core and Sub-indicators were established using a combination of baseline spatial analysis, institutional and demographic information, implementation scope, and expected attribution of project interventions. Targets were estimated based on the geographic coverage of the intervention across Ecuador's five coastal provinces (Esmeraldas, Manabí, Santa Elena, Guayas and El Oro), considering the municipalities prioritized under the project and the expected reach of integrated marine-coastal management interventions.

42. Spatial targets, including hectares under improved management practices, were derived from geospatial assessments and analysis of priority marine and coastal ecosystems, including marine habitats, beaches, mangroves and associated coastal landscapes located within the intervention areas. Estimates considered the area expected to directly benefit from strengthened management measures, planning instruments and implementation actions supported by the project. To avoid overestimation, only areas where the project is expected to contribute directly to management improvements and biodiversity outcomes were considered.

43. Beneficiary-related targets were estimated using demographic information associated with intervention areas and expected direct influence zones of project-supported actions. Calculations considered the population likely to benefit from improved ecosystem services, strengthened management systems and sustainable development opportunities. Gender-disaggregated estimates were developed using available population information and demographic distributions within targeted areas.

44. The methodological approach prioritizes conservative assumptions and direct attribution to project-supported interventions to ensure that target values remain realistic, measurable and aligned with expected project outcomes.

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Moderate	Lack of integration of climate change into marine-coastal planning instruments. If IMCPs and MBASMPs do not include climate-risk analyses (sea-level rise, erosion, storm surge), investments and restoration efforts may not be climate-resilient. The project will integrate climate-risk assessments and adaptation measures into planning instruments, and train municipal staff on climate risk and ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) using the National Technical Guide for Climate Integration. Inadequate SES screening in diagnostics, planning instruments, and field actions. If SES screening is not systematically applied during diagnostics, territorial planning instruments, and field actions (monitoring, restoration, clean-ups), key social and environmental risks may go undetected. The project will apply mandatory SES screening these activities and the results will determine the need for additional assessments, including SESA, site-specific mitigation plans, or temporal/spatial activity restrictions. All actions will follow the mitigation hierarchy and apply inclusive participation processes (SEP).
Environmental and Social	Moderate	Potential adverse impacts on biodiversity, critical habitats, ecosystem functions and sensitive species. Implementation of diagnostics, planning and zoning instruments, monitoring, restoration actions or sustainable beach certification processes without appropriate SES screening may disturb nesting areas, affect ecological dynamics, or impact marine fauna (turtles, birds, corals, elasmobranchs). The project will apply mandatory SES screening prior to implementation. When screening identifies moderate or substantial risks, site-specific environmental and social assessments will be conducted and a site-specific ESMP will be prepared. Actions will apply the precautionary principle, the mitigation hierarchy, and MAE technical supervision. Social exclusion and inequitable access to project benefits. Vulnerable groups (women, youth, Indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples, small-scale fishers) may be excluded from participation, benefit or access to financing and training. The project will develop and operationalize a Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Gender Action Plan, ensure quotas for women and youth, deliver differentiated capacity building, apply equity criteria into financial mechanisms, and monitor inclusion through disaggregated indicators and a grievance mechanism. The project will also implement an inclusive Communication and Knowledge Strategy, produce culturally adapted materials, strengthen digital literacy, and ensure accessible participation. Social conflicts and loss of legitimacy due to access or use restrictions in coastal zones. Regulatory or planning instruments may impose use limitations that restrict traditional or communal activities (fishing, beach access, tourism). If these planning decisions are developed without proper

		SES screening and without participatory approaches and compensatory measures, they may generate social tension, conflict, loss of legitimacy, economic displacement, or conflict among stakeholders. The project will apply mandatory SES screening to all planning decisions. When screening identifies moderate, substantial, or high social or environmental risks a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) will be conducted in accordance with the ESMF and UNDP SES. The project will also carry out participatory socio-economic assessments, design alternative livelihood and compensation options (diversification, restoration jobs, eco-credit lines), apply FPIC where applicable, and maintain dialogue and mediation spaces through CIM sub-committees. Gender Exclusion, Discrimination, and Gender-Based Violence (GBV). Women, youth, and other vulnerable groups may face exclusion from participation or benefits, discrimination in decision-making processes or access to financial mechanisms, and elevated risks of gender-based violence, harassment, or exploitation during community engagement, fieldwork, or tourism-related activities. The project will develop and implement a Gender Action Plan (GAP), guarantee participation quotas ($\geq 40\%$ women, $\geq 35\%$ youth), enforce prevention and response protocols, train staff and partners, ensure confidential reporting channels, and establish safe referral mechanisms to protect survivors and prevent reprisals. Equity criteria will be applied to financial mechanisms, capacity building, and decision-making bodies to prevent discrimination and ensure fair access. Poor waste management during coastal clean-ups and certification activities. Improper segregation and disposal of solid waste could cause secondary pollution. The project will implement a Waste Management Plan consistent with national standards, define operational protocols for clean-ups, provide equipment and training, and promote circular-economy practices and alliances with private recyclers. Contextual security and retaliation risks. The project will operate in coastal areas affected by high levels of insecurity, criminal activity, and the presence of organized groups. This context may expose community leaders, women and youth participants, project staff and GAD personnel to intimidation, threats, or retaliation for participating in consultations and field activities. The project will apply UNDP's P15 retaliation-prevention and contextual security protocols; conduct site-specific security assessments prior to fieldwork; coordinate closely with UNDSS and competent national authorities; ensure anonymity and confidentiality in the GRM; establish safe, neutral, and accessible participation spaces; use community liaisons and staggered engagement approaches for sensitive territories; train staff and partners on security protocols; and, when necessary, suspend, relocate, or redesign activities to protect participants and personnel. For detailed reference of each of the potential risk management measures, please refer to the separate annex of this CEO Endorsement Request. SES Annex is included in the project RoadMap as a separate file.
Political and Governance	Moderate	Institutional fragmentation and limited coordination in marine-coastal governance. Overlapping mandates and weak coordination among national and local actors may delay or dilute results. The project will strengthen the

