GEF-6 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)
PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project
TYPE OF TRUST FUND:Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Strengthening Argentina's Transparency Framework on GHG Inventories and Mitigation		
Country(ies):	Argentina	GEF Project ID:[1]	9955
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01617
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Resubmission Date:	December 20, 2017
GEF Focal Area(s):	Climate Change	Project Duration (Months)	48
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities ☐ IAP-Commodities ☐ IAP-Food Security ☐	Corporate Program: SGP ☐	
Name of parent program:	[if applicable]	Agency Fee ($)	189,981

A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[2]

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs):	Trust Fund	(in $)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
CBIT	CBIT	1,999,800	350,000
Total Project Cost		1,999,800	350,000

B. INDICATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: Argentina complies with the requirements of the transparency framework under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change

Project Components	Financing Type[3]	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
1. National and subnational GHG inventory System	TA	1.1 Argentina is able to elaborate and share consistent and accurate national and subnational GHG inventories.	1.1.1 Sectorial templates and consistency guidelines on data collection and reporting are developed and related trainings are provided. 1.1.2 Institutional arrangements for sectorial inventories are formalized. 1.1.3 Country-specific emission factors and data activity are developed and/or	CBIT	1,057,100	200,000

[1] Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC and to be entered by Agency in subsequent document submissions.
[2] When completing Table A, refer to the excerpts on GEF 6 Results Frameworks for GETF, LDCF and SCCF and CBIT guidelines.
[3] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

			enhanced for at least two sectors. 1.1.4 Expanded information sharing and knowledge management platform on national and subnational GHG inventory is improved. 1.1.5 Peer exchange activities for experience sharing are implemented.			
2. Domestic tracking of mitigation actions and support received	TA	2.1 Stakeholders within the National Climate Change Cabinet provide and exchange information for domestic tracking of mitigation actions and support received.	2.1.1 Institutional arrangements for domestic tracking of mitigation actions and support received are formalized through the National Climate Change Cabinet. 2.1.2 Sectorial templates/software and guidelines on mitigation actions and support received tracking are developed and related trainings are provided.	CBIT	208,400	100,000
3. Medium and long-term projections	TA	3.1 Stakeholders within the National Climate Change Cabinet use consistent GHG emissions modeling, economy wide scenarios, and analysis of interactions for climate policy decision making.	3.1.1 Medium term models to evaluate the interactions between sectorial mitigation actions are developed (2020/2025). 3.1.2 Economy-wide long-term modeling and scenarios are developed (2030/2040/2050).	CBIT	552,500	0
			Subtotal		1,818,000	300,000
Project Management Cost (PMC)[4]				CBIT	181,800	50,000
Total Project Cost					1,999,800	350,000

For multi-trust fund projects, provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: ( )

C. INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE

[4] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% of the subtotal; above $2 million, PMC could be up to 5% of the subtotal. PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project financing amount in Table D below.

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
Recipient Government	National Department of Climate Change	In kind	350,000
Total Co-financing			350,000

D. INDICATIVE TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES), FOCAL AREA AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS [a)]

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)[b)]	Total (c)=a+b
UNEP	CBIT	Argentina	Climate Change		1,999,800	189,981	2,189,781
Total GEF Resources					1,999,800	189,981	2,189,781

a) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies.

E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)[5]

Is Project Preparation Grant requested? Yes ☒ No ☐ If no, skip item E.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

Project Preparation Grant amount requested: 50,000				PPG Agency Fee: 4,750			
GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee[6] (b)	Total c = a + b
UNEP	CBIT	Argentina	Climate Change		50,000	4,750	54,750
Total PPG Amount					50,000	4,750	54,750

F. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS[7]

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	*Hectares*
2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	*Hectares*
3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services	Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins;	*Number of freshwater basins*
	20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels	*Percent of fisheries, by volume*
4. Support to transformational shifts	750 million tons of CO_{2e} mitigated (include	*metric tons*

[5] PPG requested amount is determined by the size of the GEF Project Financing (PF) as follows: Up to $50k for PF up to$2m (for MSP); up to $100k for PF up to $3m; $150k for PF up to $6m; $200k for PF up to $10m; and $300k for PF above $10m. On an exceptional basis, PPG amount may differ upon detailed discussion and justification with the GEFSEC.

[6] PPG fee percentage follows the percentage of the Agency fee over the GEF Project Financing amount requested.

[7] Provide those indicator values in this table to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the projects per the *Corporate Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*, will be aggregated and reported during mid-term and at the conclusion of the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF, SCCF or CBIT.

towards a low-emission and resilient development path	both direct and indirect)	
5. Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern	Disposal of 80,000 tons of POPs (PCB, obsolete pesticides)	*metric tons*
	Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury	*metric tons*
	Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)	*ODP tons*
6. Enhance capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks	Development and sectoral planning frameworks integrate measurable targets drawn from the MEAs in at least 10 countries	*Number of Countries:*
	Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries	*Number of Countries: 1*

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

1. *Project Description.* Briefly describe: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area[8] strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and co-financing; 5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

1) The global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

The purpose of the Paris Agreement (PA), as expressed in its article 2, is to limit "the increase of global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels". In order to achieve this objective, all member-parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), have to prepare, communicate and undertake ambitious efforts in the form of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). Article 13th of the PA creates an enhanced transparency framework in order to build mutual trust and confidence to provide clarity in understanding climate change global action.

Argentina is exposed to numerous climate change linked risks and impacts due to the extremely large extension of its territory (2,780,400 km^2) which implies a heterogeneous set of ecosystems, social and urban systems. Its vast territory allows to developing a rich agricultural and livestock activity that supplies both the local and the international market. The vulnerability of the country regarding climate change becomes highly relevant because of the prominence of the agricultural activity which guarantees the economic development of the country and, foremost, plays a fundamental role on the supply of food on a global scale (historically named "The Barn of the World").

The intensification of extreme climate events such as more intense and frequent rainfalls has produced floods and has even provoked landslides. In other regions, there has been an extension of the periods without rain producing severe droughts and the increase of the length of the heat waves. All these phenomena have widened the year-to-year variability of production compromising the stability of the productive system which is highly dependent on agricultural production; therefore, there has been a huge negative impact, both economic and social.

