



REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT

PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZED PROJECT

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF TRUST FUND

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Consolidation of the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP) at national and regional levels			
Country(ies):	Colombia	GEF Project ID: ¹	5680
GEF Agency(ies):	IADB	GEF Agency Project ID:	CO-T1387
Other Executing Partner(s):	WWF- Colombia (Executing Agency), Natural Parks of Colombia, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development; and Regional Environmental Authorities (CARs).	Submission Date:	06/15/2016
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration(Months)	60
Name of Parent Program (if applicable):	N/A	Project Agency Fee (\$):	394,915
➤ For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/>			
➤ For SGP <input type="checkbox"/>			
➤ For PPP <input type="checkbox"/>			

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK²

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (\$)	Cofinancing (\$)
BD-1	Outcome 1.1: Improved management effectiveness of existing and new protected areas	Output 1.1. New protected areas (11) and coverage (550,000 ha) of unprotected ecosystems.	GEFTF	4,157,000	15,651,515
Total project costs				4,157,000	15,651,515

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: to consolidate SINAP's management and planning at national and regional level through the development of instruments that enhance its management effectiveness in order to increase ecosystem representativeness and strengthen the participation of regional stakeholders into conservation initiatives along strategic biological corridors and conservation mosaics.

Project Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Cofinancing (\$)
1. Strengthening of the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP)	TA	1.1. Improved planning and coordination of the SINAP.	1.1 Action plans of the six SIRAP harmonized and articulated with SINAP's National Action Plan. 1.2 Technical guidelines developed for preparing and updating PA	GEF TF	1,000,000	2,602,640

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

² Refer to the [Focal Area Results Framework and LDCF/SCCF Framework](#) when completing Table A.

			<p>management plans</p> <p>1.3 Methodology for management effectiveness assessment developed and coordinated among SINAP stakeholders</p> <p>1.4 Monitoring information systems for the SINAP developed for incorporating the regional subsystems</p> <p>1.5 Communication strategy of SINAP designed and implemented</p>			
2. Strengthening regional subsystems of Protected Areas	TA/IV	2.1. Management effectiveness of the Northeast Andean and Orinoquia regional subsystems of Protected Areas improved (average score for 11 PAs increase from 38 to 46 along strategic biological corridors or conservation mosaics.	<p>2.1. Action Plans of Northeast Andes and Orinoquia Regional SIRAPs (i) updated and (ii) at least half of action plan components are financed by project (for example: governance strengthen, capacity-building, monitoring, etc.)</p> <p>2.2. At least twenty institutions and four local organizations, located in strategic biological corridors, trained in protected area management, climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.</p> <p>2.3. At least ten regional Protected Areas (733,199 ha) in strategic biological corridors have implemented no less than 40% of their management plans (for example: control and surveillance actions, governance strengthen, equipment, facilities,</p>	GEF TF	2,000,000	6,121,114

			etc). 2.4. Two cycles of analysis of the management effectiveness methodology applied in at least one subsystem and six regional Protected Areas. 2.5. Orinoquia and North East Andes regional subsystems of protected areas are implementing the monitoring information system (for example: capacity-building, staff training and monitoring campaigns)			
3. Increase ecosystem representativeness of the SINAP	TA	3.1. At least 550,000 ha of new national, regional and local protected areas in strategic biological corridors incorporated as part of the SINAP	3.1. Technical studies and consultations completed for submission of at least 550,000 ha to be declared as new National, regional and local Protected Areas	GEF TF	880,000	6,177,761
Monitoring and evaluation				GEF TF	77,000	50,000
Subtotal					3,957,000	14,951,515
Project management Cost (PMC) ³				GEF TF	200,000	700,000
Total project costs					4,157,000	15,651,515

C. SOURCES OF CONFIRMED COFINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME (\$)

Please include letters confirming cofinancing for the project with this form

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier (source)	Type of Cofinancing	Cofinancing Amount (\$)
Local Government	Regional Environment Corporation (CAR): CAR, CDMB, Corponor, CAS, Corpoboyacá, Corpochivor, Corpoguavio, Cormacarena, Corporinoquia	Cash	7,379,541.09
	Gobernación de Casanare, Gobernación del Vichada, Gobernación de Santander	In-Kind	2,195,253.00
GEF Agency	IADB	Cash	350,000.00
National Government	Natural Parks of Colombia	In-kind	3,554,640.00

³ PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project grant amount in Table D below.

Others	Asociación Red Colombiana de Reservas Naturales de las Sociedad Civil – RESNATUR, WWF, WCS, Fundación Palmarito, FOB.	Cash	950,000.00
		In-kind	1,222,080.91
Total Co-financing			15,651,515.00

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY¹ N/A

F. CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS:

Component	Grant Amount (\$)	Cofinancing (\$)	Project Total (\$)
International Consultants	200,000	0	200,000.00
National/Local Consultants	3,142,000	9,445,003	12,587,003.00

G. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A “NON-GRANT” INSTRUMENT? NA

(If non-grant instruments are used, provide in Annex D an indicative calendar of expected reflows to your Agency and to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Trust Fund).

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN OF THE ORIGINAL PIF⁴

A.1 National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, if applicable, i.e. NAPAS, NAPs, NBSAPs, national communications, TNAs, NCSA, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, Biennial Update Reports, etc.:

The Colombian Fifth National Biodiversity Report was presented to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The national report presents the implementation status of its strategic plan (2011-2020) and shows the trends for biodiversity (BD) and ecosystem services (ES), identifying achievements, barriers and limitations. Additionally, the report assesses the progress towards achieving the Aichi targets and contributions to the Millennium Development Goals. The country is performing a satisfactory progress on the terrestrial, marine and coastal ecosystems representativeness (target 11) but needs to strengthen the representativeness of freshwater ecosystems in the Protected Areas National System (SINAP). The project will support the declaration process of protected areas (530,487 ha) in the Orinoquia region that will increase the representation of freshwater ecosystems in the SINAP. Regarding the Aichi target 17, Colombia is conducting a participatory process (led by the MADS and IAvH) to develop the action plan for the National Policy for Integrated Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services. The main objectives are: i) to define the priorities, strategies, mechanisms and tools that will support the achievements of the expected outcomes, and ii) to prioritize the Aichi targets according to the needs and particularities of the country and its regions. This plan will have a financial strategy for its implementation.

The projected temperature rise and precipitation forecasts for climate change scenarios were updated in the Third National Communication to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. These scenarios were developed for each region of the country, which allows updating the analysis of climate change impacts on natural and human systems. This information will be considered for the establishment of the new protected areas and development of management plans, in order to include actions for climate change adaptation and resilience. The country reported its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (iNDCs) on mitigation and adaptation for 2030, to the Secretariat of the Convention. The project will contribute to specific prioritized activities on adaptation such as: i) delimitation and protection of the 36 paramos complexes (about 3 million hectares), and ii) increase to more than 2.5 million hectares the coverage of new protected areas in the (SINAP),

A.2. GEF focal area and/or fund(s) strategies, eligibility criteria, and priorities. N/A

⁴ For questions A.1 –A.7 in Part II, if there are no changes since PIF and if not specifically requested in the review sheet at PIF stage, then no need to respond, please enter “NA” after the respective question.

A.3 The GEF Agency's comparative advantage: NA

A.4. The baseline project and the problem that it seeks to address:

Project's geographical Focus: Starting with the biological corridors identified on PIF stage, a further prioritization process was undertaken with the Regional Autonomous Corporations (CARs) generating a conservation portfolio for both regions, in which the better-ranked areas were selected for the intervention (see Annex E. Project Intervention Area). In summary, it identified two biological corridors:

