United Nations Development Programme

Project title: Conserving biodiversity through sustainable management in production landscapes in Costa Rica		
Country: Costa Rica	**Implementing Partner:** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	**Management Arrangements:** Direct Implementation Modality (DIM)
UNDAF/Country Programme Outcome: Expected Outcome 4.2: The public, private, and civil society sectors will have advanced in the incorporation and implementation of national policies and strategies that consider the management of the quality of the environment and the integrated management of natural resources, as well as in the valuation of the environmental goods and services, their protection, conservation and use.		
UNDP Strategic Plan Output: Output 1.3: Solutions developed at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste.		
UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Category: Low	**UNDP Gender Marker:** GEN2	
Atlas Project ID/Award ID number: 00091073	**Atlas Output ID/Project ID number:** 00096514	
UNDP-GEF PIMS ID number: 5842	**GEF ID number:** 9416	
Planned start date: 05/2018	**Planned end date:** 05/2023	
LPAC date: TBD		

Brief project description:

The main objective of the project *Conserving biodiversity through sustainable management in production landscapes in Costa Rica*, with financing from the Global Environment Facility with the support of the UNDP Development Program, is to mainstream biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, and carbon sequestration objectives into the production landscapes and interurban biological corridors of Costa Rica. This objective will be achieved using a multifocal strategy that includes the development of favorable conditions (i.e., policies, technologies, markets, and finance mechanisms) for delivering multiple global environmental benefits in managed production landscapes and interurban biological corridors, and the delivery of multiple global environmental benefits (i.e., biodiversity conservation, reduced carbon emissions, and increased carbon storage) in two production landscapes: the buffer zone of the protected areas of the Amistad Pacific Conservation Area (ACLA-P) and the María Aguilar Inter-urban Biological Corridor (MAIBC). Through this strategy, the project will contribute to reducing the accelerated loss of natural habitat caused by rapid and uncontrolled land use change, primarily due to the expansion of agricultural activities in the ACLA-P and urban growth in the MAIBC. The project will span 5 years with a total investment of $6,699,315 USD, which is to be provided by the GEF.

FINANCING PLAN	
GEF Trust Fund *or LDCF or SCCF or other vertical fund*	USD 6,699,315
UNDP TRAC resources	USD 0
Cash co-financing to be administered by UNDP	USD 0
(1) Total Budget administered by UNDP	**USD 6,699,315**
PARALLEL CO-FINANCING (*all other co-financing that is not cash co-financing administered by UNDP)*	
National High Technology Center (CeNAT)	USD 786,594
National Center for Geo-environmental Information Ministry of Environment and Energy (CENIGA-MINAE)	USD 127,000
Livestock Corporation (CORFOGA)	USD 31,590
National Geographic Institute (IGN)	USD 8,654,722
Institute of Aqueducts and Sewers of Costa Rica (AyA)	USD 237,675
National Forestry Financing Fund (FONAFIFO)	USD 10,693,000
National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC)	USD 5,567,733
(2) Total co-financing	**USD 26,098,314**
(3) Grand-Total Project Financing (1)+(2)	**USD 32,797,629**

SIGNATURES		
Signature: print name below	**Agreed by Government**	**Date/Month/Year:**
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Signature: print name below	**Agreed by UNDP**	**Date/Month/Year:**

I. TABLE OF CONTENTS

II. LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACLA-P	La Amistad Pacific Conservation Area
ASADAS	Community Water Associations
AWP	Annual Work Plan
AyA	Institute of Aqueducts and Sewers of Costa Rica
BMP	Best management practice
BIOFIN	Biodiversity Finance Initiative
CDR	Combined Delivery Reports
CENAGRO VI	Sixth National Agricultural Census
CeNAT	National High Technology Center
CENIGA	National Center for Geo-environmental Information
CNFL	National Power and Light Company
CONARE	Council of State Universities
CORFOGA	Livestock Corporation
COVIRENAS	Natural Resource Surveillance Committees
CPAP	Country Programme Action Plan
CPD	Country Program Document
CSO	Civil society organization
DGAC	General Directorate of Civil Aviation
DIGECA	Office for Environmental Quality Management of the Ministry of Environment and Energy
DIM	Direct Implementation Modality
DRI	National Registry
ERC	Evaluation Resource Center
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FONAFIFO	National Forestry Financing Fund
GAM	Greater Metropolitan Area
GEB	Global environmental benefit
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse gases
GIS	Geographic information system
ha	Hectares
IEO	Independent Evaluation Office
IGN	National Geographic Institute
INEC	National Institute of Statistics and Census
INVU	National Institute of Housing and Urban Development
km^2	Square kilometers
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
LANAMME	National Laboratory of Materials and Structural Models
LU/LC	Land use/land cover
LMT	Landscape management tool
LPAC	Local Project Appraisal Committee
MAG	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
MAIBC	María Aguilar River Inter-urban Biological Corridor