Considering this, and especially after the new government took power, climate change has taken a new dimension through a strategic approach, with a strong political support and an ambitious commitment, considering the local and global needs to tackle one of the largest challenges humanity faces. In this sense, Argentina recognizes the need

[8] For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project's consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives and programs, please also describe which Aichi Target(s) the project will directly contribute to achieving.

to increase the global ambition so as to fulfill the objective of the PA, and knows that within Latin America, the country contributes with an important share of the regional emissions (3rd place).

In order to adequately plan, measure, and implement Argentina´s mitigation actions it is highly relevant to strengthen human, technical and institutional capacities so as to overcome some of the main gaps the country faces, such as: the need to establish strong institutional arrangements to systematize the Greenhouse Gases (GHG) inventory compiling and make the data gathering less time-consuming, or the lack of specific technical capacities of the focal points within the new National Climate Change Cabinet (GNCC, in Spanish). These gaps complicate the distribution of responsibilities among different actors involved and, moreover, overload the technicians from the National Department of Climate Change (NDCC) of the Ministry of Environment.

2) The baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects,

Argentina´s strong commitment towards climate change

- *Current climate governance*

With the new government in place, the issue of climate change has taken a new dimension through a strategic approach, with strong political support and commitment to meet the global needs, by creating the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (former Secretariat of Environment). Within this Ministry, the Secretariat of Environmental Policy, Climate Change and Sustainable Development supports the Ministry with the implementation of Environmental policy, elaborating and updating the diagnosis of the environmental and climate change national situation.

In line with these priorities, Argentina has also established the Inter-ministerial cabinet, the GNCC, which coordinates all climate change related actions proposed and taken by seventeen different ministries. The objective of the GNCC is to design consistent and agreed public policies with a strategical approach to reduce GHG emissions and generate coordinated answers to climate change impacts. The GNCC scheme is structured around four levels of coordination: 1) Policy instance (Ministries), 2) Technical instance (focal point within the Ministries), 3) Local states (Provinces through the Federal Council of Environment (COFEMA, in Spanish), and 4) Extended tables (Non-Governmental Organisms, unions, private, academic and scientific sectors and municipalities).

Thanks to this participative process, Argentina was the first country in the region to present a revised NDC, increasing its ambition before the five-year period established in the PA. Such review was based on what is set out on article 4, paragraph 11, of the PA about increasing the level of ambition and providing more clarity, transparency and understanding to the contribution, according to decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 27.

The revision of the NDC is just the first step of a long-term climate change strategy, which includes the following future milestones:

- Sectorial Plans for Mitigation and Adaptation Actions (2017)
- National Climate Change Response Plan (2018)
- National Act on Climate Change (2019)
- Implementation (2020/30)
- Further increase of ambition (2020/2050)

During the first year of this government, Argentina has ratified the Paris Agreement on September 21st of 2016, strongly committing to the global effort to cope with this issue, including the compliance of the Enhanced Transparency Framework of article 13th.

- *Reporting to the UNFCCC*

Argentina, as part of the UNFCCC, has the legal obligation of presenting National Communications (NC) and Biennial Update Reports (BUR), every four and two years respectively. In order to fulfill these commitments, Argentina has submitted three National Communications. The First NC was published on 25 July 1997, with an unofficial revision on October 1999; the second was submitted on 7 March 2008 (which added the inventory of the year 2000), and the third NC was presented on the 9th of December 2015, including the inventory of the year 2012. In addition, Argentina has presented its first BUR to the UNFCCC in December 9, 2015 with data regarding the Greenhouse Gas Inventory of

the year 2010. Moreover, on August 2017, the country presented its second BUR containing the total GHG emissions for the year 2014 and an updated version for whole series 1990-2014 using Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2006 guidelines.
Additionally, Argentina has been taking several actions aligned with the objective of the Transparency Framework with the help of international support received throughout the last years. The mentioned actions are summarized in the table below.

Project	Period	Description of support
Argentina's Third National Communication UNFCCC	2011-2015	This project provided the resources for carrying out the Argentinean Third National Communication, which was presented in December 2015. This NC was the first experience for the country to report using the IPCC 2006 guidelines, and recalculated the whole-time series (1990-2012), this was improved during the elaboration of the second BUR.
Argentine Republic First Biennial Update Report	2014-2015	Project that assisted in the elaboration of Argentinean First Biennial Update Report. Due to the lack of time and some problems to access the funds the first BUR was presented later than needed.
Argentine Republic Second Biennial Update Report	2016-2017	Project that assisted in the elaboration of Argentinean Second Biennial Update Report. This was the first time Argentina reported only with 2006 IPCC guidelines, new data sources where used, thus improving the quality of the national inventory.
Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB)	2010-2017	The objective of the LECB Program is to build and strengthen capacities in participating countries. With the resources provided by this project, Argentina was able to revise its NDC and start running the National Cabinet of Climate Change.

In addition, during 2016, the International Consultation and Analysis (ICA) process for the first BUR was carried out. This process started with a technical analysis going from the 29th February to the 4th of March 2016, in Bonn, performed by a team of UNFCCC technical experts. A series of exchanges and consultations were made, apart from observations and comments about the report submitted. The synthesis report was finalized on 16 September 2016, right after Argentina participated in the "Exchange of Opinions for Facilitation Purposes" workshop (FSV), held in Marrakesh, during the Conference of the Parties (COP) 22. On that occasion, the results and the process of Argentina´s first BUR were presented and the questions, raised by the Parties, were answered, with a clear commitment of analyzing how to address those gaps. The country has corrected and included many of the comments made by the ICA during the development of the second BUR. Moreover, key elements raised in the ICA conclusions are planned to be addressed with the help of this CBIT project.

Gaps identified

During the process of fulfilling its commitments and implementing its long-term climate change strategy, Argentina has identified diverse gaps regarding the Enhanced Transparency Framework, which will be addressed through this CBIT proposal.

- **GHG inventory**

o *Lack of systematization and institutional arrangements for data gathering*
While doing both BURs, Argentina identified a lack of technical capacities within the ministries involved in data gathering and compiling sectorial inventories. In fact, data gathering consumes an excessive amount of time and, when the information is shared, it needs exhaustive revising processes for it to be useful as for inventory purposes. This statement adds to the lack of institutional arrangements in order to prioritize and formalize the periodic exchange of information needed for the inventory compiling from data providers and the absence of standardized guidelines and templates regarding information sharing.