		Inter-Institutional Committee of the Sea (CIM) and its sub-committees with clear mandates, coordination protocols, and accountability mechanisms, while promoting transparency and participatory decision-making. Political or institutional blockage in approval of ICM and Beach/Strip Management Plans. Changes in authorities or lack of consensus could delay plan endorsement. The project will create a participatory roadmap for approval, harmonize municipal ordinances, establish mediation procedures within CIM, and secure political ownership through documentation, transparency, and technical continuity.
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INNOVATION

Institutional and Policy	Moderate	Potential misalignment between project instruments and national or sectoral frameworks. If IMCPs or MBASMPs are not consistent with POEMC 2030, PNOC, or AIM 2024–2027, institutional uptake could weaken. The project will ensure alignment with these policies, maintain regular dialogue with MAE and Planifica Ecuador, and update methodologies and templates following regulatory changes.
Technological	Moderate	Data privacy and security risks for sensitive environmental or community information. Poor data protection could expose vulnerable communities or critical habitats. The project will apply data-security protocols (anonymization, restricted access, encryption), follow national data-protection laws, and apply a precautionary approach before publishing sensitive information.
Financial and Business Model	Moderate	Inequitable territorial and social access to project financial mechanisms. The project includes innovative financing approaches to support long-term implementation of marine–coastal management actions. Risks relate to the feasibility, uptake and sustainability of these mechanisms, including limited stakeholder participation, institutional constraints and changing economic conditions. To mitigate these risks, the project will apply a phased and adaptive approach through development of a financing strategy and toolbox, followed by demonstration interventions to test feasibility before broader scaling. Sustainability will be strengthened through integration within existing governance systems, stakeholder engagement and diversification of funding sources.

EXECUTION

Capacity	Moderate	Limited institutional and technical capacity for marine-coastal management. Weak local capacity could constrain the effective planning, implementation and monitoring of marine–coastal governance instruments, and limit sustainability of financial mechanisms, digital and spatial data systems management, and social and environmental safeguard’s compliance. The project will implement a continuous capacity-building and knowledge-transfer program for MAE, GADs, and key sectors, institutionalize tools and systems, promote peer learning and technical mentoring, reinforcement of the Inter-Institutional Committee of the Sea (CIM) and its Technical
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		Subcommittees, and establishment of the Social, Environmental and Gender Safeguards Management System (SEGSMS).
Fiduciary	Low	Potential risk of non-compliance with financial procedures or misallocation of funds inherent to grant-funded project implementation. The Implementing Partner, CI, demonstrated low fiduciary risk across all areas evaluated in the capacity assessment, including financial management, procurement, internal controls, asset management, and financial reporting. The assessment identified no internal control findings requiring corrective action. CI operates under established global financial management systems, ERP-based accounting platforms, defined procurement thresholds, segregation of duties, and periodic audit arrangements. Under the selected implementation modality, financial management, procurement, and reporting responsibilities rest with the Implementing Partner, subject to UNDP oversight and quality assurance. The project will apply UNDP POPP and GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards, including audit coverage, Project Board oversight, risk monitoring, and HACT assurance activities as applicable. These measures ensure transparency and accountability, justifying the classification of fiduciary risk as Low.
Stakeholder	Moderate	Stakeholder grievances. Communities may raise objections or complaints due to unclear decision-making, insufficient information, or perceived inequities. The project will fully operationalize the GRM, ensure culturally appropriate channels, implement a Communication and Expectation-Management Plan, publish clear decisions, and conduct participatory validation of planning instruments and regulations.
Other	Moderate	Occupational health and safety risks during fieldwork. Activities such as monitoring, clean-ups, and diving could cause accidents or health issues. The project will implement an Occupational Health and Safety Plan, ensure insurance and Personal Protective Equipment, conduct safety briefings, and coordinate with local authorities to minimize risks. Personal security risks for project staff and partners. Field activities in isolated or insecure coastal zones may expose staff to violence or theft. The project will adopt a Field Security Protocol in coordination with UNDSS, provide insurance, PPE, and training, and define procedures for suspension or reprogramming of activities in high-risk areas.
Overall Risk Rating	Substantial	

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

Describe how the proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies and country and regional priorities, including how these country strategies and plans relate to the multilateral environmental agreements.