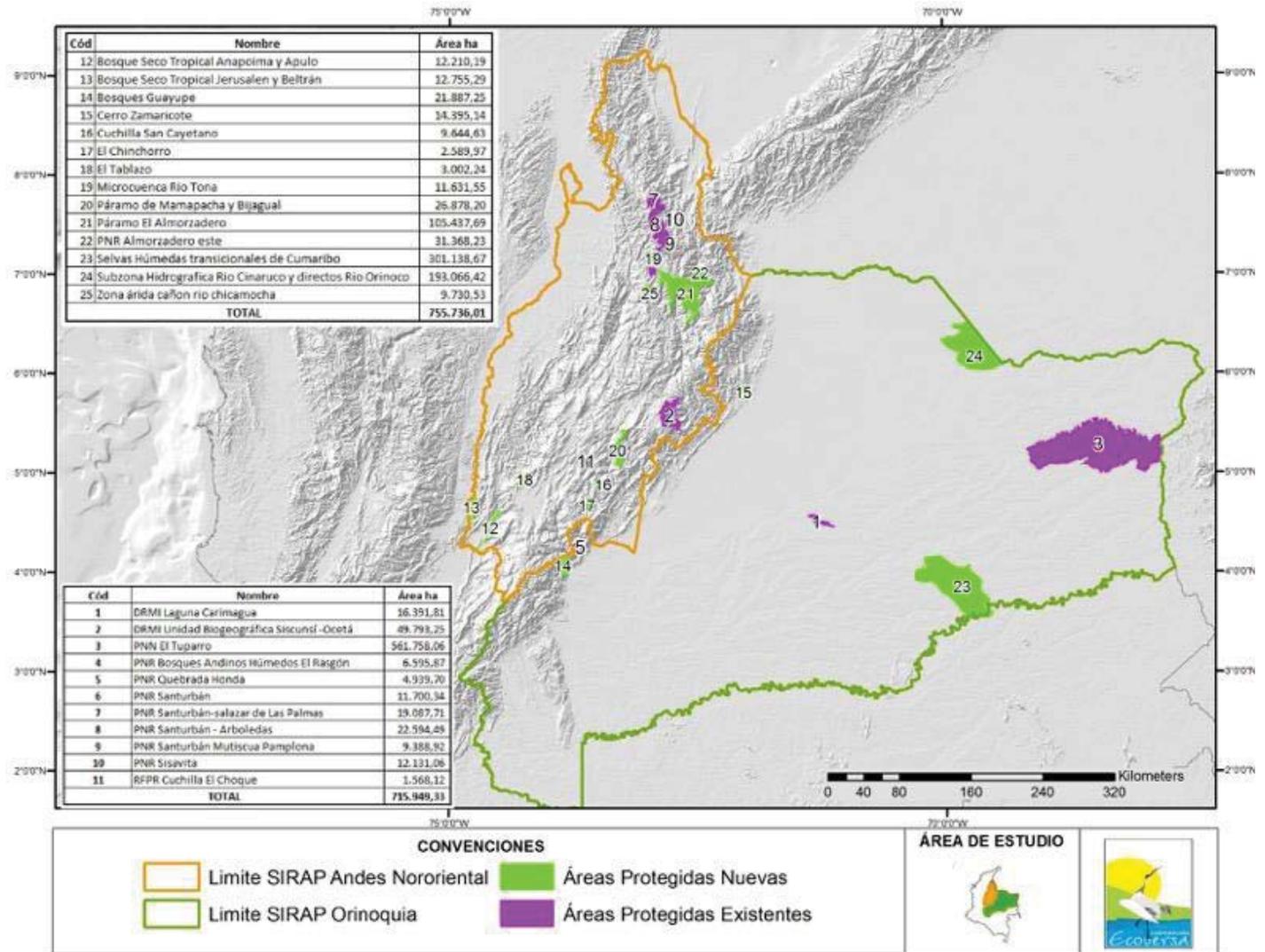
- i) the Spectacled bear (*Tremarctos ornatus*) corridor in the Northeastern Andes region that was defined from land covers, ecological connectivity and specie's distribution -current and potential habitat areas-. The following existing and new protected areas that will be supported by the project:

Authorities	Status	PA Name	Area (Ha)
CAR	Existing	RFPR Cuchilla - El Choque	1,568
	New	Bosque seco tropical Anapoima y Apulo	12,210
	New	Bosque seco tropical Jerusalén y Beltrán	12,755
	New	El Tablazo	3,002
CAS	New	Páramo El Almorzadero	105,438
CDBM	Existing	PNR Bosques Andinos Húmedos El Rasgón	6,596
	Existing	PNR Santurbán	11,700
	New	Microcuenca río tona	11,632
	New	Zona árida cañon río chicamocha	9,731
CORPOBOYACA	Existing	DRMI Unidad Biogeográfica Siscunsi-Ocetá	49,793
CORPOCHIVOR	New	Cuchilla San Cayetano	9,645
	New	Páramo de Mamapacha y Bijagual	26,878
CORPONOR	Existing	PNR Santurbán-salazar de Las Palmas	19,088
	Existing	PNR Sisavita	12,131
	New	PNR Almorzadero este	31,368
	existing	PNR Santurbán - Arboledas	22,594
	existing	Santurbán Mutiscua Pamplona	8,397
Corpoguavio	New	El Chinchorro	2,590
TOTAL (225,249 ha of new PA + 131,867 ha of existing PA)			357,116

- ii) the Jaguar (*Pantera onca*) Corridor in the Orinoco region was defined focusing on the dynamics of water resources and the jaguar distribution -current and potential habitat areas- which defines the connectivity of the landscape. The following existing and new protected areas will be supported by the project:

Authorities	Status	PA Name	Area (Ha)
CORMACARENA	Existing	DRMI Laguna Carimagua	16,392
	Existing	PNR Quebrada Honda	4,940
	New	Bosques Guayupe	21,887
CORPORINOQUIA	New	Cerro Zamaricote	14,395
Natural National Parks	New	Selvas Húmedas transicionales de Cumaribo	301,139
	New	Subzona Hidrográfica Río Cinaruco y directos Río Orinoco	193,066
	Existing	Tuparro National Park	580,000
Total (601,332 ha of existing PA + 530,487 ha of new PA)			1,131,819

Figure 1: Conservation Portfolio



Baseline Project

At the national level, the National Action Plan was formulated in 2010 with the purpose of consolidating the SINAP according to the CBD Plan of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA), however the adoption of the strategies are not fully aligned in the regional subsystem action plans. In addition, the current tool for assessing the management effectiveness of PAs (AEMAPS) is focused in National protected areas, excluding regional and private protected areas. For this matter, The German Development Bank (KfW) provided \$300,000 to The Natural National Parks of Colombia for reviewing and adjusting the methodology for Management Effectiveness Assessment (AEMAPPS) and will implement it on 18 protected areas (6 from the Northeast Andes region). This initiative will complement the outputs 1.4 and 2.5 that will focus on regional protected areas and in different management categories.

A similar situation is faced with the current monitoring information system (SULA), which needs to be updated and improved to include all actors among the SINAP. The National Parks of Colombia are moving forward to improve the Unique National Registry of Protected Areas (RUNAP Spanish acronym) as the SINAP’s Information System, and SULA as a reporting tool for every protected area. The National Hydrocarbons Agency financed: i) RUNAP’s platform enhancement in order to include information on Civil Society’s Natural Reserves, ii) training program for NGOs on management plans formulation, and iii) five management plans for Civil Society’s Natural Reserves, which will be developed

A public and private partnership among National Parks of Colombia, WCS (Wildlife Conservation Society), WWF and two private foundations was signed in February 2016 to support the designation of 2 million hectares of protected areas with a funding of US\$ 3 million approximately that will support this GEF SINAP. Likewise, WWF is implementing the Project "Protecting River Dolphins in South America", aimed to support the actions for the conservation and management of dolphins in the Orinoco River basin. This project will provide information on the status of this resource in the priority areas to establish new private protected areas (US\$510,841).

At the regional level in the Orinoco and Northeast Andes SIRAPs, some initiatives seek to preserve natural corridors and restore degraded land; conserve high mountain ecosystems that provide water and habitats for endanger species, and strengthen PAs management. The Orinoco SIRAP is currently working on a strategic plan to declare PAs to increase ecosystem representativeness and is designing a short, medium- and long-term land use plan. Non-governmental organizations, such as Panthera and Orinoquia Biodiversa, are still working towards the conservation of the jaguar (*Panthera onca*) through actions like improving landscape connectivity, among others. The only National Natural Park in east Orinoquia is El Tuparro, which is habitat for the jaguar (*Panthera onca*) and the giant otter (*Pteronura brasiliensis*), illegal occupation of the PA, illegal crops cultivation, smuggling routes, illegal hunting and fishing, and anthropogenic forest fires threats the conservation of these species and their habitats. The formulation of the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance program for El Tuparro NNP was completed, which includes: i) work plan developed and its budget, ii) values of conservation (VOC) reviewed and adjusted, iii) monitoring frameworks for each VOC designed, iv) monitoring plan, and v) communication strategy developed. The resources available for its implementation are up to US\$200,000.

A. 5. Incremental /Additional cost reasoning: describe the incremental (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or additional (LDCF/SCCF) activities requested for GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF financing and the associated global environmental benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or associated adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF) to be delivered by the project:

Although there are no changes in the incremental analysis or activities description presented on PIF stage. The design stage allowed to improve the understanding of the project's global environmental benefits and to conduct a better identification of the strategic biological corridors and protected areas that the project will support.

This project provides additionality to existing activities for achieving global environmental benefits. The nature of the activities proposed for GEF funding fall within the type of complementary activities. This is how the project will strengthen the National System of Protected Areas on every level, through the protection and management of globally significant ecosystems and species.

Component 1: Strengthening of the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP). This component will support the updating of SINAP's Action Plan considering inputs and lessons learned from regional PA subsystems; and it will be applied *The Managing for Development Results Methodology*⁵, which considers: i) planning, ii) budget and financing, iii) design and implementation of programs and projects, and iv) monitoring and evaluation. After this process, guidelines for updating and/or developing the Action Plans for SIRAPs will be defined and technical support provided for ease articulation between the national and regional levels. Likewise, technical guidelines to develop and update the management plans for every management category of regional PA and Natural Reserves of Civil Society (RNSC) will be developed. A methodology for assessing the management effectiveness will be designed for PAs Subsystem and regional PAs.

The National Parks Monitoring and Information System (SULA) will be improved to include more management categories for PA, especially from the regional and local levels, also the development of protocols and standards for the collection, management, analysis, and reporting of monitoring information. This aims to establish unified guidelines for monitoring biodiversity, as well as to consolidate data, improve knowledge management and research for strategic conservation planning. A communication strategy will be designed and implemented to promote local stakeholders participation into the consolidation of the SINAP on its different levels. This will also promote the exchange of information between the national, regional, and local levels, enhancing the planning processes and contributing to the consolidation of the SINAP.