As pointed out in the 2016 ICA "The Team of Technical Experts (TTE) noted that the inclusion of information on the arrangements for data collection, the GHG inventory archiving process and the roles of the institutions involved could enhance the transparency of the BUR" and "The BUR provides information challenges faced by the Party in relation to the preparation of the emission estimates, mostly related to data collection". Indeed, the ICA identified among eleven Argentina's capacity-building needs, the following three related to lack of systematization and institutional arrangements :"a)Further strengthen existing institutional arrangements relevant to the preparation of the BUR on a continuous basis, b) establish archiving and document systems, including systems for the updating of GHG inventories, c) obtain, integrate and analyze information to unify the process of preparation of BURs and national communications".

To address these issues, Argentina has decided to have a semi-decentralized GHG inventory system, which will delegate the responsibility of data compiling of the principal GHG emitting sectors (Energy and Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU)) to the corresponding substantive ministries. However, it keeps the Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU) and Waste sectors, as well as the quality assurance and quality control process (QA/QC) of all sectors, within the Ministry of Environment. This will be achieved through CBIT output 1.1.2 and 1.1.5 in order to learn positive experiences from other countries who are already implementing similar GHG inventory systematization.

o *Turnover/dependence on external consultants and reduced technical permanent staff*
So far, all NCs and BURs Argentina has presented to UNFCCC, have been developed by external consultants, leaving the capacities created outside the public administration. Hence, once the consultancies are over, government staff is not always able to explain and internationally defend the contents of the reports presented, in depth. In addition, the constant rotation of personnel within the Ministry of Environment and the reduced number of permanent staff difficult the training of new work-force, reducing its efficiency.

o *Lack of technology, methodologies and activity data for assessing the impact of mitigation actions put in place and enhancing the GHG inventory quality*
Argentina considers that its GHG inventory is the main tool for evidencing GHG emission reductions achieved by the mitigation actions put in place. However, for this to work properly, the methodologies and the technologies used for estimating activity-data and emission-factors need to be enhanced in order to improve the quality of the inventory and its sustainability in time.

About the methodologies, many categories do not have sectorial specific activity data today, which creates the need of estimating them with default parameters (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) tier 1) and, hence, over-estimating Argentina´s emissions in different sectors. Therefore, the current inventory does not fully achieve the "precision principle" of GHG inventory compiling and so increases inventory uncertainty. For example, wastewater treatment facilities do not provide specific values of the amount of wastewater actually treated, so emissions have to be estimated with IPCC's default parameters.

In addition, technologies used to obtain activity data and emission factors are not precise enough and not periodically obtained in order to show changes in the emissions after mitigation actions are implemented. For instance, the resolution of the satellite images used to quantify deforestation and the lack of cross-checks with administrative files, do not allow to appreciate the difference between net deforestation and the silvo-pastoral management plans implemented.

Moreover, for some categories, there is no information to estimate emissions, therefore these categories, such as Wetlands, Settlements and Other lands, will appear as Not Estimated (N/E) within the second BUR presented. Lastly, the ICA also identified among Argentina's capacity-building needs "d) recalculate the GHG inventory to ensure a consistent time series"

Lastly, the second BUR of Argentina identifies the following need "development of level 2 emission factors in main source categories", and its corresponding barrier "Limited access to information restrained to representative companies in some of the main source categories" as well as the need of "Development of data uncertainty intervals for activity data" and the barrier "Large number of involved actors, with low level of information traceability (a large amount of data comes from declarations, manual loads, indirect registers)".

CBIT output 1.1.3 will contribute to overcome the issues that emerge from the lack of technology and methodologies, and low quality activity data for certain categories, by developing studies to have country-specific emission factors and data activity, so as to reflect the emission reductions achieved in GHG inventory. Moreover output 1.1.5 will provide south - south cooperation through sharing examples of similar experiences from other countries.

- *Lack of sub-national capacities for the GHG inventory system*
  Other identified gap is the lack of bottom-up information for inventory compiling and for the activity data QA/QC process. Current provincial/municipal statistics systems are dysfunctional and inconsistent. Each province processes inventory relevant data in a de-standardized and incomplete way and it is not periodically surveyed. This makes information useless as a bottom-up source for activity data improvement, and it cannot be used neither for cross-check purposes when performing QA/QC analysis.

  Moreover, there is a lack of sufficiently trained personnel with enough technical capacities to compile sub-national inventories.

  In the few cases where there is enough technical capacity, subnational information produced is useless as the reporting formats used (GHG Emission Protocol for Community-Scale Inventory - GPC) are inconsistent with IPCC reporting format, due to the different scopes of analysis of the emission sources, making them incomparable.

- *Excessively simple current GHG inventory platform for sharing updates with all kind of users*
  Through LECB program, Argentina has recently developed a basic sharing platform for all GHG inventory relevant information produced. This has been made in an easy and simplified way, targeted for common citizens. This was the first step towards the ultimate goal to outreach all type of audiences. Still, many improvements must be made in order to amplify the usefulness and the dynamism of the platform for new types of users, such us academia, NGOs and the private sector.

  CBIT Outputs 1.1.1 and 1.1.4 will contribute to overcome the two last gaps mentioned. Outcomes provided by LECB will supply the new guidelines, trainings and the expanded information sharing, that CBIT will build. Coordination is guaranteed considering most of the same NDCC personnel will be working in both initiatives until April 2018 where LECB ends, hence giving them continuity through CBIT.

- **Mitigation**

- *Lack of communication and institutional arrangements among ministries in order to decide common/comparable progress indicators and for a standardized provision of tracking data for the mitigation actions implemente*d

As said, during 2016, by a presidential decree, the GNCC was established. This entity gathers the main stakeholders involved with climate change related policy making. Through numerous meetings organized during 2016, the NDC gained the necessary political and technical support and validation to become a national policy.

In 2017, the GNCC has been focusing on: implementing the mitigation actions each ministry has stated, and on elaborating sectorial action plans, which are the first step to create a National Climate Change Response Plan (see proposed future milestones).

However, each ministry is responsible for a set of measures related to their competence, and there are some actions that involve more than one actor in order to accomplish its implementation.