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this.

For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), please identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and explain how. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

45. The proposed intervention is aligned with the GEF-8 Biodiversity Programming Strategy by supporting integrated approaches that strengthen biodiversity conservation through improvements in governance systems, spatial planning, sustainable management and enabling conditions for long-term implementation. The project contributes to GEF-8 objectives related to reducing threats to biodiversity, improving management effectiveness and strengthening institutional and financial sustainability for conservation outcomes. Through an integrated marine-coastal management approach, the intervention seeks to generate environmental benefits while strengthening socioeconomic resilience and sustainability.
46. The project contributes directly to GEF-8 Biodiversity Focal Area Objective 1 (BDFA-1): Integrated landscape and seascape management, which seeks to improve conservation, sustainable use and restoration of natural ecosystems through strengthened planning, governance and reduction of pressures on biodiversity. Through an integrated marine-coastal approach, the intervention strengthens marine and coastal planning instruments, governance mechanisms, sustainable financing systems and adaptive management processes that support biodiversity conservation and management across interconnected seascapes and coastal landscapes. Project activities are fully consistent with the expected outcomes under BDFA-1, including improved biodiversity-friendly management practices, strengthened institutional capacities, enhanced participation among local actors and improved management effectiveness across marine-coastal systems.
47. The intervention is also aligned with Ecuador's national priorities and policy framework related to biodiversity conservation, territorial management and marine-coastal governance. The project supports implementation of existing national instruments including the Organic Environmental Code (COA) and its associated regulations (RCOA), which establish mechanisms and responsibilities for environmental management and marine-coastal planning. The intervention will strengthen implementation of Integrated Coastal Management Plans (ICMPs) and Marine Beach and Adjacent Coastal Strip Management Plans (PMPMFAs), reinforcing existing institutional arrangements rather than creating parallel systems.
48. The project further contributes to Ecuador's commitments under national biodiversity and sustainable development priorities by strengthening coordination across institutions and supporting integration of biodiversity considerations into territorial planning and implementation processes.
49. In the short term, the project contributes to improved biodiversity-friendly management practices, strengthened institutional capacities and enhanced participation among local actors and coastal governments. In the medium term, the intervention is expected to improve management effectiveness, strengthen coordination mechanisms and increase implementation of integrated marine-coastal planning instruments. In the long term, the project is expected to contribute to improved ecosystem integrity, strengthened ecological resilience and more sustainable marine-coastal development pathways.
50. The intervention also contributes to Ecuador's United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF/CPD) outcome related to "environmental management and climate action towards an ecological, inclusive and resilient transition," supporting strengthened biodiversity conservation, improved environmental governance and resilient territorial development. Specifically, the project contributes to Cooperation Framework Outcome 2: "The State and society advance towards an ecological transition and a sustainable, inclusive, decarbonized and resilient economy conserving biodiversity and ecosystems while promoting inclusion and gender equality."
51. No country policies or regulatory frameworks that could conflict with the intended project outcomes have been identified. On the contrary, the intervention is expected to strengthen policy coherence by improving coordination and operational alignment among national and local planning processes, biodiversity objectives and marine-coastal management instruments. The project therefore seeks to reinforce implementation effectiveness of existing policy and institutional frameworks while increasing consistency across governance levels.
52. The project is aligned with the UNDP Strategic Plan 2026–2029, particularly Strategic Objective 4: Healthy Planet, which seeks to mainstream international environmental agreements into national development frameworks to drive sustainable development. The intervention contributes through strengthening marine-coastal governance systems, biodiversity

conservation, planning instruments and sustainable financing approaches that support implementation of environmental commitments. The project also contributes to the accelerators Digital and AI Transformation through the development of monitoring and knowledge-management systems, and Sustainable Finance through development and testing of financing mechanisms that support long-term biodiversity outcomes.

53. The project contributes to several targets under the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), particularly:

- Target 1: Supporting integrated spatial planning processes and improving management of marine and coastal areas through strengthened planning instruments and governance mechanisms.
- Target 2: Supporting ecosystem restoration and strengthening ecosystem resilience through conservation and management actions in priority marine and coastal ecosystems.
- Target 3: Contributing to improved conservation and management effectiveness across marine and coastal ecosystems of biodiversity importance.
- Target 10: Promoting sustainable use and management approaches that reduce pressures on biodiversity while supporting local livelihoods and sustainable economic opportunities.
- Target 14: Strengthening integration of biodiversity considerations into decision-making and planning processes across institutions and sectors.
 - Target 19: Supporting mobilization of financial resources and development of innovative financing mechanisms for biodiversity implementation.