⁵ MfDR; IADB and CLAD, 2007

Component 2: Strengthening Regional Subsystems of Protected Areas (SIRAP). This component aims to implement on the regional levels (Orinoquia and Northeastern Andes) the planning tools developed by the component 1. The project will support the implementation of the action plans of the Northeastern Andes and Orinoco SIRAPs (updated through output 1.1) which will include technical support for planning and capacity building and monitoring, among others. The SIRAP members will be trained on: i) guidelines for developing and updating management plans; ii) methodology for evaluating management effectiveness; 3) monitoring protocols and standards; and iv) strategies for the mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

Additionally, the component will work towards the strengthening of the management capacity of 11 current PAs that cover 733,199 hectares. These PAs will receive support for the implementation of management plans (for example: implementation of control and surveillance program, delimitation and zoning, equipment and facilities, strengthening governance and personnel training); and management effectiveness assessment will be carried out (methodology delivered through Output 1.3). Likewise, two pilot projects in the prioritized SIRAPs will be implemented in order to test and improve the protocols, data collection standards, operational agreements, reporting and data analysis of the SINAP information platform (developed by Output 1.4).

The original outputs 2.3 and 2.4 were merged into the Output 2.3, as there was not difference between the scope of these activities and their contributions to the project's outcomes.

Component 3: Increase Ecosystem Representativeness of the SINAP. This component will strengthen the actions identified in Component 2 in order to ensure the inclusion of unrepresented ecosystems in the SINAP and support the consolidation of biological corridors. To this end, this component will finance the technical studies and consultations required for creating at least 550,000 ha⁶ new PAs (three times the original target of 163,000 ha) at the national (395,000 ha), regional (152,000 ha) and local (3,000 ha) levels. The new and current⁷ PAs (approx. 1,400,000 ha) are part of the prioritized biological corridors for conservation of Jaguar and Spectacle bear, where the project's activities will occur. These activities include innovative processes, knowledge transfer and capacity-building creation of capacities, in order to enhance ecosystem health.

The new PAs will receive support to complete the technical studies (biological and socio-economic characterization, land tenure analysis, etc.), local communities consultation processes (required by law), and the formulation of management plans. The project will also provide support to local organizations that promote private conservation initiatives through the creation of Natural Reserves of Civil Society within prioritized cores areas in biological corridors and conservation mosaics (see Annex G), expecting the declaration of 3,000 ha. These local organizations will be supported on the development of technical studies, conducting workshops and submit ion of the required documents for its legal registration.

The original activities proposed for Outputs 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 were pooled into a single indicator and output as there was no difference between the scope of these activities and their contributions to the projects outcomes.

Global Environmental Benefits. The project will continue contributing to the same GEB identified during PIF stage. Additional information that supports these GEB is as follows:

- i. Each of the selected (new and existing) PAs are within the biological corridors for protection of threatened species⁸ (see annex F).
- ii. Particular efforts will focus on the conservation of unprotected threatened species, such as Spectacle bear (*Tremarctos ornatus*) and Jaguar (*Pantera onca*).
- iii. Increase the representation of protected ecosystems in Colombia's protected area portfolio from 77% to 79.5%.

⁶ The environmental authorities have identified 758,850 ha as potential for PAs declaration.

⁷ Supported through component 2.

⁸ Mojica et al., 2002; Mojica et al., 2012; Rueda-Almonacid et al., 2004; Morales, M. et al., 2007; Lasso et al., 2011; Páez, V. et al., 2012; Gutierrez, F de P. et al., 2012; and Morales-Betancourt, M. et al., 2013), as well as conservation gaps (Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia, 2010); Lasso and Matallana, 2012; and Lasso, C. et al., 2013

A.6. Risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and measures that address these risks:

The risks identified and assessed in the project remain mostly the same, but the following adjustments were made:

RISKS	RATING	MITIGATION MEASURES
<p>Policy / Institutional. There is no progress in the implementation of strategic actions for the consolidation of the SINAP because there is no effective participation and consensus of national, regional and local actors in the process of upgrading the planning instruments and development of methodological tools.</p>	Medium	For the development of all the outputs, the project will develop a participatory approach that brings all interests together and represents all. An effective communication and engagement strategy will be developed within the first year of execution.
<p>Environmental: Climate change events can lead to habitat shifting and alteration, affect target populations and ecosystems; causing inadequate management plans that do not address this challenges.</p>	Medium	The project includes various strategies to address the risks related to climate change: i) Including climate change strategies within the methodologies for developing and updating management plans (Output 1.2); ii) Including climate change adaptation methodologies as part of the training activities for regional institutions and local organizations (Output 2.2), and iii) performing climate change risk assessment within the technical studies for new protected areas. (Outputs 3.1 and 3.2).
<p>Participation of local communities and indigenous peoples: There is a possibility that indigenous communities or local groups are not interested in the process of declaring new PAs.</p>	Medium	The implementation of the project seeks the declaration of protected areas in three levels of management: national, regional and local. In each of the levels, processes and mechanisms for the participation of local actors and indigenous groups are included to mitigate this risk. In the event of a failure to achieve a consensus with the actors in the initially selected areas, the project has identified a portfolio of potential sites for the declaration of new protected areas.

Risks associated with the declaration of new protected areas were removed from the table due to lack of clarity in the procedures since the official procedure (Resolution 1125/2015) was approved.

A.7. Coordination with other relevant GEF financed initiatives:

In order to contribute to the consolidating the SINAP, jointly work will be carried out with the "Sustainable Management and Conservation of Biodiversity in the Magdalena River Basin" Project (GEF-ID: 4849) to extend the project target area (to the Caribbean and Middle Magdalena). The planning and evaluating tools developed by the SINAP Project will be used for the new and existing protected areas supported by this project. Moreover, both initiatives aim to support the same monitoring systems but in different areas, therefore coordination is required. Coordination between the two projects will guarantee an effective use of available resources.

The project will coordinate in a more general approach, in order to share outputs and consider lessons learned with the following GEF initiatives, such as: i) GEF#5288 FAO–Implementation of Socio-Ecosystem Connectivity for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Caribbean Region of Colombia. The experience of this project on local community participation to achieving the regional protected areas declaration as well as the planning tools schemes will be used in the project. Likewise, the methodology for the assessment of management effectiveness developed by this project will outline the methodology applied by this project; ii) GEF#4772 Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Dry Ecosystems to Guarantee the Flow of Ecosystem Services and to Mitigate the Processes of Deforestation and Desertification; the understanding of the threats, management strategies and ES provided

by Dry Forest will be applied, especially on the Orinoquia regional; iii) GEF#5288 Implementing the Socio-Ecosystem Connectivity Approach to Conserve and Sustainable Use Biodiversity in the Caribbean Region of Colombia; iv) the GEF #3826 UNDP, which is aimed at designing and implementing a National Subsystem of Marine Protected Areas (SAMP) includes the design of indicators at regional level, which will serve as a basis for the improvement of the monitoring system of SINAP; v) at the regional level, the lessons learned to work with producers for HVCA management (such as: landscape management tools and biological corridors) of the GEF#4113 Mainstreaming biodiversity in Palm Cropping in Colombia will be take in account. .

B. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NOT ADDRESSED AT PIF STAGE:

B.1 Describe how the stakeholders will be engaged in project implementation

Stakeholders	Description of stakeholders in the project implementation
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development - MADS	The MADS will be part of the Steering Committee, supporting the coordination and integration of the project with the national policies, plans, programs and projects.
Natural National Parks - NNP	The Natural National Parks is in charge of the coordination and management of the SINAP and its subsystems. As part of the steering committee, they will assure the coordination of the subsystems with national policies and guidelines. Moreover, NNP will lead the development of methodologies and planning tools for the SINAP, encouraging its adoption by the CONAP. Additionally, they will lead the declaration of new protected areas at the national level.
National Council for Protected Areas - CONAP	The National Council for Protected Areas (CONAP) was created through the 2372/ 2010 Decree, in order to ensure the harmonious, integrated and coordinated development for the SINAP. For the project matters, the CONAP will be responsible for reviewing and adopting the planning methodologies and tools developed.
SIRAPs-Regional Systems of Protected Areas	The SIRAPs works as regional coordination place that is compose by protected areas from the national, regional and local levels (public and private). Different institutions participate in the SIRAPs, such as universities, Civil Society Natural Reserves registered in the RUNAP, among others. The active participation of the stakeholders of the six Regional Subsystems of Protected Areas (Caribbean, Pacific, Orinoco, Amazon, Northeastern and West Andes) will be required for the project implementation.
Regional Environmental Authorities - CARs	CARs are the regional environmental authorities responsible for implementing policies, plans, programs and projects. They are responsible for declaring and managing protected areas at the regional level. Within the project's framework, they will support the development and will implement the methodological and planning tools created by the project. They will additionally take the needed actions for declaration of new regional protected areas.
Civil Society's Natural Reserves (CSNR)	Articulating Organization is understood as "Every private and nonprofit entity which works with properties under processes of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of biological resources, and its corporate goals". These organizations will support and implement the registration of new CSNRs on the projects intervention areas (Orinoquia and Northeastern Andes) and will provide the technical and scientific support required.
Alexander von Humboldt Research Institute	The Alexander von Humboldt Research Institute on Biological Resources (IavH) is responsible for issuing the approval concepts for the declaration of regional protected areas, particularly for the two sub regions where the project is focused on. The IAvH will support the development of the monitoring strategy and its implementation.