All ministries decide on how to track progress regarding their sectorial actions. Nevertheless, they tend to do it from a sectorial perspective that not always includes or accepts the "big-picture" view necessary to track progress of the mitigation actions in an organized way. Therefore, there is a need to improve communication between different sectors and to establish institutional arrangements that will allow the NDCC to track progress and to add-up the total reductions in a more effective manner.

Additionally, the ICA points out that "No information on the progress of implementation of mitigation actions was not provided in the BUR" and "No information on results achieved such as estimate outcomes (metrics depending on type of action) and estimated emission reductions to the extent possible". Component 2 of the CBIT project will seek to address these issues.

- *Lack of common/comparable sectorial indicators for tracking progress*
  Each Ministry is responsible for a set of mitigation actions and they track them for their own purpose. Not always the tracking indicators created by the Ministry of Environment (with a climate change perspective and with the objective of tracking progress of the NDC), match with the sectorial perspective adopted by the substantive ministry.

  In the ICA, Argentina highlights that there is still a need to evaluate the progress indicators and define the metrics to present the effects of the mitigation actions. The TTE noted that Argentina could enhance the transparency of future reporting on mitigation actions by providing information on the quantitative goals, as well as a timeframe for those goals.

- *Lack of a domestic mitigation MRV system*
  As per the ICA 2016, "Argentina did not provide information on the domestic MRV of mitigation action arrangements. (…) The Party clarified that it is still working on the design of MRV of mitigation action arrangements for the plans, policies, and measures described in the BUR". Argentina, during 2017, has been creating its domestic monitoring system in order to track mitigation actions. The Ministry of Environment, specifically NDCC, is the responsible institution for this tracking process.

  The substantive ministries involved in mitigation implementation lack of a climate change perspective as from technical capacities to incorporate this perspective into their internal planning. Moreover, there is a lack of common progress indicators and a lack of shared sources of information. Therefore, the tracking of the mitigation actions process done by the NDCC becomes an extremely difficult and disorganized task.

- **Projections**

- *Lack of methodologies for evaluating the interaction and complementarity among sectorial mitigation actions and co-benefits in order to track progress made towards the 2030 targets*
  Argentina estimated its total reduction target for 2030 by aggregating individual sectorial reductions. The different ministries involved are responsible for a set of measures, but they do not have the technical capability for estimating the impact expressed as regards emissions reductions. Therefore, the NDCC is currently in charge of this.

Moreover, most of the mitigation actions planned, do not have an impact by themselves: they are implemented within a complex system where one action can imply reductions in, for example, fossil fuel use but also an increase in electricity use. In this context, the NDCC lacks of the methodological approaches to evaluate the interaction and complementarity of the sectorial mitigation actions. As pointed out in the second BUR, there is the need of "analysis of the interrelationship of mitigation measures with inventory activity data, for a precise quantification of the emission reductions by mitigation measures". Therefore, in order to have a complete and exhaustive analysis of the reductions planned to achieve, it is very important to study the interactions between mitigation actions from the different sectors.

- *Lack of communication and information sharing when doing long-term sectorial projections among ministries.*
  Some of the ministries within the GNCC have started to model their own sectorial projections, but unfortunately, they have been doing it by themselves, with no direct communication with each other in order to validate the results, nor including cross-sectorial inputs to enrich the projections and to incorporate possible interactions. Therefore, the results obtained, are not always useful because some assumptions can be overruled by other stakeholders.

- *Lack of updated economy-wide medium-term scenarios and of long term projections (2050) in order to plan a long term national mitigation strategy*
  The last economy-wide scenarios that Argentina has projected are the one's developed for the Third National Communication which used data up to 2012. There were presented in 2015 and had been used for the NDC baseline projection. Considering the fact that the political party in government has changed in the meantime, and so the political priority of climate change issues, many of the assumptions used to project scenarios need to be revised and validated, in order to have some new medium and long-term projections. The country already counts with the example of the NDC revision which merited the aforementioned increase of ambition.

- *Lack of a robust methodology for an economy-wide long-term trajectory*
  Finally, Argentina lacks a robust and coherent methodology to project economy-wide long-term scenarios. In the present, each ministry projects scenarios by itself for the medium term (2030) and uses different methodologies depending on what is more useful for the sector. There is no interaction analysis and no technical capacities within the government staff to run models up to 2040/2050.

Due to its condition of Non-Annex I party and the scarcity of local resources, Argentina has received international support in order to fulfill its commitments to the UNFCCC. For the development of the Second BUR, the financial resources that had been requested to GEF and complemented with funds from United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD), has been used for the recruitment of consultants that participated in the development of the chapters of the GHG inventory and mitigation actions of the AFOLU sector. Moreover, with the support provided by the LECB Program Argentina has started researching opportunities for the improvement of the GHG inventory and for the best possible implementation of the NDC. For this, external consultants had been hired to identify which were the main GHG emission-drivers and also for organizing the data-provider's information through the elaboration of roadmaps to give traceability of the activity data and the emission factors. All this, identifying the sources of information, the periodicity of generation of such information and the institutional arrangements, will allow maintaining updated the data management with the proper quality. CBIT will build on LECB outcomes, by ensuring that those capacities, originally placed in external consultants, remain with the NDCC and with relevant stakeholders within the GNCC.

While developing the submitted reports, including the second BUR, Argentina faced several transparency gaps, which had been explained above, and without CBIT help, the country would probably not be able to overcome them in the near future.

3) *The proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area[9] strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project*

[9] For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project's consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives and programs, please also describe which Aichi Target(s) the project will directly contribute to achieving.

In summary, this project aims to develop and strengthen Argentina's transparency mechanisms over time through defining and designing country-owned methodologies for a Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system, starting from enhancing measurement through a robust National Greenhouse Gas inventories system, strengthening arrangements and sectorial/local capacities for current mitigation actions and support received and tracking precise progress and the needs of adjustments for the short, mid and long term Nationally Determined Contributions targets.

More specifically, in order to overcome the above-mentioned transparency gaps, Argentina has identified the following nine areas/outputs for CBIT intervention grouped in three Outcomes.

The first Outcome 1.1 "*Argentina is able to elaborate and share consistent and accurate national and subnational GHG inventories*." will be achieved through the delivery of the following Outputs:

1.1.1 Sectorial templates and consistency guidelines on data collection and reporting are developed and related trainings are provided.