54. The project also contributes to broader sustainable development objectives under the 2030 Agenda, including SDG 14 (Life Below Water) through improved conservation and sustainable use of marine ecosystems; SDG 15 (Life on Land) through biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management; SDG 13 (Climate Action) through strengthened ecosystem resilience and ecosystem-based approaches; SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) through sustainable tourism and management practices; SDG 5 (Gender Equality) through strengthened participation and inclusion of women; and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through strengthened multi-stakeholder partnerships and interinstitutional coordination mechanisms.

55. Through these contributions, the project seeks to strengthen implementation of global biodiversity commitments while generating durable environmental and socioeconomic benefits at national and local levels.

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

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

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

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

Yes

Were the following stakeholders consulted during project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities: Yes

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector: Yes

Provide a brief summary and list of names and dates of consultations

56. Preliminary analysis indicates that women and men may experience different levels of participation, access to resources and influence over decision-making processes related to marine and coastal management, sustainable livelihoods and territorial planning. Women may face barriers associated with unequal participation in local governance structures, limited representation in environmental decision-making processes and unequal access to economic opportunities linked to marine and coastal resources.

57. To address these differences, the project will apply gender-responsive approaches throughout implementation, including promoting equitable participation in consultation and decision-making processes, strengthening opportunities for women's leadership and participation within governance mechanisms, and supporting equal access to project benefits, training opportunities and sustainable livelihood initiatives where relevant.

58. Gender-responsive measures and indicators will be incorporated into project implementation and monitoring frameworks, including sex-disaggregated indicators where applicable, to monitor participation and benefits generated through project interventions. Additional gender analysis and stakeholder consultations conducted during implementation will further refine gender-responsive actions and ensure adaptive implementation where needed. The project budget will incorporate human and financial resources to monitor the effectiveness of gender mainstreaming actions.

Provide a brief summary and list of names and dates of consultations.

59. Stakeholder consultations were conducted throughout project identification and design to inform project priorities, intervention areas, implementation arrangements and expected outcomes. Consultations involved national and local government institutions, coastal municipalities (GADs), and Local Communities, community organizations, civil society organizations, academia, private sector actors and technical partners to ensure that project design reflects local priorities, implementation feasibility and existing institutional processes. Documented consultation processes involved more than 84 participants, including at least 34 women and 50 men, through collective workshops, targeted bilateral meetings and a final virtual project validation workshop. As attendance records for some bilateral meetings and the virtual validation workshop were not systematically captured, these figures represent a conservative estimate of stakeholder participation.

60. Consultations informed identification of priority intervention areas, barriers to integrated marine-coastal management, institutional and capacity gaps, governance arrangements, financing opportunities, biodiversity priorities and implementation pathways. Stakeholder engagement also supported refinement of project components, environmental and social risk management measures, and sustainability and scaling approaches. The project's direct intervention areas are primarily characterized by local coastal communities, artisanal fishers, Afro-Ecuadorian and Montubio populations, tourism actors and community organizations. While Indigenous Peoples and ancestral identities may be present or maintain historical and cultural links in specific coastal territories, project interventions are focused on municipal coastal management jurisdictions and planning processes. During project preparation and implementation, stakeholder mapping and social screening processes will further assess the presence of Indigenous Peoples, their governance structures, territorial rights and potential interaction with project-supported activities, consistent with UNDP Social and Environmental Standards.

Table 2: Key partners and project collaboration

Name of event	Date and location	Main organizations/institutions present
Virtual inception process workshop	12 August 2025 – Virtual	MAE, Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investment and Fisheries (MPCEIP); Vice Ministry of Aquaculture and Fisheries (VAP); Ministry of Tourism (MINTUR); National Secretariat of Planning (SENPLADES); Ecuadorian Navy (Armada del Ecuador); Conservation International Ecuador (CI Ecuador); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Public Institute for Fisheries and Aquaculture Research (IPIAP)

