

MID-TERM REVIEW

Project ID:	10217
Project Name:	Leveraging Eco-Tourism for Biodiversity Protection (LETBP)
Countr(ies):	Dominica
Implementing Agency:	World Bank

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name

Leveraging Eco-Tourism for Biodiversity Protection (LETBP)

Country

Dominica

GEF ID

10217

Implementing Agency

World Bank

Executing Entity

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Environment, Rural Modernisation and Kalinago Upliftment (MERMKU)

Trust Fund

GET

Project Type

FSP

Objective

The Project Development Objective is to improve management of Dominica's three national parks and the Waitukubuli trail.

B. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval

3/4/2022

Agency Approval

6/29/2022

Implementation Start

6/29/2022

First Disbursement

4/26/2023

Expected MTR

1/15/2025

MTR Submission

9/5/2025

Actual MTR

4/17/2025

Expected Completion

4/30/2027

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

A. Main MTR Findings

Project implementation progress is visible but slower than planned. Several activities have been completed under Component 1 (Protected Areas Planning) - The management plan for Cabrits National Park has been

completed and the Technical advisor for biodiversity planning and management was hired to accelerate implementation of that component. Component 2 (Biodiversity and Sustainable Ecotourism Operations) - Equipment for the improvement of eco-tourism trails has been delivered to the Forestry, Wildlife and Parks Division in April 2025 and the update of the GPS trail system and feeder trails for the WNT is progressing well with expected completion in August 2025 including training completed for 12 forest officers. The establishment of an electronic user fee (e-ticketing) system is also underway in collaboration with the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Unit, the Forestry, Wildlife and Parks Division, and the Ministry of Tourism. The Advisor for Indigenous communities and land use hired from February 2025 under Component 3 (Sustainable Livelihoods) already made progress with Kalinago community engagements and preparation of ToRs for implementation of that project component. Overall, four project activities have been completed in the first two years of the project implementation with numerous project activities prepared or ongoing at different stages of the procurement process.

Biggest challenge for the project is the lack of dedicated human resources. Only one person is full-time engaged on the project as an Administrative Technical Consultant, while project manager and other specialists (financial management, procurement, communication, social and environmental safeguards) are shared with the Emergency Agricultural Livelihoods and Climate Resilience Project (EALCRP) and the Central Services Unit (CSU) of the Government of Dominica, which hinders the timeline of the project implementation. Procurement delays have somewhat resulted in candidates being notified too late, which caused their unavailability to undertake the assignments and additional time setbacks for the project (repeating procurement processes etc.). Given the implementation delays, it continues to be critical to enhance the project management function and bring on board an Administrative Assistant to manage essential administrative functions.

B. Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement in all project activities thus far was taken with great interest, engaging and with positive feedback. The project continues to engage with members of communities that will be impacted by its activities. The project has also consolidated its stakeholder engagement in the Kalinago territory with other projects in order to reduce stakeholder fatigue within this target group. The project team continues to ensure that the Kalinago people are adequately consulted and incorporated into the project activities for their greater benefit from these.

C. Gender Equality

The project promotes gender responsive stakeholder engagement (women, men, youth, and indigenous people) in all project activities by involving diverse stakeholders and considering needs of all gender.

D. Knowledge Management

The development of the e-ticketing system as a national visitor management platform and an integral part of the e-payment Government platform in collaboration with the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Unit, the Forestry, Wildlife and Parks Division, and the Ministry of Tourism shall ensure the future sustainability of the system and mobilization of additional revenue from user fees. Cost savings for the tailored-made software at the project level will be used for expanding other needed activities. Joint efforts on the development of the e-ticketing system is an example of fruitful cooperation and good practice towards the achievement of national goals.

<https://sitepass.tourism.gov.dm/>

III. Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
10246.8	10850	10429	

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
10246.8	10850	10429	

Name of the Protected Area	WDP A ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Cabrits National Park	11844	National Park	31.00	525.00	104.00		46.00	49.00	
Morne Diablotin National Park	31306	National Park	3,336.00	3,450.00	3,450.00		46.00	49.00	
Morne Trois Pitons National Park	145583	National Park	6,879.80	6,875.00	6,875.00		46.00	49.00	

Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
		421	

Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

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

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

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
		421	

Name of the Protected Area	WDP A ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Cabrits National Park	11845	National Park			421.00				

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
6000	3700		

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)
6,000.00	3,700.00	0.00	

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

Title

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)		748417		
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)				

Indicator 6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions Avoided in the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)		748,417	0	
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)			0	
Anticipated start year of accounting		2022	2022	
Duration of accounting		20	20	

Indicator 6.2 Emissions Avoided Outside AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) Sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.3 Energy Saved (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)

Total Target Benefit	Energy (MJ) (At PIF)	Energy (MJ) (At CEO Endorsement)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at MTR)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at TE)
Target Energy Saved (MJ)				

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

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
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Female	225	225	1	
Male	225	225	11	
Total	450	450	12	0

IV: Co Financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Anticipated at CEO(\$)	Materialized at MTR(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment, Rural Modernisation and Kalinago Upliftment	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4,854,604.00	1,200,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Tourism	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	925,926.00	150,000.00
GEF Agency	World Bank	Loans	Investment mobilized	9,642,500.00	
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	870,000.00	1,800,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Dominica Electricity Services and Dominica Community Tourism Association Inc.	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures		50,000.00
Total Co-financing				16,293,030.00	1,850,000.00

Comments

V: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
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	Medium/Moderate	Low	
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Measures to address identified risks and impacts

During MTR the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) team indicated that there are no changes needed to be put in place for the project implementation from the ESS point of view. ESS team has been involved in the screening of all TORs for the consultancies to be undertaken by the project. The ESS team will also be involved in the evaluation process to ensure that selected consultants/firms meet the required environmental and social criteria. Additionally, the ESS team will review outputs such as the Park Management Plans (and any other similar documentation) to ensure compliance with the ESF. To date no grievances have been received by the project. The grievance mechanism continues to be shared during stakeholder consultations.

VI. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category M and E Document	Title 10217-P170846-2025-PIR-WB-Dominica
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