The output will deliver an enhanced methodology and tools for Argentina to gather and compile, in a timely and efficient way, inventory relevant data, considering inputs from all involved public and private stakeholders and data providers.

This output will provide an introduction guideline to GHG inventory compiling, as well as standardized sectorial templates so as to formally establish how the data has to be gathered, processed, estimated and presented, solving the problem of external consultants doing the job on their own way. Moreover, the proposed activities will create capacities at the local/provincial level of data providers.

Proposed activities

Development of:

- One compilation template, one guideline and one report for each inventory sector (Energy, IPPU, AFOLU, Waste),
- One GHG inventory introductory guide for the training of new work force,
- Training/workshop on the documents produced for each sector for technical staff involved in Inventory compiling as well as negotiators, within the Ministerial teams (for example, Energy, Agriculture, Foreign Affairs),
- Trainings on provincial/ municipal GHG inventory reporting templates,
- Translation matrix analysis and guidelines between IPCC and GPC reporting formats,
- Trainings for local governments on one pilot study - consistency between reporting forms between IPCC and GPC.

The proposed scope of work aligns to the following activities listed in the CBIT national programming directions: 18 (e), (d). Activities to provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13.

1.1.2 Institutional arrangements for sectorial inventories are formalized

This output will allow Argentina to propose a legal/institutional arrangement to be validated by the highest political level, for the involved ministries and data providers to be enforced to produce and report the necessary inventory activity data in the required time and manner.

Proposed activities

Development of:

- Legal binding instruments such as a GNCC disposition proposal to enforce competent Ministries and data providers in the timely and periodic provision of GHG inventory relevant information according to the developed templates and guidelines.

The proposed scope of work aligns to the following activities listed in the CBIT national programming directions: 18 (j), Activities to assist with improvement of transparency over time.

1.1.3 Country-specific emission factors and data activity are developed and/or enhanced for at least two sectors

Within this output, Argentina will be able to efficiently enhance and precise its activity data and emission factors, through studies that will improve the understanding of the emission sources in order to gain inventory accuracy, including the development of local parameters and emission factors as well as bottom-up approaches.

Proposed activities

Development of:

- Within AFOLU sector, a research study to evaluate how to improve Native Forest monitoring system by increasing the survey frequency and with the incorporation of cross-checks, particularly to quantify with more accuracy the silvo-pastoral activities (which currently may be accounted as deforested areas). Other alternative is to perform studies to elaborate models of C content in soils and dynamics of soil C or the evaluation of categories (Other Lands / Settlements / Wetlands) that in the current BUR have not been estimated due to the lack of data and methodologies.
- Within Livestock sub-sector, a study to update the livestock models used to describe the characteristics of the animals produced in different regions.
- Within Energy sector, an emissions-factor study for local fuels characteristics (Mineral Coal, Diesel, Fuel, Natural Gas, Biodiesel, compressed natural gas (CNG), Biogas) according to different technologies used, and in particular for the Transport subsector including different vehicle categories.
- Within Waste sector and IPPU, diverse surveys targeted to the main chambers of commerce within industrial wastewater and IPPU subsectors (private actors), to improve data to replace default estimations nowadays used.

Considering that Argentina's 2014 national inventory showed that almost 40% of its emissions come from the AFOLU sector, it is planned to start with improvements in this sector where there are still some categories which are estimated with default data. Afterwards, the other activities proposed will be carried out if the funding is enough.

The proposed scope of work aligns to the following activities listed in the CBIT national programming directions: 18 (f), Activities to provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13.

1.1.4 Expanded information sharing and knowledge management platform on national and subnational GHG inventory is improved

The proposed output will allow Argentina to have an enhanced platform for better engagement of all different sectors from the civil society. The main purpose is to create greater social awareness about climate change and the importance of climate global commitments.

Proposed activities

Development of:

- Improvements to the inventory platform in terms of usefulness and dynamism,
- Incorporation of interactive tools to address different types of audiences,
- Training tools for all types of users

The proposed scope of work aligns to the following activities listed in the CBIT national programming directions: 18 (a), (c) on strengthening national institutions for transparency-related activities.

1.1.5 Peer exchange activities for experience sharing are implemented

Through this output Argentina will benefit from the lessons learnt by other countries in their path to implement the Enhanced Transparency Framework created by the article 13th of the PA. The peer exchange proposed will enrich Argentina's experience especially by south-south cooperation that includes Latin America peer to peer interaction. Within this output, the CBIT project will support Argentina to contribute and be an active partner of the CBIT Global Coordination Platform, by updating and exchanging information with other countries through the global platform as well as actively participating at the workshops. The output will therefore define how national CBIT information shall be shared and updated on the global coordination platform. Sharing lessons learnt and experiences under the platform will ensure alignment of Argentina's CBIT project with other national, regional and global transparency initiatives.

Proposed activities

Development of:

- South-south peer exchange workshops
- Knowledge sharing through the Global Coordination Platform

The second Outcome 2.1 "Stakeholders within the National Climate Change Cabinet provide and exchange information for domestic tracking of mitigation actions and support received" will be achieved through the delivery of the following Outputs:

2.1.1 Institutional arrangements for domestic tracking of mitigation actions and support received are formalized through the National Climate Change Cabinet

This output will deliver relevant legal/institutional arrangements proposals to address the lack of communication among ministries in order to establish common progress indicators and the lack of a standardized way to provide useful data for mitigation tracking.

Proposed activities

Development of:

- Legal binding instruments such as a National Cabinet disposition proposal which states the obligations for the competent ministries to deliver timely and periodically the necessary information to track mitigation actions according the progress indicators developed and validated through the National Cabinet during 2017.

The proposed scope of work aligns to the following activities listed in the CBIT national programming directions: 18 (j), Activities to assist with improvement of transparency over time.

2.1.2 Sectorial templates/software and guidelines on mitigation actions and support received tracking are developed and related trainings are provided

Within this output, Argentina will create the tools for addressing the lack of common/comparable sectorial indicators for tracking mitigation progresses and support received, in its path to creating a comprehensive MRV system.