Territorial workshop – Machala	27 August 2025 – Machala	MAE, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG); Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure (MIT); Ecuadorian Navy (Armada del Ecuador); Port Authority/Port Captaincy (Capitanía del Puerto); Provincial Government of El Oro; Municipal Governments (GADs); Technical University of Machala (UTMACH); (CI Ecuador)
Territorial workshop – Manta	3 September 2025 – Manta	MAE, MAG, GADs, Municipal Governments (GADs); Marine and Coastal Undersecretariat (Subsecretaría Marino Costera); National Secretariat for Risk Management (SNGR); Oceanographic and Antarctic Institute of the Ecuadorian Navy (INOCAR); local communities and civil society organizations, CI, livestock associations, and Kichwa communities: Pacto Sumaco Community Tourism Center, women's organization: Waorani OMERE Handicrafts, Wichwa Río Guicamayo-Loreto Center, 11 de Abril Livestock Farmers Association, Kichwa Sani Isla Commune, Sacha Nampi Alta Florencia, local Afro-Ecuadorian leader.
Focus group – Pedernales	4 September 2025 – Pedernales	GAD Pedernales, GAD Jama, MAE, Women's Collective of Pedernales, Fundación Ceiba, CI Ecuador
Focus group – Esmeraldas	5 September 2025 – Esmeraldas	MAE, MAGP, Vice Ministry of Aquaculture and Fisheries (VAP); Ministry of Tourism (MINTUR); Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador – Esmeraldas Campus (PUCESE), CI Ecuador
Final Validation Virtual Workshop	16 October 2025 – Virtual	MAE, MAGP, UNDP, Conservation International Ecuador, coastal GADs, technical partners and key stakeholders
15 Bilateral meetings with key stakeholders	1-8 October 2025 – Virtual	GADs of Esmeraldas, Pedernales, Santa Rosa, San Lorenzo, San Vicente, Playas, Manta, Jama, Santa Elena and Sucre; Universidad Laica Eloy Alfaro de Manabí (ULEAM); WildAid; World Wildlife Fund Ecuador; (WWF); The Nature Conservancy (TNC); Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

61. Stakeholder engagement will continue throughout implementation of a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), ensuring continued participation, feedback and adaptive management throughout the project lifecycle.

(Please upload to the portal documents tab any stakeholder engagement plan or assessments that have been done during the PIF development phase.)

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

We confirm that we have provided indicative information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed project or program and any measures to address such risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex D).

Yes

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
High or Substantial			

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described in the Project Description (Section B)

Yes

ANNEX A: 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	Grant / Non- Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
UNDP	GET	Ecuador	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	4,516,210.00	429,040.00	4,945,250.00
Total GEF Resources (\$)						4,516,210.00	429,040.00	4,945,250.00

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

50000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

4750

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
UNDP	GET	Ecuador	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	50,000.00	4,750.00	54,750.00
Total PPG Amount (\$)						50,000.00	4,750.00	54,750.00

Please provide justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
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		Regional/ Global			
UNDP	GET	Ecuador	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	5,000,000.00
Total GEF Resources					5,000,000.00

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
BD-1-1	GET	2,258,105.00	40923760
BD-1-5	GET	2,258,105.00	40923759
Total Project Cost		4,516,210.00	81,847,519.00

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment and Energy (MAE)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	23654602
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MAGP)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4770556
Beneficiaries	GAD San Lorezo	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	45000
Beneficiaries	GAD Esmeraldas	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	10000
Beneficiaries	GAD Esmeraldas	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	50000
Beneficiaries	GAD Pedernales	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2594038
Beneficiaries	GAD Jama	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1162400
Beneficiaries	GAD San Vicente	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	414500
Beneficiaries	GAD Sucre	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	131400

Beneficiaries	GAD Manta	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2451938
Beneficiaries	GAD Santa Elena	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	805185
Beneficiaries	GAD Santa Elena	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1728000
Beneficiaries	GAD Salinas	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	42252882
Beneficiaries	GAD Salinas	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	546018
Beneficiaries	GAD Playas	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	170000
Beneficiaries	GAD Santa Rosa	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	10000
Beneficiaries	GAD Santa Rosa	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	396000
Civil Society Organization	Conservation International	Grant	Investment mobilized	600000
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	55000
Total Co-financing				81,847,519.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Investment mobilization was identified through a review of ongoing and planned investments from public institutions, local governments and partner organizations that demonstrate direct alignment and complementarity with the project's objectives, intervention areas and expected outcomes. As part of the project preparation process, targeted bilateral consultations with municipalities, partner organizations and technical stakeholders included discussions to identify existing and planned investments, activities and institutional efforts already being implemented that contribute to the project's expected outcomes. This process helped determine where ongoing initiatives and resources could generate complementarities with project interventions, ensuring that project design builds upon existing efforts and aligns with national and local development priorities rather than creating parallel processes. Mobilized investments were considered where existing or planned resources support activities that contribute directly to project outcomes and generate additional technical, institutional, ecological or financial value beyond GEF financing.

Cofinancing includes mobilized investment (USD \$600,000) from the Mangroves Initiative implemented by Conservation International (CI) to support the conservation and restoration of mangrove ecosystems in the Gulf of Guayaquil, which hosts approximately 80% of Ecuador's mangroves. The investment focuses on strengthening coastal ecosystem management, restoring mangroves, conserving biodiversity, and supporting the recovery of key fisheries resources, including black shell (*Anadara tuberculosa* and *A. similis*) and red mangrove crab (*Ucides occidentalis*), while enhancing biodiversity monitoring at site and landscape levels. The financing will be deployed in priority coastal areas within the Gulf of Guayaquil (one kilometer inland and

three nautical miles seaward), including municipalities such as Playas and Santa Rosa. The investment complements project interventions by generating technical, ecological, and governance additionality in alignment with the project's integrated marine-coastal management approach.