Institutional Arrangement for the Implementation of the Project

The proposed institutional arrangement for the project implementation was discussed and agreed with the project implementation's stakeholders, as follows:

Steering Committee

A Project Steering Committee will be created before the start the execution and will be composed by legal representatives or delegates from the MADS, National Parks, WWF, SIRAP Orinoquia, SIRAP Northeast Andes and another Regional Subsystem. The Steering Committee will meet at least twice a year and its roles and responsibilities will be formalized through an agreement between its members. The main functions will be:

- Provide strategic guidance for the development of the Project;
- Approve project planning tools (PEP/AOP, PP, Risk Management Matrix, etc.)
- Monitor the compliance of the Agreement of Cooperation, to achieve the expected results of the project;
- Identify strategic alliances with other sector players to achieve the expected results of the project.

Technical Committee

Delegates from the institutions of the Steering Committee will compose the project's Technical Committee. In addition, delegates from: Alexander von Humboldt Institute (IAvH), NGO from the CSNR and 1 delegate from the SIRAPs (Amazon, Pacific, Western Andes, and Caribbean). The Technical Committee will work mainly with the Executing Agency and its main function will be to provide technical guidance for the project execution. Other responsibilities will be:

- Support the formulation of the project planning tools.
- Support the development of Terms of Reference for consultancies.
- Perform a general technical supervision.
- Recommend to the Steering Committee any adjustments that the Project's Execution Plan and Matrix Result.

Executing Agency

WWF Colombia will be the executing agency responsible for the project implementation. It will create a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) with a basic but qualified technical team whose primary function will be the implementation of planned actions. The main, but non-exclusive, functions of WWF will be to:

- Develop the Annual Operational Plans, Procurement Plans, Monitoring Plans and Project Progress Reports in accordance with established policies;
- Execute the overall planning of the project and carry out the respective monitoring and evaluation;
- Carry out the overall administration of the project, according to the provisions of the relevant policy of the Bank and the Project Operational Manual, ensuring permanent communication and coordination between different stakeholders and bodies;
- Enhance technical and operational coordination of the project amongst partner and cooperating entities, as well as with other institutional stakeholders involved in project execution; and
- Ensure that the partner organizations which committed to co-financing contribute according to what was planned.
- Hire the consultants needed for Project Coordination Unit

The project implementation will require close coordination with Natural National Parks and the Regional Environmental Authorities. The executing agency will prioritize the activities that the project will support and those under the responsibility of National Parks, as well as the ones cofinanced by the CARs..

B.2 Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the Project at the national and local levels, including consideration of gender dimensions, and how these will support the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or adaptation benefits (LDCE/SCEF):

The conservation of the protected areas (covering the 26% of the country) and improve its management, is relevant in order to guarantee the ecosystem services provided. The SINAP comprises at least 19 protected areas that produce water for more than 25 million people, 50% of the hydroelectric power and 152,286.32 ha of irrigation districts. This contribution per year is estimated in around US\$1,877 million (Reyes M., 2013). The economic importance of the hydric contribution in the productive sectors during medium and dry weather seasons are between US\$ 2,308 and

US\$2,770 million, which represents a 0.9% of the nation's GDP. The benefited sectors, in order of magnitude are: agriculture (32%), industry (23%), domestic (18%), power (18%), services (3%) and others (6%).

The paramos are one of the most important ecosystems for water production and regulation. Colombia has identified 34 paramos covering 1,932,395 ha (Morales et al. 2007), equivalent to 1.6% of the territory. However, only 709,849 ha are within the SINAP, which means that more than the 63% of this ecosystem are unprotected. The declaration of new protected areas on the Northeastern and Orinoquia SIRAP will include at least 116,000 ha of paramos that will ensure the provision of the ecosystem services to socio-economic sectors.

Inclusion of a gender equitable perspective in the design, monitoring, and evaluation of new and existing protected areas supported by the project will be a key implementation issue which will have a positive impact on the communities living in those areas. During the first year of the project's implementation, the technical studies and baseline for new protected areas will be carried out that will analyze gender related issues and propose detailed actions for its consideration. In order to include a gender-based approach, the project will consider the following for every initiative: i) planning and evaluation data will be disaggregated by sex; ii) differences in activities and management styles between men and women will be recognized; iii) identifying the needs, interests, knowledge and behaviors by gender which will shape the conservation initiatives; iv) lead training activities for people who live on or manage the protected areas, about gender issues and their connection with conservation and sustainable land use; v) adjustment of situations and conditions to make women feel more comfortable about participating; vi) incorporate a gender perspective into educational materials; vii) ensure the effective participation of women in the governance model for protected areas, among others.

B.3. Explain how cost-effectiveness is reflected in the project design:

The project seeks to have an impact on the SINAP, which involves a large number of stakeholders in the national, regional and local levels. To achieve cost-efficient investments, institutional workspaces already established will be used to achieve consensus decisions within the SINAP and SIRAPs. These workspaces will not be duplicated but rather consolidated through the project's intervention. Strengthen the SINAP in Colombia to improve the management of the key biodiversity areas would require a lot of time and significant investments in human and economic resources if done in a business as usual scenario. Even if this were feasible, the long-term sustainability of such a vast area would be questionable in the face of significant population growth and increasing demand for ecosystems services. The catalytic nature of support under the GEF intervention strengthens the cost effectiveness of the project. By focusing on improving PAs management effectiveness, diversifying sources of financing for PAs management, harmonizing procedures and mandates and improving capacities and demonstration of these in selected areas, the potential for replication is high. The enabling policies and capacities to be established at the national level will facilitate accelerated replication.

The strategic creation and implementation of protected areas, integrated with other policies, is one of the most cost effective ways to reduce and control deforestation⁹. In addition, PAs are the best way to achieve particular conservation targets, such as the protection of endemic and endangered species. Furthermore, new findings show that sustainable use PAs can be as effective for controlling deforestation as strict protection PAs¹⁰. The proposed project will use several tools to ensure the financial and environmental cost-effectiveness of investments in the PA creation and consolidation, such as National Environmental System (SIAC), Regional Conservation Portfolio Areas, scientific support from IAvH and strong engagement from the civil society organizations. Moreover, a strategy based on updated studies of biological representation, gaps, threats, and a financial model utilizing up-to-date cost estimates for key management activities will be implemented. This strategy guides the development of the annual operating plans and budgets.

To achieve the declaration process of 550,000 hectares of protected areas and support the management plan implementation in eleven additional existing ones, it was necessary partnering with the CARs (environmental authorities), in order to tapping into a wide and solid network which have presence in and knowledge of the territory. These CARs will provide significant co-financing further leveraging project resources. This partnership will allow the

⁹ Britaldo Soares-Filho et al., "Role of Brazilian Amazon protected areas in climate change mitigation," PNAS Early Edition, 2010, www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.0913048107.

¹⁰ IEG, Protected Area Effectiveness in Reducing Tropical Deforestation: a Global Analysis of the Impact of Protection Status, 2009.

project to have greater impact in the territory at considerably less cost. For example, on similar initiatives, \$150,000 was invested for the declaration of protected areas (Conserva Colombia, 2015). The project will allocate only 33% of the amount required in a business as usual scenario. Additionally, the CARs have included resources for the implementation of the management plan in their action plan (2016-2018) for the project intervention areas that will provide significant co-financing (at least by a factor of 5).

The design of the GEF alternative ensured that cost effectiveness is achieved. The support from the project is expected to result in the ability to leverage additional funding from a variety of sources. The cost-effectiveness of the GEF intervention is further strengthened by the significant financial resources being leveraged from project partners. The Government (National and Regional) expects to contribute at least US\$ 15 million in resources, both in-cash and in-kind. Significant support is also being provided by the partner implementing conservation NGOs such as WWF - KfW and WCS, among others.

C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M & E PLAN:

The project's Monitoring and Evaluation plan includes keeping track of the evolution of outputs, outcomes and the project objectives as presented in the Result Framework in Annex A. Monitoring of activities will include oversight of processes and project milestones while the evaluation will focus on the achievement of results and overall project impact based on the stated objective. The project will monitor progress in achieving outputs and outcomes, based on the results matrix.

The IADB has established procedures and tools for project monitoring and evaluation. These include the results matrix, annual work plans and procurement plans. The results matrix contains a description of the main activities and outputs by project component; for each product, there are indicators and yearly goals to simplify follow-up. The annual work plan includes activities to be executed each year while the progress monitoring report keeps track of project advances.

The executing agency will provide updated financial information and monitoring will be carried out according to the policies and procedures of the Bank and the GEF. Annual reports will be submitted to the Bank and the Steering Committee as well as stakeholders. Evaluation activities will focus on achieving results and the overall impact of the project, in accordance with the milestones set.

Resources targeted to monitoring and evaluation includes project monitoring and assessment, including inception workshop, and mid-term and final evaluations; and activities aimed at replicating project results. Dissemination of project progress is part of the estimated communication and information dissemination plan. An external financial audit will be performed each year by a firm adequate to the IADB's standards, which will be contracted by the Executing Agency and paid by the project. A summary of the cost of the project monitoring and evaluation is presented below.