Proposed activities

Development of:

- Standardized data loading templates/software, with relevant flexibility to cover the particularities of all sectors, in order to gather relevant data for monitoring the progress of mitigation actions and the support received by the different ministries within the GNCC. These templates will use as their baseline the indicators developed by the Ministry of Environment validated through the National Cabinet during 2017.
- At least nine guidelines to complete the templates emphasizing in the objective pursued for monitoring the progress of mitigation measures and support received by the different Ministries within the GNCC, based on the reporting requirements contained in the BUR (one per each GNCC sectorial thematic table).

- Trainings regarding data loading to the new templates/software utilizing the guidelines created.

The proposed scope of work aligns to the following activities listed in the CBIT national programming directions: 18 (d), (i) Activities to provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13.

The third Outcome 3.1 "Stakeholders within the National Climate Change Cabinet use consistent GHG emissions modeling, economy wide scenarios, and analysis of interactions for climate policy decision making" will be achieved through the delivery of the following Outputs:

3.1.1 Medium term models to evaluate the interactions between sectorial mitigation actions are developed (2020/2025)

Through this output, the country will find the proper means to assess in a holistic nation-wide scope if the mitigation actions in place are giving positive net results in the mid-term. This will allow making the corresponding policy modifications necessary to contribute achieving the mid-term global goals of the PA.

Proposed activities

Development of:

- Modeling tools to analyze and assess the interaction between different sectorial mitigation actions and thus obtain more precise relevant data about the projected reductions in order to better estimate medium-term aggregate emission scenarios (2020-2025)
- Common methodology and application guidelines to ensure compatibility and comparability of sectorial projections
- Studies to obtain projections that can be included in the mitigation decision-making process

3.1.2 Economy-wide long-term modeling and scenarios are developed (2030/2040/2050)

This output will give Argentina a comprehensive perspective in order to confront measures taken with the long-term mitigation goals.

Proposed activities

Development of:

- Simulation and modeling tools for the elaboration of long-term socioeconomic and sectorial projections which are coherent and compatible between different sectors.
- Methodology, templates and guidelines to ensure consistency and comparability of long-term sectorial and socioeconomic projections among sectors so as to be used and included in the mitigation decision making process.

Both outputs 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 proposed scope of work aligns to the following activities listed in the CBIT national programming directions: 18 (b), Activities to strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities, and 18 (d), (e), Activities to provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13.

4) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and co-financing;

Climate change became a state policy with a strong political support and commitment with the new government in 2015. The key milestone was the presidential resolution that created the National Climate Change Cabinet which led to a fully participative process of revision and validation of Argentina's iNDC. Therefore, the country was the first in the region to present a revised NDC, increasing its ambition before the five-year period established in the Paris Agreement, which evidences that this international commitment is a state policy for the country. Such review was based on what is set out on article 4, paragraph 11, of the

agreement about increasing the level of ambition and providing more clarity, transparency and understanding to the contribution, according to decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 27.

However, the elements contained in the Enhanced Transparency Framework to track the progress of the NDCs represent a strong challenge for all developing countries. The NDC compliance is not only about the ambition of the mitigation actions, but also about the transparency and the clarity of the information provided about GHG emissions and the progressive effective implementation of these actions.

This project will design country-owned GHG inventory system and methodologies for a domestic MRV system, necessary to achieve the global goal to limit "the increase of global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels".

This project is therefore necessary to complement in a robust manner these proactive domestic policy efforts that have been taking place during the last couple of years thanks to international projects such as LECB and REDD+. This CBIT project will address the transparency gaps identified through the ICA process, so as to enhance estimations through more robust GHG inventory system that will improve the quality of the next BURs by making the data gathering and processing much more efficient and organized. The project will also strengthen institutional arrangements and sectorial/local capacities for current mitigation actions and support received, and will help planning precise progress towards the short, mid and long term NDC targets.

As an example, also mentioned in the coordination section below, the BUR-III project will estimate the national GHG emissions and will compile the results of the 2016 GHG inventory report to be presented at the UNFCCC. In order to do that, it will work in close coordination with the CBIT initiative, which will develop a broader, strategic long-term monitoring tool for NDC compliance: the National GHG Inventory System, so as to guarantee the continuous process of elaboration of the national GHG inventories in a timely and efficient way.

Outcomes will also provide valuable inputs for the regional and global definition of the modalities, procedures and guidelines regulating the Enhanced Transparency Framework.

The GEF CBIT program is designed to improve mandatory reporting of signatories of the UNFCCC. As such, this project is financed on fully agreed cost basis. In the case of this program, eligible activities have been described in the GEF document Programming directions for the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (GEF/C.50/06). The activities of this project are consistent with the scope of the programming directions. Co-financing is not a necessary requirement for this project, however the Government of Argentina through the Ministry of Environment has anticipated contributing to the project with an in-kind co-financing of 350,000 USD, considering the availability of 12 technical personnel, and this has been included in table C.

5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); and

This action proposed is strictly necessary to help the country and its new government in the path towards transparency. Its need and importance were explicitly mentioned in the recent NDC reviewed submitted to the UNFCCC by the country: "Such review is based on what is set out on article 4, paragraph 11 of the Paris Agreement focused on increasing the level of ambition and providing more clarity, transparency and understanding to the contribution, according to decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 27." Argentina has started this path, but needs CBIT support to continue delivering tangible results for the global goals.

This proposal aims to design country-owned methodologies for an MRV system and a National GHG Inventory System, with a proactive vision. Therefore, the project will enhance Argentina´s capacity to implement the Paris Agreement. Having an operational and functional monitoring system will act as repository of knowledge and information. This is linked to the GEF-6 climate change mitigation focal area Indicator 3 on MRV systems for emissions reductions in place and reporting verified data.

The project will monitor an additional indicator for qualitative assessment of institutional capacity for transparency-related activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. The baseline and target will be set

during the project development phase following the scale of 1-4 as per the guidance on Annex IV of the GEF programming directions for the CBIT.

6) Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

The impact of the technical assistance on monitoring reductions of Greenhouse Gases, though indirect, will be significant and innovative. The project activities will improve the quality of the GHG inventory and will establish different indicators, in an accurate way, for the monitoring of actions of mitigation in the different sectors of the economy.

The domestic monitoring of these actions will allow not only to obtain information to improve the completeness of the reports committed and to follow up the level of achievement of the national and international goals, but it will also allow assessing the relevance of the actions implemented. The monitoring of the mentioned actions can allow re-addressing the efforts in the cases that are regarded as not achieving the expected results.