In addition, mobilized investments were identified from local government initiatives and planned municipal investments that support biodiversity conservation, environmental management and implementation of marine-coastal management actions within project areas. These include investments related to ecological restoration, protected area management, biodiversity monitoring, environmental signage, waste management systems, environmental education initiatives, public infrastructure supporting coastal management, and local conservation actions implemented by municipalities such as Pedernales, Manta, Santa Elena, Salinas and Playas. These investments were identified based on existing commitments and planned activities that contribute directly to project outcomes and strengthen sustainability and implementation capacity at local levels.

This approach ensures that mobilized investments support project objectives while generating additionality and strengthening long-term implementation and scaling potential.

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

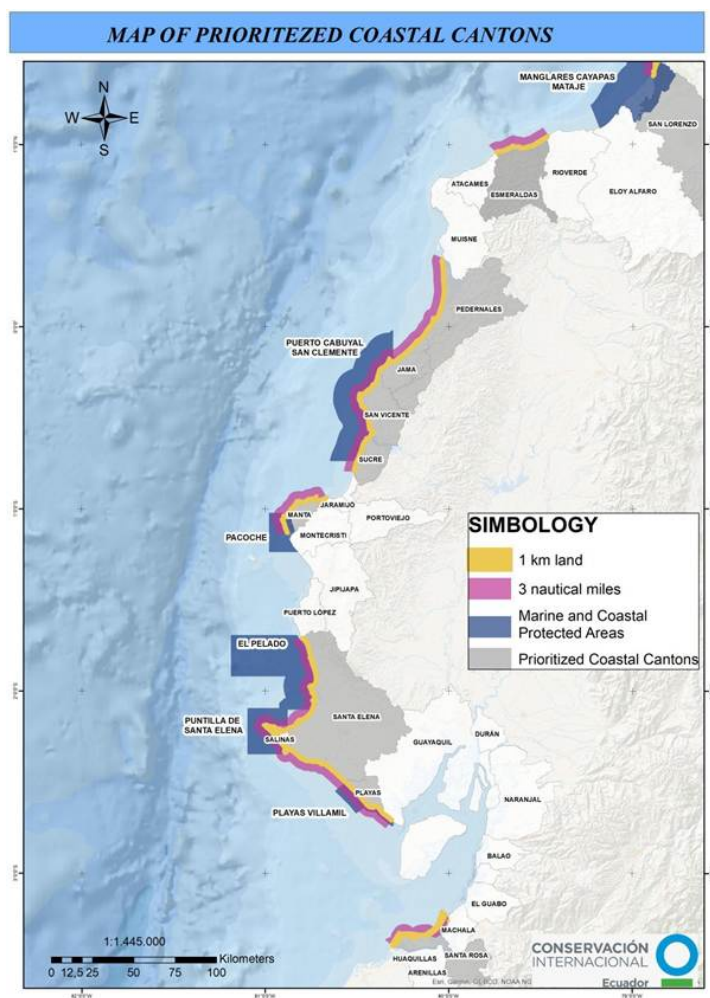
GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Nancy Bennet	5/28/2026	Nancy Bennet Director, Quality Impact Hub Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS)		nancy.bennet@undp.org
Project Coordinator	Alexandra Fischer	5/28/2026	Alexandra Fischer, Senior Technical Advisor		alexandra.fischer@undp.org

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Madelaine Pertuz	Director of International Affairs	Ministry of Environment and Energy (MAE)	6/5/2026

ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

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



(Please refer to separate file)

Geo Name ID <i>Required field if the location is not an exact site</i>	Location Name <i>Required field</i>	Latitude <i>Required field</i>	Longitude <i>Required field</i>
GAD San Lorenzo	San Lorenzo	1.438477	78.882555
GAD Esmeraldas	Esmeraldas	1.034537	79.484849
GAD Pedernales	Pedernales	0.260724	80.03437
GAD Jama	Jama	0.121511	80.217658
GAD San Vicente	San Vicente	0.295709	80.399591
GAD Sucre	Sucre	0.621055	80.455359
GAD Manta	Manta	0.949526	80.704541
GAD Santa Elena	Santa Elena	1.809015	80.757921
GAD Salinas	Salinas	2.220283	80.932812
GAD Playas	Playas	2.641132	80.436237
GAD Santa Rosa	Santa Rosa	3.263524	80.055095

ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

(PIF level) Attach agency safeguard screen form including rating of risk types and overall risk rating.