MFE	Management focal elements
MINAE	Ministry of Environment and Energy
MOCUPP	Land Use Change Monitoring System within Production Landscapes
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRV	Measurement, report, and verification
MTR	Mid-term Review
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action
NGO	Nongovernmental organization
OFP	Operational Focal Point
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PIF	Project Identification Form
PILA	La Amistad International Park
PIR	Project Implementation Report
POPP	Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures
PPG	Project Preparatory Grant
PRF	Project Results Framework
PRIAS	Airborne Research and Remote Sensing Program
PRONAMEC	National Ecological Monitoring Programme
PUFL	Production Units Free of Loss of Forest Cover
RCU	Regional Coordination Unit
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RTA	Regional Technical Advisor
SBAA	Standard Basic Assistance Agreement
SDI	Spatial data infrastructure
SESP	Social and Environmental and Social Screening Template
SETENA	National Environmental Technical Secretariat
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SIMOCUTE	Monitoring System for Land and Ecosystem Cover and Use
SINAC	National System of Conservation Areas
SINIA	National Environmental Information System
SINIGIRH	National Information System for Integrated Water Resources Management
SIRI	Land Registry Information System
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SNIT	National Territorial Information System
TE	Terminal Evaluation
ToR	Terms of reference
UNDAF	UNDP Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP-GEF	UNDP Global Environmental Finance Unit
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USD	United States Dollars

III. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

1. Costa Rica is well known for its efforts to protect its natural lands and wealth of biodiversity through a network of protected areas that provides protection to approximately 27% of its total continental area (51,100 square kilometers [km^2]). This successful network is in direct contrast with the rapid expansion of agricultural borders in rural areas that threaten wetlands, privately owned forests, and other terrestrial ecosystems covering an estimated area of 28,419.32 km^2 (55.6% of the total area). Crops grown for export (i.e., pineapple and palm oil), and grasslands for cattle-grazing have expanded at a rate that has surpassed the capacity of national and local government entities to control and reduce negative impacts on biodiversity and forests. As a result, Costa Rican landscapes that are outside of the protected areas network are fragmented and the few blocks that do exist are threatened.

2. Although some records indicate that Costa Rica is recovering its forest cover, the country is in fact losing its natural forested habitat. From 2000 to 2015, between 144,398 and 224,406 hectares (ha) of forest were lost (source PIF). One of the key causes of loss in forest cover, as identified by the National Forestry Financing Fund (FONAFIFO), were competing land uses. Thus, it is more likely for pineapple production ($8,000 ha per year) to displace forest than for yucca production ($1,500 ha per year) to do so. In Costa Rica loss in forest cover, is closely related to the expansion of unsustainable cattle ranching and agriculture. Factors such as household income, labor availability, and educational levels can also marginally affect decision making when it comes to determining land use change.

3. The national parks and protected areas suffer less loss in forest cover than that of private forests. The highest loss in forest cover rate is found to be in early-regeneration forests, followed by medium-to-late-regeneration forests. The different rates of loss in forest cover are due to the fact that early-regeneration forests are those growing on pastureland belonging to private owners, and are therefore more likely to be eliminated. On the other hand, mature habitat, if established as a forest according to the national definition under the Forestry law, may not be eliminated. The greatest loss of regenerated forests is found to be on lands dedicated to agricultural activities.

4. Since 2005, over 50% of the country's forest cover is found on private lands. Compared to protected areas, privately held lands offer greater income opportunity; therefore, these lands suffer the highest rate of loss in forest cover. This is true for all stages of forest growth, from the early stages of regeneration to older-growth forests. However, new forest is therefore the only stratum that presents a net loss of coverage. At the same time, forests in private lands were responsible for 55% of all carbon sequestered during the period from 2000 to 2005. The importance of private lands for forest conservation is further highlighted by that fact that an estimated 650,000 ha of land used for agricultural production has the capacity to be used as forested land. Situations such as presence of early-regeneration forest in private lands, the weakness of the national government in enforcing environmental legislation, and policies that reduce the competitiveness of forestry production, encourage the preference for agricultural use over forestry use, even when soils are not suitable for agricultural production. This can be mitigated by creating incentives to stimulate an increase in forest cover on private production landscapes, which will in turn generate additional income for small farmers. If loss in forest cover is closely related to changes in land use, economic incentives to regenerate forest must be offered. Monitoring land use change on agricultural lands linked to tenancy is a necessary starting point to support future regeneration incentives.

5. The rapid expansion of agricultural cash crops in Costa Rica is in parallel with the rapid expansion of urban areas, which by 2010 covered 2,052 km^2. In the last 20 years, Costa Rica has gone from being a predominantly rural society to an urban society. Urban areas now constitute the second highest threat to Costa Rica's biodiversity, as forest cover is eliminated to make way for residential areas. The lack of government capacity to protect private lands and the lack of protection of rivers by municipal authorities creates additional problems such as contamination from illegal discharges and urban solid waste. Compounding this problem is the likelihood of flooding during the rainy season. During the time that Costa Rica was conserving forest through its national protected areas system, the size of the country's cities and production landscapes were expanding to accommodate a more diverse export base with more externalities.