Thus, the technical assistance while contributing to the definition of the methodology to be used and especially on the formation of national human capacities will have a significant impact on the sustainability of the climate change strategies of the country. Finally, the existence of specific monitoring metrics and MRV systems has become increasingly a requirement of funding organizations at the time of granting credits and funding, thus the availability of the hereby developed monitoring tools and capacities will generate an additional advantage to the country while making it possible to enter the funding markets.

Moreover, through the outcomes of this project Argentina will obtain the necessary tools to propose a real and feasible more ambitious mitigation target in the medium term. Even more than it did with the recent NDC revision.

2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society organizations (yes ☒ /no☐) and indigenous peoples (yes ☐ /no ☒)? If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project preparation.

The key stakeholders and brief description of their engagement in the project design and preparation is provided in the Table below.

Name of key stakeholders	**Responsibility/expertise**
National Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Main coordinator of climate change activities on behalf of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. It is in charge of the compilation of the GHG inventory, coordination of Inter-ministerial interaction, development of adaptation plans, MRV guidelines and the reports for the UNFCCC. Partner in implementation
Under-Secretariat of Climate Change and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	In charge of organizing and coordinating the dynamic of the National Climate Change Cabinet
Ministry of Energy and Mining	Member of the National Climate Change Cabinet. In charge of planning and implementing Energy sector actions. It will provide information and receive trainings during the CBIT project.
Ministry of Transport	Member of the National Climate Change Cabinet. In charge of planning and implementing Transport subsector actions. It will provide information and receive trainings during the CBIT project.
Ministry of Production	Member of the National Climate Change Cabinet. In charge of planning and implementing Industry related actions. It will provide information and receive trainings during the CBIT project.

Ministry of Agroindustry	Member of the National Climate Change Cabinet. In charge of planning and implementing AFOLU sector actions. It will provide information and receive trainings during the CBIT project.
Department of Forestry, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	In charge of planning Forestry sector actions, and for sectorial information generation. It will provide information and receive trainings during the CBIT project.
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Negotiators teams before UNFCCC. It will receive trainings during the CBIT project.
National Department of Integrated Waste Management, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	In charge of planning Waste sector actions, and for sectorial information generation. It will provide information and receive trainings during the CBIT project.
Industrial Chambers	Data providers for IPPU and Industrial wastewater information. They will provide information and receive trainings during the CBIT project.
CAMMESA, ENARGAS	Data providers Energy information They will provide information and receive trainings during the CBIT project.
Members of Academia	The different academic centers that generate important information on climate change such as local Emission Factors They will participate in workshops and trainings during the CBIT project.
Fundacion Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN)	This Non-Governmental Organization will participate in workshops during the CBIT project, especially linked with Gender Equality aspects.

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. Are issues on gender equality and women's empowerment taken into account? (yes x☐ /no). If yes, briefly describe how it will be mainstreamed into project preparation (e.g. gender analysis), taking into account the differences, needs, roles and priorities of women and men.

According to the Gender Gap Index 2011 (Word Economic Forum), Argentina ranked 28 out of 135 countries, with excellent scores regarding access to health and education and room to improve in Economy and mainly in Politics. The importance of gender at the government level is reflected by the existence of an Under-secretariat of Gender and Sexual diversity that aims to promote and implement policies that contribute with complete equality between genders as well as to mainstream gender within local government, within its Secretariat of Human Rights. A deeper gender analysis will be developed during the preparation phase.

Regarding the link to climate change, some initiatives have already been taken, such as UN-REDD program workshops about gender approach in forest and climate change policies. This CBIT project will seek to build on past efforts of linking gender issues to climate change. Reference shall be made to the GEF Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) to ensure that gender perspectives are introduced into MRV as well as facilitate the involvement of gender actors. In this regard, gender-disaggregation principle will be adhered to during data collection, analysis and reporting. This CBIT project will take care to include women in the implementation of the project, from the project board and project management team to consultants, and from training to active participation in consultation workshops. In this sense, project management and monitoring will be gender-sensitive, including gender-disaggregated indicators showing who is involved and whose views are represented targeting equal participation.

In addition, this project will organize gender activities to be defined during the PPG stage, such as workshops on integrating gender responsiveness in the NDC. Institutions to be consulted on gender engagement will include, but not be limited to: Under-Secretariat of Gender and Sexual Diversity, the gender focal point for the convention on climate change, civil society organizations as well as research institutions and development partners working in the fields of gender and climate change.

4. Risks. Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design (table format acceptable).

Risk	Description	Likelihood	Mitigation alternative
Insufficient base information	Sectorial statistics and unprocessed data are not systematically nor periodically surveyed, therefore is it difficult to keep the consistency through the time series.	High	The development of local studies and development of templates and methodologies will help to close some of the information gaps. Moreover, the inclusion of the data providers such as the Ministries in the development of the inventory will increase their commitment to produce base information. Lastly, the national Government has subscribed the Open Government Partnership which will stimulate the information creation and sharing.
Professional and staff turn-over	The NDCC has a high rotation rate of its staff, this replicates within the entire government. As many of the activities proposed in this project involve capacity building, there is a risk of migration or loss of the acquired capacities due to migration.	Medium	Elaboration of guidelines that will make sustainable the new capacities acquired. Periodic training cycles for different stakeholders within the National Climate Change Cabinet
Insufficient participation of key institutions	Data providers are key for the elaboration of the BURs and for planning and monitoring. If these key actors do not know or recognize its importance, the production of quality data will be compromised.	Medium	The project includes the elaboration of institutional arrangements to formalize timely data provision, and trainings that will raise awareness of the importance of each step of the information chain.
Slow or inexistent coordination among institutions	Nowadays the Ministries work very independently; there are few interactions between them beside the National Climate Change Cabinet. This can produce overlap of activities and makes difficult the information exchange.	Medium/ Low	Thanks to the National Cabinet, more interactions are emerging, and the meetings provide a perfect place to share activities and generate new exchange networks. Moreover, the creation of institutional arrangements will reinforce the maintenance of the communication channels
Duplicity of activities among other related projects	As it was stated in the above risk, the slow of inexistent communication between stakeholders can produce overlap activities.	Low	The creation of an exchange space within the meeting of the National Cabinet offers the opportunity to share and connect between different areas and reduce the overlap.
Lack of political willingness	High political support is very relevant in order to keep all the involved Ministries on board and not to lose their commitment with the climate change issue.	Low	The fact that the National Climate Change Cabinet has been created by presidential decree, gives it much more impulse. The project plans as one of its activities the development of institutional arrangements to formalize the inter-ministerial interaction.

5. Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other initiatives.

The following is a short list of the most related and relevant active initiatives linked to the project outlined:

- *LECB – Argentina:* initiative executed jointly with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Since 2016, LECB has provided support to launch and organize the National Climate Change Cabinet so as to revise and improve the Argentinean NDC. During 2017, LECB has focused on designing the implementation of the measures included in the NDC, by creating, along with the relevant ministries: roadmaps and Sectorial Action Plans for the mitigation actions proposed; as well as instruments to contribute to the initial development of the subnational capacity building. CBIT will support the capacity building started with LECB at the subnational level, and will create the MRV framework to keep the implementation progress of the mitigation actions planned.
- *Readiness Fund of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF):* funded by the World Bank, the project is focused on the preparation of the implementation of the REDD+ mechanism in Argentina. This project aims to improve the data quality of AFOLU which is one of the main sectors of Argentina's GHG inventory. This project will provide inputs for the CBIT project through constant communication between World Bank focal point and CBIT project manager within the Ministry. REDD+ activities do not include compilation templates, nor guidelines and reports for each inventory sector. They do not include either a survey frequency with the incorporation of cross-checks, in order to quantify the silvo-pastoral activities with more accuracy, nor performing studies to elaborate models of C content in soils and dynamics of soil C or the evaluation of categories (Other Lands / Settlements / Wetlands) that in the current BUR have not been estimated due to the lack of data and methodologies. Therefore, overlapping CBIT is guaranteed to be avoided.
- *Monitoring of National Forest and Information Systems for a Transparent REDD+ Process*: this initiative, which will be implemented by the International Climate Initiative, will strengthen the monitoring system for the Forestry sector. CBIT will maximize this by providing capacity-building on GHG inventories of the relevant technical areas involved in the Forestry sector and will create the institutional arrangements to formalize the relationship with the NDCC that is responsible of reporting mitigation MRV.
- *Advancing from Mitigation Ambition to Action:* the project financed by IKI from the German Ministry of Environment is working with the Ministry of Energy offering analytical support to the government by doing an analysis of the co-benefits of the NDC and the social, economic and environmental impacts of mitigation especially in the Energy sector in order to accelerate the development and implementation of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), primarily through the articulation of the social, economic and environmental benefits of mitigation. This CBIT project will coordinate with this initiative so as to obtain MRV social, economic and environmental co-benefits incorporated in the system apart from climate mitigation benefits.
- *3rd Biennial Update Report (BUR III):* initiative executed jointly with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with the objective of assisting the Argentine Republic just for the specific preparation of its Third Biennial Update Report (BUR) in fulfillment of its obligations towards the UNFCCC. This project will estimate the national GHG emissions and will compile the results of the 2016 GHG inventory report to be presented at the UNFCCC. In order to do that it will work in close coordination with the CBIT initiative, which will develop a broader, strategic long-term monitoring tool for NDC compliance: The National GHG Inventory System, so as to guarantee the continuous process of elaboration of the national GHG inventories in a timely and efficient way. Both projects will be managed and coordinated by the National Department of Climate Change therefore this will ensure efficient alignment in activities and outputs thereby ensuring synergies and avoiding duplication.

6. Consistency with National Priorities. Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions? (yes ☒ /no☐). If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

- *BURs and NCs: This project is aligned with the national priorities and needs explained in the first and second BURs as well as in the Third National Communication (or NC3). Moreover, the different components of this project will address the gaps and capacity building needs identified by the ICA process.*

- *NDCs: Two out of three outputs of the proposed project are thought to create the basic elements of the domestic monitoring system to assess the progress of implementation of the mitigation actions, and will collaborate with the medium and long-term climate change policy planning.*

7. Knowledge Management. Outline the knowledge management approach for the project, including, if any, plans for the project to learn from other relevant projects and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly form, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.

As stated in the baseline and proposed in the alternative scenario, Argentina has a specific output to deliver a user-friendly inventory platform to create general awareness and to make relevant data useful and dynamic for all kinds of users. This aims to improve the knowledge management related to climate change including elements of data sharing, gathering and communication approaches.

Moreover, Argentina is already using the approach of public consultation to elaborate different policy elements related to climate change. In fact, the National Climate Change Cabinet coordinates its work through thematic sectorial meetings as well as in transversal meetings. It also includes a formal instance of participation for the provinces through COFEMA and NGOs, work associations, private, academic and scientific sectors and municipalities through the Extended Table of the National Cabinet of Climate Change. This participative approach brings back what was done during the Third National Communication which was co-authored by a "Technical Advisory Office" of non-public sector stakeholders, composed by Associations of workers, the General Confederation of Labor, Central of Workers of Argentina, Civil society organizations and academic institutions.

The project is thought to use this experience and enhance it.

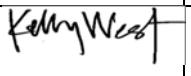
PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT[10] OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template. For SGP, use this SGP OFP endorsement letter).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE *(MM/dd/yyyy)*
Nazareno Castillo Marin	GEF Operational Focal Point Argentina	**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**	**NOVEMBER,08, 2017**

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies[11] and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation under GEF-6.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date *(MM/dd/yyyy)*	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
Kelly West, Senior Program Manager & Global Environment Facility Coordinator Corporate Services Division		December 20, 2017	Geordie Colville Climate Change Mitigation Portfolio Manager	+254713601293	geordie.colville@unep.org

C. ADDITIONAL GEF PROJECT AGENCY CERTIFICATION (APPLICABLE ONLY TO NEWLY ACCREDITED GEF PROJECT AGENCIES)

[10] For regional and/or global projects in which participating countries are identified, OFP endorsement letters from these countries are required
even though there may not be a STAR allocation associated with the project.
[11] GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF and CBIT

For newly accredited GEF Project Agencies, please download and fill up the required **GEF Project Agency Certification of Ceiling Information Template** to be attached as an annex to the PIF.