1. **Monitoring:** The project's monitoring process entails a day to day follow up on the output indicators and their milestones. This process will be complemented with semiannual and annual meetings and reports to inform stakeholders regarding the level of implementation.
2. **Day to Day Monitoring:** This task will be the responsibility of the NPC. This continuous follow up will be based on an AWP and performance indicators. The NPC will be in charge of informing the IADB and the Implementing Agency about problems or delays in project implementation, in order to adopt appropriate measures and provide timely support to overcome any challenges or difficulties.
3. **Semiannual Monitoring:** the Executing Agency will submit semiannual financial and technical reports, based on IADB's reporting policies. The Project Monitoring Report (PMR), IADB's main tool for monitoring, will be updated semiannually to track project's progress toward achieving the results indicated in the Results Framework. Additional supervision may entail missions to the intervention areas, and meetings with project partners and other relevant stakeholders.
4. **Annual Monitoring:** the Executing Agency will also develop an Annual Work Plan (AWP) during the first month of the year, and submit it to the IADB for review and approval. Project progress will be examined at least once a year by all parties involved in the execution and implementation. Project Implementation Reports (PIR) will be submitted annually to the GEF and will be developed based on GEF Annual Monitoring Review

guidelines. The PIR will be prepared by the Executing Agency, while reviewed and submitted to GEF by the IADB.

5. **Performance evaluation:** The project will have two performance evaluations: the mid-term and final evaluation. The Mid-term Evaluation will be conducted when 40% of the GEF resources are disbursed. It will determine progress towards results' achievement, the level of stakeholder participation, any positive changes in beneficiaries' practices due to the intervention, and will identify necessary changes to be made as well as future challenges. This report will ascertain if project objectives are in the process of being met by current implementation strategies, based on project design, execution, and project coordination. The report will include: a) a general assessment of the project progress and the achievement of the indicators identified in the Results Framework (Annex A); b) a critical assessment of project administration, coordination, and execution; c) the effectiveness of project and individual components design; and d) stakeholder's perception and engagement (community, private sector and other stakeholders) regarding the intervention. This report will be geared towards improving project implementation based on information to date. All related GEF Tracking Tools for the project will also be completed during the mid-term evaluation cycle.
6. An independent external **Final Evaluation** will be conducted three months before the last meeting of the Project Steering Committee and will focus on the same areas analyzed in the Mid-term Evaluation. In addition, the Final Evaluation will also analyze the overall project's impact and results as well as their sustainability and replicability, including its contribution to national and local capacity building efforts and to global environmental goals. All related GEF Tracking Tools for the project will also be completed during the final evaluation cycle
7. **Exchange of knowledge and lessons learned:** During the last phase of the project, results will be disseminated beyond the intervention areas. The dissemination strategy will rely on different tools such as workshops, scientific networks, and existing forums to exchange information and communicate lessons learned through project design and implementation. Additionally, other tools such as networks supported by IADB or other GEF implementation agencies will be used depending on its appropriateness and relevance with the project. The importance of sharing information with relevant actors, such as international organizations and academic institutions, in order to fulfill knowledge gaps is one of the most important aspects to which this project can contribute. In order to fulfill this goal, lessons learned will be detailed in semiannual reports and PIRs.

Monitoring and Performance Evaluation Budget

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget (USD) <i>(does not include staff time)</i>	Time frame
Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project Coordinator ▪ Executing Agency ▪ IADB 	22,000	Within first two months of project start-up
Financial and Technical Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project team ▪ Executing Agency 	None	Semiannual and annual, based on IADB's reporting policies
Meetings of the Technical Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project Coordinator ▪ Executing Agency ▪ IADB (Col) 	None	First meeting within the first twelve months of project start up and thereafter at least once every six months
Mid-term External Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project team ▪ IADB (Col) ▪ External consultants 	25,000	At the mid-point of project implementation.
Final External Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project team ▪ IADB (Col) ▪ External consultants 	30,000	At the end of project implementation
Final Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project team ▪ Executing Agency 	None	At least one month before the end of the project, based on

	▪ IADB (Col)		IADB's reporting policies
TOTAL INDICATIVE COST		77,000	

PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

- A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):**
 (Please attach the [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this form. For SGP, use this [OFP endorsement letter](#)).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Alejandra Torres	GEF-OFP Colombia	MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT	12/12/2013

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF criteria for CEO endorsement/approval of project.

Agency Coordinator, Agency Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Michael Collins		06/15/2016	Fernnando Balcazar	+57 1 3257000	fernandoba@iadb.org
					

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

PROJECT MATRIX RESULTS

Project Objective									
Outcomes/ Indicators	Unit of measure	Baseline (2015)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Final Target	Verification means/ Assumptions/ Comments
Outcome 1. Management effectiveness of the Northeast Andean and Orinoquia regional subsystems of protected areas increased along strategic biological corridors or conservation mosaics.									
<i>Indicator: Management effectiveness (METT) of 11 Protected Areas.</i>	%	38	-	-	42	-	46	46	<u>Comments:</u> - Regional Protected Area (RPA) <u>Verification means:</u> - Updated METT <u>Assumptions:</u> The METT is available.
Outcome 2. Increased representation of strategic ecosystems in the Orinoco and Andes Northeastern									
<i>Indicator 1: new national protected areas within biological corridors incorporated into the SINAP</i>	ha	0	-	-	-	-	395,000	395,000	<u>Verification means:</u> - Official gazette - RUNAP databases - Maps of the new PAs and biological corridors <u>Assumptions:</u> Political will for the creation of new national PAs by the National Government
<i>Indicator 2: new regional PAs within biological corridors incorporated into the SINAP</i>	ha	0	-	-	-	-	152,000	152,000	<u>Verification means:</u> - RUNAP databases - Maps of the new PAs and biological corridors <u>Assumptions:</u> - Political will for the creation of new regional PAs by the Regional Environment Authority
<i>Indicator 3: new private protected areas within biological corridors incorporated into the SINAP</i>	ha	0	-	-	-	-	3,000	3,000	<u>Verification means:</u> - RUNAP databases - Maps of the new PAs and biological corridors <u>Assumptions:</u> - Political will for the creation of new Civil Society Nature Reserves

											<p><i>Comments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The baseline of the indicator was established based on the map of representation of ecosystem units of National Natural Parks and PAs registered in the RUNAP on 08/30/2015. 185 of 240 ecosystem units assessed in 2015 (RUNAP) *191 of 240 ecosystem units represented (RUNAP) <p><i>Verification means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SINAP National Reports (agreements, etc.) Official gazette <p><i>Assumptions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National and Regional Environmental Authorities and the Civil Society Organizations maintain their interest to create new PAs.
<i>Indicator 4:</i> ecosystem units represented in the SINAP	%	77	-	-	-	-	2.5	79.5			

Component 1: Strengthening of the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP)	Unit of measure	Baseline (2015)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Final Target	Verification means/ Assumptions/ Comments
Output 1.1: Action plans of the SIRAP harmonized and articulated with the SINAP's	Plan	0	-	2	4	-	-	6	<p><i>Comments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are Action Plans for the Western Andes and Amazon SIRAPs. These Action Plans will be developed as part of the process to harmonize and articulate with the SINAP Action Plans. The Action Plans for the Orinoco and Northeastern Andes SIRAPs should be prioritized. Their governing bodies should approve the proposals for updating and harmonizing the SIRAP Action Plans. <p><i>Verification means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SIRAP Action Plan documents Technical memorandum on the process to articulate the SIRAP Action Plans with the SINAP Action Plans. Minutes and records of meetings of the SIRAP committees. <p><i>Assumptions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective coordination between stakeholders at national, regional, and local levels allows the harmonization and articulation of the Action Plans of SINAP and SIRAP.

<p>Output 1.2: Technical guidelines developed for preparing and updating PA management plans</p>	<p>guidelines</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>1</p>	<p><i>Comments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical guidelines exist for the creation of management plans for six categories of protected areas in the SINAP (National Natural Park, Fauna and Flora Sanctuary, Unique Natural Area, Park Way, and National Nature Reserve.) - Guidelines include considerations to assess and manage climate change impacts in the developing and updating of the PA's management plans. - There must be a unified guide for developing or updating management plans for all categories of protected areas within the SINAP, taking into all aspects outlined in Decree 2372 of 2010. <p><i>Verification means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Published technical guide.
<p>Output 1.3: Methodology for management effectiveness assessment developed and coordinated among stakeholders</p>	<p>Methodology</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>3</p>	<p><i>Comments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Methodologies exist for assessing the management effectiveness in different management categories. A methodology is required that can be used in different types of subsystems (regional and thematic). - The six (6) categories of the SINAP already have a methodology to assess management effectiveness at the PA level. - The RAPPAM methodology was used by the SIRAP of the Coffee-growing Region, the CARDER, and the CRC to assess management effectiveness at the system level. There is a preliminary methodology for the Subsystem of Marine Protected Areas. <p><i>Verification means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Methodologies for assessing management effectiveness at the SINAP, subsystem, and PA levels. - Technical memorandum on the process for participatory development of the methodology. - Publication of the methodology and application guidelines documents. <p><i>Assumptions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is political will to participate in the development process and to use the methodology for assessing management effectiveness at three levels.