Title

PIMS 10314 Ecuador Marine Coastal Anexo5 UNDP SESP

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
Significant Objective 1	Significant Objective 1	Principal Objective 2	No Contribution 0

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
☒ Influencing models			
	☐ Transform policy and regulatory environments		
	☒ Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making		
	☒ Convene multi-stakeholder alliances		
	☒ Demonstrate innovative approaches		
	☒ Deploy innovative financial instruments		
☒ Stakeholders			
	☒ Indigenous Peoples		
	☒ Private Sector		
		☐ Capital providers	
		☐ Financial intermediaries and market facilitators	
		☐ Large corporations	
		☐ SMEs	
		☐ Individuals/Entrepreneurs	
		☐ Non-Grant Pilot	
		☐ Project Reflow	
	☒ Beneficiaries		
	☒ Local Communities		
	☒ Civil Society		
		☒ Community Based Organization	
		☒ Non-Governmental Organization	
		☒ Academia	
		☐ Trade Unions and Workers Unions	
	☒ Type of Engagement		
		☒ Information Dissemination	
		☒ Partnership	
		☒ Consultation	
		☒ Participation	
	☒ Communications		
		☒ Awareness Raising	
		☐ Education	
		☐ Public Campaigns	
		☐ Behavior Change	
☒ Capacity, Knowledge and Research			
	☒ Enabling Activities		
	☒ Capacity Development		
	☒ Knowledge Generation and Exchange		
	☐ Targeted Research		
	☒ Learning		

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
		☐ Theory of Change	
		☒ Adaptive Management	
		☐ Indicators to Measure Change	
	☐ Innovation		
	☒ Knowledge and Learning		
		☒ Knowledge Management	
		☐ Innovation	
		☒ Capacity Development	
		☐ Learning	
	☒ Stakeholder Engagement Plan		
☒ Gender Equality			
	☒ Gender Mainstreaming		
		☒ Beneficiaries	
		☒ Women groups	
		☒ Sex-disaggregated indicators	
		☒ Gender-sensitive indicators	
	☒ Gender results areas		
		☒ Access and control over natural resources	
		☒ Participation and leadership	
		☒ Access to benefits and services	
		☒ Capacity development	
		☒ Awareness raising	
		☒ Knowledge generation	
☒ Focal Areas/Theme			
	☐ Integrated Programs		
		☐ Commodity Supply Chains (Good Growth Partnership)	
			☐ Sustainable Commodities Production
			☐ Deforestation-free Sourcing
			☐ Financial Screening Tools
			☐ High Conservation Value Forests
			☐ High Carbon Stocks Forests
			☐ Soybean Supply Chain
			☐ Oil Palm Supply Chain
			☐ Beef Supply Chain
			☐ Smallholder Farmers
			☐ Adaptive Management
		☐ Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa	
			☐ Resilience (climate and shocks)
			☐ Sustainable Production Systems
			☐ Agroecosystems
			☐ Land and Soil Health
			☐ Diversified Farming
			☐ Integrated Land and Water Management
			☐ Smallholder Farming
			☐ Small and Medium Enterprises
			☐ Crop Genetic Diversity
			☐ Food Value Chains
			☐ Gender Dimensions
			☐ Multi-stakeholder Platforms
		☐ Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration	
			☐ Sustainable Food Systems
			☐ Landscape Restoration
			☐ Sustainable Commodity Production
			☐ Comprehensive Land Use Planning
			☐ Integrated Landscapes
			☐ Food Value Chains

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
			☐ Deforestation-free Sourcing
			☐ Smallholder Farmers
		☐ Sustainable Cities	
			☐ Integrated urban planning
			☐ Urban sustainability framework
			☐ Transport and Mobility
			☐ Buildings
			☐ Municipal waste management
			☐ Green space
			☐ Urban Biodiversity
			☐ Urban Food Systems
			☐ Energy efficiency
			☐ Municipal Financing
			☐ Global Platform for Sustainable Cities
			☐ Urban Resilience
	✓ Biodiversity		
		☒ Protected Areas and Landscapes	
			☐ Terrestrial Protected Areas
			☒ Coastal and Marine Protected Areas
			☐ Productive Landscapes
			☒ Productive Seascapes
			☐ Community Based Natural Resource Management
		☒ Mainstreaming	
			☐ Extractive Industries (oil, gas, mining)
			☐ Forestry (Including HCVF and REDD+)
			☒ Tourism
			☐ Agriculture & agrobiodiversity
			☒ Fisheries
			☐ Infrastructure
			☐ Certification (National Standards)
			☐ Certification (International Standards)
		☐ Species	
			☐ Illegal Wildlife Trade
			☐ Threatened Species
			☐ Wildlife for Sustainable Development
			☐ Crop Wild Relatives
			☐ Plant Genetic Resources
			☐ Animal Genetic Resources
			☐ Livestock Wild Relatives
			☐ Invasive Alien Species (IAS)
		☐ Biomes	
			☐ Mangroves
			☐ Coral Reefs
			☐ Sea Grasses
			☐ Wetlands
			☐ Rivers
			☐ Lakes
			☐ Tropical Rain Forests
			☐ Tropical Dry Forests
			☐ Temperate Forests
			☐ Grasslands
			☐ Paramo
			☐ Desert
		☐ Financial and Accounting	
			☐ Payment for Ecosystem Services