Output 1.4: Monitoring information systems for the SINAP developed for incorporating the regional subsystems	System	0	-	-	1	-	-	1	<p><i>Comments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During project implementation, existing technological platforms (e.g., RUNAP, SULA, and SIB) will be technically assessed to identify the most suitable for this purpose. <p><i>Verification means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Information Platform Interface is operating. - Document of the monitoring strategy for the SINAP and its subsystems. <p><i>Assumptions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The information system is regularly fed with monitoring information. - All stakeholders and the general public have access to the information.
Output 1.5: Communication strategy of SINAP designed and implemented	%	0	-	-	10	10	10	30	<p><i>Comments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The indicator will be revised once the SINAP communication strategy is designed. <p><i>Verification means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SINAP communication strategy document. - Minutes of meetings of workshops held to structure the communication strategy. - Progress Report on the implementation of the communication strategy.
Component 2: Strengthening regional subsystems of Protected Areas	Unit of measure	Baseline (2015)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Final Target	Verification means/ Assumptions/ Comments
Output 2.1: Action Plans of Northeast Andes and Orinoquia SIRAPs updated and implemented	%	10	-	-	20	-	30	60	<p><i>Comments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The baseline of the indicator will be updated at the end of the second year of project implementation once the Action Plans are updated and harmonized with the SINAP Action Plan. - The baseline is an average of the progress in implementation of the two subsystems' Action Plans. <p><i>Verification means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual Operation Plan - Annual Evaluation Report - Progress Report on the implementation of the Action Plans

<p>Output 2.2: Institutions and local organizations located in strategic biological corridors trained in PA management and climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies</p>	<p>Institutions and NGOs</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>24</p>	<p><u>Comments:</u> - The training will include methodologies and strategies to address climate change, mainly in adaptation, in the management of PAs. - The indicator includes 10 institutions and two local organizations for Years 4 and 5. <u>Verification means:</u> - Databases of training events <u>Assumptions:</u> - Continued interest from regional institutions in participating in biodiversity conservation in the prioritized PAs.</p>
<p>Output 2.3: Regional and national protected areas in strategic biological corridors implementing their management plans</p>	<p>%</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>40</p>	<p>50</p>	<p><u>Comments:</u> - The management plans of the 10 regional PAs do not have indicators or evaluation mechanisms to establish the precise level of implementation. During the first year of the project, management plans will be updated and the baseline value will be set. <u>Verification means:</u> - Annual reports - Progress reports <u>Assumptions:</u> - Continued interest from regional stakeholders to implement the management plans. - Resources are available for the implementation of management plans.</p>
<p>Output 2.4: Cycles of analysis of the management effectiveness methodology applied in subsystems and regional protected areas</p>	<p>Protected areas and subsystems</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>14</p>	<p><u>Comments:</u> - The cycles of analysis will be completed using the assessment methodologies of management effectiveness developed by the project. - The indicator includes one subsystem and six PAs for Years 3 and 5. <u>Verification means:</u> - Updated management effectiveness assessments - RUNAP reports <u>Assumptions:</u> - Willingness of the SIRAPs to apply the methodology for effectiveness assessment.</p>

Output 2.5: Orinoquia and North East Andes regional subsystems of protected areas implementing the monitoring information system.	Report	0	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	<p><u>Comments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - According to the SINAP's Research and Monitoring Plan the prioritized monitoring themes are species representativeness, inland aquatic ecological systems, connectivity, and ecosystem services. <p><u>Verification means:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SINAP's <i>Information System</i> database - Monitoring reports from regional institutions
Component 3: Increase ecosystem representativeness of the SINAP	Unidad de Medida	Base (2015)	Año 1	Meta	Medios de Verificación/ Supuestos					
Output 3.1: Technical studies and consultations completed for the new national, regional, and local protected areas	Technical documents	0	-	-	-	-	-	17	17	<p><u>Comments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The indicator will be revised during the first year of project implementation once the portfolio of new national PAs to be supported by the project is defined (assessments for three national PAs, eight regional PAs, and six private reserves have been considered). - The technical assessments are described in the steps for the creation of PAs. In addition, the studies will include the assessment of climate change related vulnerabilities in its design. - The term "approved" refers to the favorable concept by the ACCEFYN or research institutes as applicable. <p><u>Verification means:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Synthesis document for the declaration of new PAs

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

Reviewer's comments	Responses
<p>Secretariat Comment at PIF (PFD)/Work Program Inclusion: March 23, 2014</p>	
<p>4. Is the project aligned with the focal area/multifocal areas/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF results framework and strategic objectives?</p> <p><i>For Component Two, please note that by the time of CEO endorsement we expect hectare coverage to be clearly stated and a target for a management effectiveness score, as measured by the GEF tracking tool, to be an explicit outcome for this component covering the hectares in the ten regional protected areas.</i></p>	<p>During the project preparation phase the objectives were defined in terms of hectares and METT scores were obtained for the 10 regional protected areas.</p>
<p>STAP Scientific and Technical screening of the Project Identification Form (PIF). Date of screening: April 25, 2014</p>	
<p>1. The project framework is generally clear and coherent. The Objective is clearly stated and consistent with the title, and the project components appear to address the baseline conditions and barriers that are described. The project overview is detailed, although its arguments could be strengthened by referencing previous assessments or reports (i.e. to confirm the presence of the described barriers), or scientific literature (i.e. to confirm that PAs and biological corridors will benefit the relevant threatened species).</p>	<p>Relevant studies are referenced as appropriate throughout the document.</p>
<p>2. STAP notes that the proposed indicators at Outcome level, while useful for project level results based management, are not indicators of impact with respect to GEBs (e.g. # hectares of new PAs; implementation of monitoring and surveillance system; changes in ecosystem representativeness indicator). In effect there are no "hard" indicators mentioned (e.g. trends in populations of threatened species). This essentially means that the GEBs mentioned (i.e. "the protection of globally important species") are assumed, rather than proven with evidence. Understandably, changes in quantifiable indicators may only become fully evident post project. However, by establishing a framework for monitoring and measuring these changes, this project could generate knowledge on the effectiveness of different management strategies of PAs, and help to identify opportunities and areas for future interventions.</p>	<p>Considering that this project is focused on strengthening the SINAP through the development of planning and management processes, it is very difficult to relate through indicators the potential positive impacts that this strengthening may have on the species and their populations through indicators.</p> <p>Notwithstanding this limitation, the project will support the implementation of monitoring systems, including procedures for reporting and storing information. Currently, the von Humboldt insitutte conducts regular studies of threatened species in the project's target areas. Indicators from these studies will be included in the PA monitoring systems.</p>
<p>3. Relevant stakeholders are well-defined, and it is noted that designing and establishing new PAs will be done in consultation with local communities and indigenous groups. The process could be further strengthened by including baseline social assessments of local populations (e.g. wellbeing indicators; livelihood strategies) to identify</p>	<p>The project will make use of the process for the Declaration of New Protected Areas (Resolution 1125 or 2015), which includes as one of its steps the development of socioeconomic characterization studies of the local communities and indigenous groups located in the areas that are potentials for being declared protected areas. These characterization studies will serve as the baseline for developing management plans as</p>

<p>synergies between conservation and social development goals. Such assessments could also allow the social impact of the project to be measured at a later stage.</p> <p>4. The principal risks are appropriately defined and it is noted that climate change related risk is assessed as being high. The proposed risk mitigation strategies appear appropriate but the one for climate change related risks appears somewhat static and not proactive enough, at least in the way it is presented. Climate change risks should also be considered when initially determining PA locations and management strategies.</p>	<p>well as for following up on the impacts that the protected areas may generate in relation to the well being of the communities.</p> <p>The strategy to address the risk related to climate change was improved and incorporated into the methodology for the articulation of the SIRAP action plans (Output 1.1) and the methodologies for developing the management plans (Output 1.2); the guidelines for evaluating climate change risk in the protected areas and adaptation measures; and the technical studies for declaring new protected areas (Outputs 3.1 and 3.2), evaluations of climate change impact that serve to delineate the protected areas.</p>
<p>5. This project will complement ongoing initiatives, but a considerable level of coordination with other projects and initiatives will be required to maximize synergies and resource efficiency. Coordination activities have been thoroughly described between the project and a variety of relevant initiatives within Colombia. However, an analysis of the strategies used and lessons learned from projects in other countries with similar environmental and socio-economic contexts (e.g. Mexico â€ please see GEF Project 4763 – Strengthening Management Effectiveness and Resilience of Protected Areas to Safeguard Biodiversity Threatened by Climate Change) could help to inform the overall project approach.</p>	<p>During project design, the strategies and approaches used by GEF Project 4763 – “Strengthening Management Effectiveness and Resilience of Protected Areas to Safeguard Biodiversity Threatened by Climate Change” – were considered, particularly the readiness framework developed by the referenced project to achieve resiliency. In this project’s framework, management systems, processes, and technical tools are integrated at the local, regional, and national levels through the strengthening of institutional, technological, and human resource capacity. This approach was integrated into the design of the project proposed herein so that activities area implemented in a coordinated manner with the local, regional, and national stakeholders of the SINAP: Outputs 1.1 and 2.1 – Action Plans (management systems); Outputs 1.2, 1.3, and 1.4 – methodologies to develop management plans and management effectiveness, as well as monitoring information systems (tools and technologies); and Output 2.2 – training regional and local institutions (human resources).</p> <p>Additionally, similar to the approach of GEF Project 4763, which integrates climate change into existing management tools (TORs of the management plans); the project proposed herein will use existing national methodologies for developing management plans and evaluating their management effectiveness. This is so that the tools factor in the local and regional protected areas management categories and thereby improve the efficiency of the resources.</p>
<p>Compilation of Comments Submitted by Council Members on the May 2014 Work Program</p>	
<p>1. Output 1.1.2, 1.1.3 and output 1.1.5 (p.1/2): There are several ongoing multi- and bilateral technical and financial cooperation activities (among others by KfW and GIZ) related to these outputs ongoing in Colombia. The PIF does not clearly define how the results and lessons learnt will be fed into the proposed project.</p>	<p>The project will incorporate the results and lessons learned from the following multilateral and bilateral projects related to Outputs 1.1.2, 1.1.3, and 1.1.5:</p> <p>The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Project (financed by KfW – WWF) aims to build capacities and apply the AEMAPPS methodology on three different cycles for 18 protected areas . The assessment results will be used as an input for the development of management plans for each PA in the Northern Andes and Caribbean regions). Additionally, the SINAP project will support the development of guidelines for management plans of Natural Reserves of the Civil Society.</p>

<p>2. Output 1.1.4 (p.2): For this output coordination with the Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales de Colombia (IDEAM) is important</p>	<p>IDEAM is the coordinator of the National Environmental Information System (SIAC). One of the SIAC's subsystems is the Biodiversity Information System (SIB), which is coordinated and managed by the Alexander von Humboldt Institute (IAvH). Both institutions were engaged and participated in the national workshops held in support of the design of the project. The National Parks System and IAvH also coordinate SINAP's research and monitoring round table, during which they discussed and agreed to the scope of Output 1.4 as well as the activities to be developed in the project framework.</p> <p>An activity to ensure the inter-operability of the monitoring information system with the SIAC, which is coordinated by the IDEAM, was incorporated into Output 1.4,</p>
<p>3. Co-financing by Local Government through regional environmental authorities (CARs) (as mentioned in part C, p. 4) in the extent of 10,300,000 US\$ as well as local stakeholder co-financing of 1,200,000 US\$ seems highly unlikely and should soon be specified (type of co-financing) in the case of CARs and be strictly monitored and reported in the case of local stakeholders.</p>	<p>The co-financing letters from the institutions interested in participating in the project are provided with this document, including the CARs and the local stakeholders. The letters specify the type of co-financing provided by each party. These letters serve as the basis for developing the budget.</p>
<p>4. Part B2 GEF focal area and/or fund(s) strategies, eligibility criteria and priorities (p.11): It is stated that the project is consistent with outcome 1.2 (Increased revenue for protected area systems), but it is not explained clearly where the increased revenues for the proposed new protected areas might come from. Germany seeks clarification on that.</p>	<p>The project will not consider Outcome 1.2 (Increased revenue for protected area systems)</p>
<p>5. Germany recommends building all project activities on a comprehensive assessment of the governance of protected areas in Colombia. The governance assessment guidelines developed by IUCN might provide a suitable framework for such analysis.</p>	<p>The IUCN technical documents that make reference to the governance of the protected areas (Alex Rivas Toledo, 2006; Borrimi-Feyerabend, et al., 2014) were reviewed. This information will be incorporated into the harmonization process of the SINAP Action Plans and the six SIRAPs (Output 1.1). Additionally, the methodological guides for developing Management Plans (Output 1.2) and evaluating their management effectiveness (Output 1.3) will incorporate elements of governance of the areas with the goal of improving the role and management of the protected areas that are supported by the project.</p>

ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS¹¹

A. PROVIDE DETAILED FUNDING AMOUNT OF THE PPG ACTIVITIES FINANCING STATUS IN THE TABLE BELOW:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: 135,000			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent To date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
National and Regional Workshops	11,205	6,888	4,317
Consultancy for the Project's Document design	105,000	88,609	16,391
Consultancy for SINAP and SIRAP assessment	18,795	15,199	3,596
Total	135,000	110,696	24,304

¹¹ If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue undertake the activities up to one year of project start. No later than one year from start of project implementation, Agencies should report this table to the GEF Secretariat on the completion of PPG activities and the amount spent for the activities.

ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used)

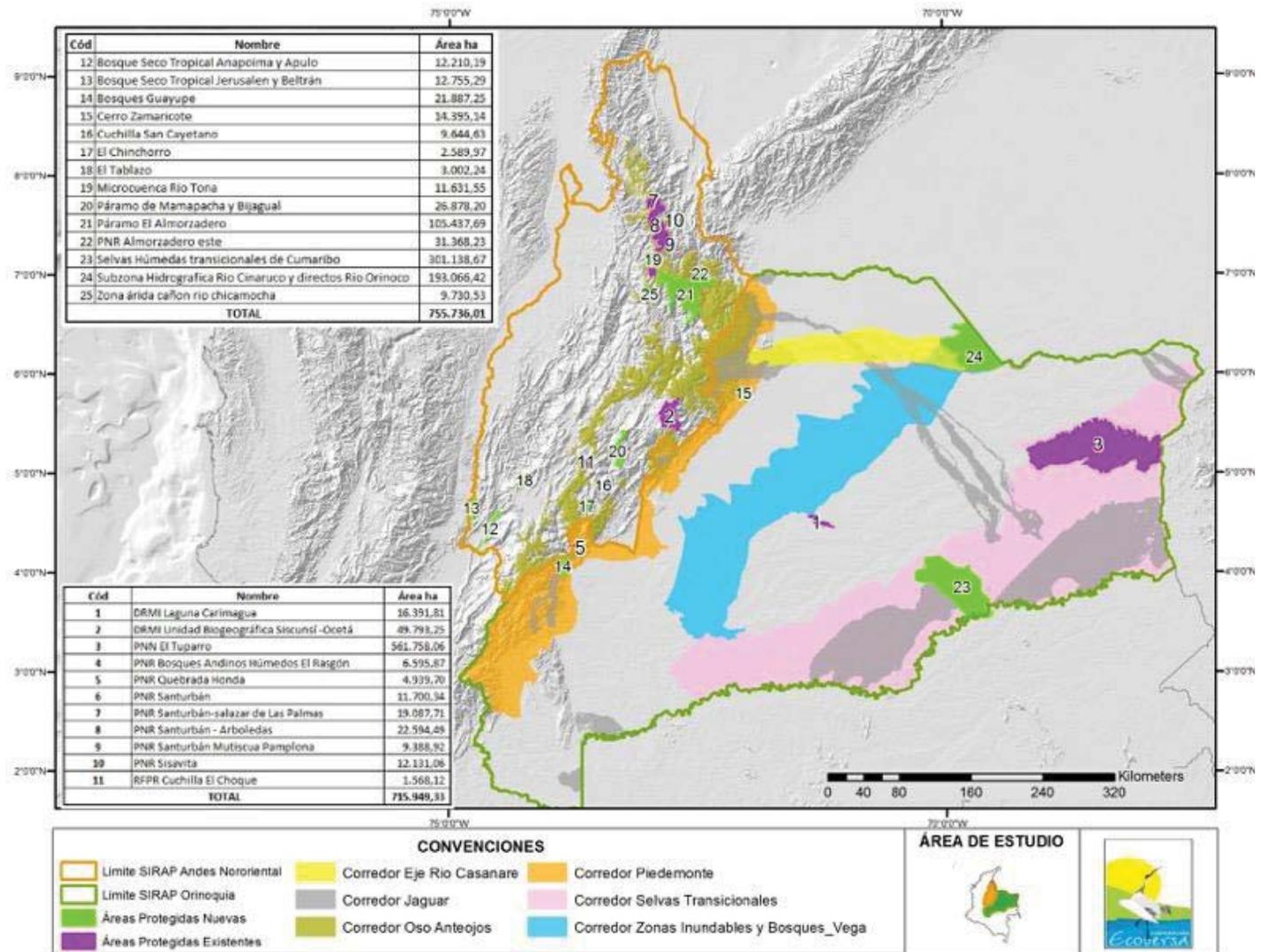
Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Trust Fund or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up) NA

ANNEX E: POTENCIAL CONSERVATION PORTFOLIO. BIOLOGICAL CORRIDORS IDENTIFIED IN NORTHEASTERN ANDES AND ORINOCO SIRAPS

National and regional workshops were held with CARs and SIRAPs, in order to identify and choose the biological corridors that strategically will conduct the interventions, and also, the new and existing protected areas that will be supported to move forward with the declaration process and/or in the implementation of its management plans.

Two biological corridors were defined in the project's prioritized regions: i) the Spectacled Bear Corridor (*Tremarctos ornatus*), y ii) The Jaguar (*Panthera onca*) Corridor. Land use and covers, ecological connectivity, the current/potential distribution of the species and institutional capacity, were criteria considered for its selection.

Figure 1. Biological Corridors.



The Spectacled Bear Corridor

In the Northeastern Andes SIRAP are 136 regional PAs, from which 14 PAs¹² (260,085 ha) were selected due to the corridor's cover. These PAs are priority for the local, regional and national levels, and also are located in strategic areas that provide connectivity to the spectacled bear and with approved management plans. The project will support the declaration of 14 new protected areas (334,185 ha) in this corridor, where civil society reserves play an important role in the core area (called Santurban).

¹² This list of PAs will be validated at the beginning of the project to make the final selection.