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
			☐ Natural Capital Assessment and Accounting
			☐ Conservation Trust Funds
			☐ Conservation Finance
		☐ Supplementary Protocol to the CBD	
			☐ Biosafety
			☐ Access to Genetic Resources Benefit Sharing
	☐ Forests		
		☐ Forest and Landscape Restoration	
			☐ REDD/REDD+
		☐ Forest	
			☐ Amazon
			☐ Congo
			☐ Drylands
	☐ Land Degradation		
		☐ Sustainable Land Management	
			☐ Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands
			☐ Ecosystem Approach
			☐ Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach
			☐ Community-Based NRM
			☐ Sustainable Livelihoods
			☐ Income Generating Activities
			☐ Sustainable Agriculture
			☐ Sustainable Pasture Management
			☐ Sustainable Forest/Woodland Management
			☐ Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques
			☐ Sustainable Fire Management
			☐ Drought Mitigation/Early Warning
		☐ Land Degradation Neutrality	
			☐ Land Productivity
			☐ Land Cover and Land cover change
			☐ Carbon stocks above or below ground
		☐ Food Security	
	☐ International Waters		
		☐ Ship	
		☐ Coastal	
		☐ Freshwater	
			☐ Aquifer
			☐ River Basin
			☐ Lake Basin
		☐ Learning	
		☐ Fisheries	
		☐ Persistent toxic substances	
		☐ SIDS : Small Island Dev States	
		☐ Targeted Research	
		☐ Pollution	
			☐ Persistent toxic substances
			☐ Plastics
			☐ Nutrient pollution from all sectors except wastewater
			☐ Nutrient pollution from Wastewater
		☐ Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Plan preparation	

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
		☐ Strategic Action Plan Implementation	
		☐ Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction	
		☐ Large Marine Ecosystems	
		☐ Private Sector	
		☐ Aquaculture	
		☐ Marine Protected Area	
		☐ Biomes	
			☐ Mangrove
			☐ Coral Reefs
			☐ Seagrasses
			☐ Polar Ecosystems
			☐ Constructed Wetlands
	☐ Chemicals and Waste		
		☐ Mercury	
		☐ Artisanal and Scale Gold Mining	
		☐ Coal Fired Power Plants	
		☐ Coal Fired Industrial Boilers	
		☐ Cement	
		☐ Non-Ferrous Metals Production	
		☐ Ozone	
		☐ Persistent Organic Pollutants	
		☐ Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants	
		☐ Sound Management of chemicals and Waste	
		☐ Waste Management	
			☐ Hazardous Waste Management
			☐ Industrial Waste
			☐ e-Waste
		☐ Emissions	
		☐ Disposal	
		☐ New Persistent Organic Pollutants	
		☐ Polychlorinated Biphenyls	
		☐ Plastics	
		☐ Eco-Efficiency	
		☐ Pesticides	
		☐ DDT - Vector Management	
		☐ DDT - Other	
		☐ Industrial Emissions	
		☐ Open Burning	
		☐ Best Available Technology / Best Environmental Practices	
		☐ Green Chemistry	
	☒ Climate Change		
		☒ Climate Change Adaptation	
			☐ Climate Finance
			☐ Least Developed Countries
			☐ Small Island Developing States
			☐ Disaster Risk Management
			☐ Sea-level rise
			☐ Climate Resilience
			☐ Climate information
			☒ Ecosystem-based Adaptation
			☐ Adaptation Tech Transfer
			☐ National Adaptation Programme of Action
			☐ National Adaptation Plan
			☒ Mainstreaming Adaptation
			☐ Private Sector
			☐ Innovation
			☐ Complementarity
			☐ Community-based Adaptation

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
			☐ Livelihoods
		☐ Climate Change Mitigation	
			☐ Agriculture, Forestry, and other Land Use
			☐ Energy Efficiency
			☐ Sustainable Urban Systems and Transport
			☐ Technology Transfer
			☐ Renewable Energy
			☐ Financing
			☐ Enabling Activities
		☐ Technology Transfer	
			☐ Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer
			☐ Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN)
			☐ Endogenous technology
			☐ Technology Needs Assessment
			☐ Adaptation Tech Transfer
		☐ United Nations Framework on Climate Change	☐ Nationally Determined Contribution
	☒ Rio Markers		
		☐ Paris Agreement	
		☒ Sustainable Development Goals	
		☐ Climate Change Mitigation 0	
		☒ Climate Change Mitigation 1	
		☐ Climate Change Mitigation 2	
		☐ Climate Change Adaptation 0	
		☒ Climate Change Adaptation 1	
		☐ Climate Change Adaptation 2	