Table 1: New and existing protected areas in the Northeastern Andes SIRAP

Authorities	Status	PA Name	Area (Ha)
CAR	Existing	RFPR Cuchilla - El Choque	1,568
	Existing	RFPR El Robledal	401
	Existing	RFPR Nacimiento del Río Bogota	1,370
	Existing	RFPR Páramo de Rabanal	2,991
	Existing	RFPR Páramo El Frailejón	1,807
	New	Bosque seco tropical Anapoima y Apulo	12,210
	New	Bosque seco tropical Jerusalén y Beltrán	12,755
	New	El Tablazo	3,002
CAS	New	Páramo El Almorzadero	105,438
CDBM	Existing	PNR Bosques Andinos Húmedos El Rasgón	6,596
	Existing	PNR Cerro La Judía	3,521
	Existing	PNR Santurbán	11,700
	New	Microcuenca río tona	11,632
	New	Zona árida cañon río chicamocha	9,731
CORPOBOYACA	Existing	DRMI Unidad Biogeográfica Siscunsi-Ocetá	49,793
CORPOCHIVOR	New	Cuchilla San Cayetano	9,645
	New	Páramo de Mamapacha y Bijagual	26,878
CORPONOR	Existing	PNR Santurbán-salazar de Las Palmas	19,088
	Existing	PNR Sisavita	12,131
	New	PNR Almorzadero este	31,368
	existing	PNR Santurbán - Arboledas	22,594
	existing	Santurbán Mutiscua Pamplona	8,397
Corpoguavio	New	El Chinchorro	2,590
	New	Laureles, maracaibo y las delicias	114
TOTAL (225,363 ha of new PA + 141,957 ha of existing PA)			367,320

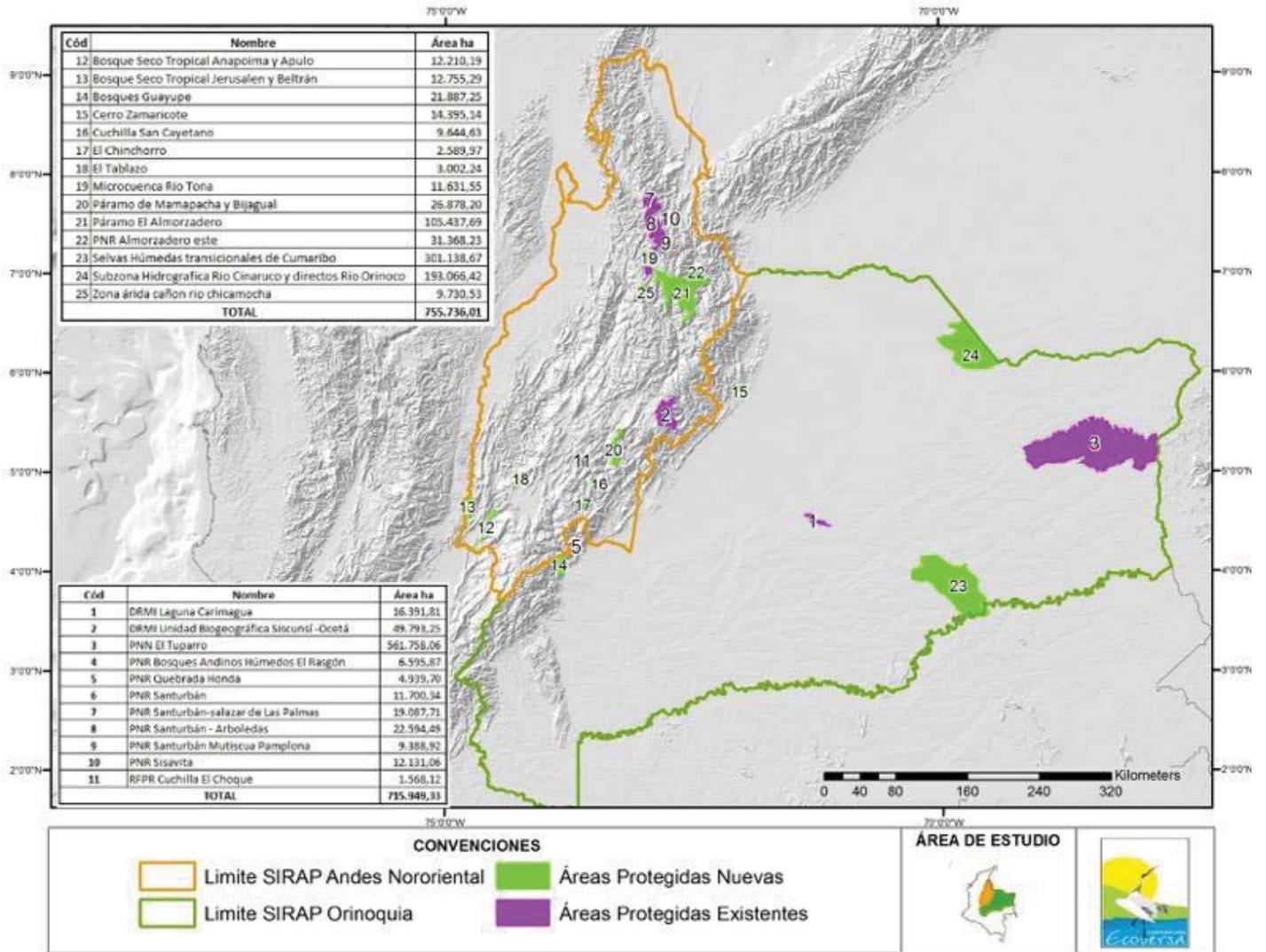
The Jaguar Corridor

The jaguar (*Panthera onca*) corridor was constructed focusing on the dynamics of water resources and the current/potential distribution of this specie, both criteria define the landscape connectivity in the region. In the Orinoco SIRAP area located 26 regional PAs from which 5 PAs were selected. The project will support the declaration of 6 new protected areas (2 regional and 4 national) within this area that cover 1,025,389 ha. In this SIRAP four core areas where private actors are interested in participating in the process of declaration and registration of CSNRs were identified.

Table 2: New and existing protected areas in the SIRAP Orinoquia

Authorities	Status	PA Name	Area (Ha)
CORMACARENA	Existing	DRMI Laguna Carimagua	16,392
	Existing	PNR Quebrada Honda	4,940
	New	Bosques Guayupe	21,887
CORPORINOQUIA	New	Cerro Zamaricote	14,395
Natural National Parks	New	Selvas Húmedas transicionales de Cumaribo	301,139
	New	Subzona Hidrográfica Río Cinaruco y directos Río Orinoco	193,066
Total (21,332 ha of existing PA + 530,487 ha of new PA)			551,819

Figure 2: Portfolio Conservation



ANNEX F: GLOBAL IMPORTANT SPECIES TARGETED IN THE NEW NATIONAL PROTECTED AREAS TO BE DECLARE.

Biological Corridor	New and Existing Protected Areas	IUCN or IAvH's Red List
The Jaguar Corridor	DRMI Laguna Carimagua	<i>Pachyramphus rufus</i> (LC), <i>Penelope jacquacu</i> (LC), <i>Marmosa robinsoni</i> , <i>robinsoni</i> (NE), <i>Panthera onca</i> (NT), <i>Pteronura brasiliensis</i> (EN), <i>Tapirus terrestres</i> (VU), <i>Tayassu pecari</i> (VU), <i>Trichechus manatus</i> (VU), <i>Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris</i> (LC), <i>Coendou prehensilis</i> (LC), <i>Puma concolor</i> (LC), <i>Tamandua tetradactyla</i> (LC), <i>Podocnemis expansa</i> (LC), <i>Podocnemis unifilis</i> (VU), <i>Crocodylus Intermedius</i> (CR), <i>Pseudoplatystoma metaense</i> (NE), <i>Bujurquina mariae</i> (NE), <i>Potamotrygon orbingyi</i> (NE), <i>Ageneiosus inermis</i> (NE), <i>Prochilodus mariae</i> (NE).
	PNR Quebrada Honda	
	Bosques Guayupe	
	Cerro Zamaricote	
	Selvas Húmedas transicionales de Cumaribo	
	Subzona Hidrográfica Río Cinaruco y directos Río Orinoco	
The Spectacled Bear Corridor	RFPR Cuchilla - El Choque	<i>Vultur gryphus</i> (NT), <i>Tapirus pinchaque</i> (EN), <i>Tremarctos ornatus</i> (VU), <i>Pudu mephistophiles</i> (VU), <i>Mazama rufina</i> (VU), <i>Mazama americana</i> (VU), <i>Odocoileus virginianus</i> (LC), <i>Agouti taczanowskii</i> (NT), <i>Dinomys branickii</i> (VU) and <i>Leopardus tigrinus</i> (VU).
	RFPR El Robledal	
	RFPR Nacimiento del Río Bogota	
	RFPR Páramo de Rabanal	
	RFPR Páramo El Frailejonal	
	Bosque seco tropical Anapoima y Apulo	
	Bosque seco tropical Jerusalén y Beltrán	
	El Tablazo	
	Páramo El Almorzadero	
	PNR Bosques Andinos Húmedos El Rasgón	
	PNR Cerro La Judía	
	PNR Santurbán	
	Microcuencia río tona	
	Zona árida cañon río chicamocha	
	DRMI Unidad Biogeográfica Siscunsi-Ocetá	
	Cuchilla San Cayetano	
	Páramo de Mamapacha y Bijagual	
	PNR Santurbán-salazar de Las Palmas	
	PNR Sisavita	
	PNR Almorzadero este	
	PNR Santurbán - Arboledas	
	Santurbán Mutiscua Pamplona	
	El Chinchorro	
Laureles, maracaibo y las delicias		