6. The main threats to Costa Rica's biodiversity and natural forests resulting from changes in land use/land cover (LU/LC) are summarized as follows:

Threats	Effect on Biodiversity / Land Degradation

Expansion of unsustainable agricultural practices, especially cattle ranching and cash crops (i.e., pineapple and African palm oil)	Between 1987 and 2013, 7 out of every 10 ha deforested in Costa Rica was converted to pastureland for cattle grazing. Other crops for domestic markets (i.e., rice, beans, etc.) and international markets (i.e., pineapple, sugarcane, African palm oil) were the direct cause for 2 out of every 10 ha of forest loss. In buffer zones of protected areas in La Amistad Pacific Conservation Area (ACLA-P) the cultivation of pineapple and African oil palm has increased significantly in recent years. This rapid, uncontrolled expansion and the use of unsustainable agricultural practices (large-scale land clearing for monoculture, excessive use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers) has led to habitat loss, soil erosion, and degradation and fragmentation of forests, with negative impacts on connectivity and ecological integrity.
Uncontrolled urban growth and land use change	The rapid expansion of residential and commercial land uses on natural lands has impacted riverbanks, ecosystem connectivity (fragmentation of secondary forest), and areas of protection for surface water bodies and springs. For example, in 2005 the area comprising the María Aguilar River Inter-urban Biological Corridor (MAIBC) located in central Costa Rica, and which is part of the municipality of San José, had 448.65 km^2 of fragmented secondary forest and 59.03 km^2 of continuous secondary forest (total of 507.68 km^2). By 2015, this natural forest cover had been reduced to 334.03 km^2 (130.49 km^2 of fragmented secondary forest and 203.54 km^2 of secondary forest). Illegal encroachment by urban developers and households onto riverbanks presents a high risk, hinders biodiversity conservation, affects surface water quality, and fragments the landscape. Insufficient connectivity results in increased vulnerability of species suffering from the need to adapt to highly alter urban ecosystems.
Forest fires	Open burning of forests is very destructive practice widely used in agricultural activities. When these fires get out of control they reduce the forest cover, thereby putting the conservation of natural water supply areas at risk. According to the National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC), forest fires affected 5,070 ha in 2015. Fires associated with agricultural practices are the source of degradation of many ecologically sensitive areas around the country, such as the ACLA-P in southern Costa Rica. This threat becomes greater given the limited capacity of environmental authorities to monitor the practice and the lack of knowledge or awareness by authorities about fire management, prevention, and control.
Loss in forest cover and degradation of forests and mangroves due to conventional production practices	It is estimated that 18% of mangroves have been lost in the last 13 years. The cultivation of crops such as pineapple is often associated with an increased use of agrochemicals that are applied directly to the crops and to erosion, increasing run off into wetlands and accelerate eutrophication processes. The excess water from agricultural irrigation that enters wetland systems also alters the natural hydrological dynamics of some wetlands. Furthermore, the agricultural and cattle ranching border continues to expand in many areas that are used for the production of pineapple, rice, cattle, and palm oil, which results in canal development, wetland drainage, and habitat loss.

7. The long-term solution to mitigate the prevailing threats to biodiversity is an iterative process to sustainably manage production and urban landscapes, thereby ensuring sustainable production practices and connectivity between these landscapes and protected areas. This process will be supported by a nationwide institutional analysis with actions aimed at reducing threats, and which will include institutional stakeholders, the private sector, and civil society using an environmentally focused geographic information system (GIS). This will help mainstream biodiversity into production practices and sustainably manage land, forests, and biological corridors. However, to achieve this goal, the following barriers must be overcome:

Ineffective use of environmental information to enforce environmental regulations and promote sustainable practices.	Institutions in Costa Rica that manage environmental information develop independent systems that are not updated regularly and do not share information. In addition, the measurement, report, and verification system (MRV) systems being designed are very complex. Thus, on one side of the spectrum there are very advanced and resourced systems being developed, and on the other, the country still lacks information clearing houses for many environmental areas of institutional action. There is a tendency for institutions to strengthen and grow their GIS departments, with the unfortunate result of duplication of efforts, and an atomization of roles that has affected the availability of easily used and shared environmental information. The result of this is that environmental information is not being used effectively to enforce the Forestry Law by agencies such as SINAC or by municipal authorities. Decision makers have no access to regularly updated information on land use change; for example, it took 30 years to update the agricultural census for the country. Thus, it is difficult for environmental authorities and land use planners to assess the exact amount of area under cultivation or where these areas are located. There are no effective technological tools available that provide environmental information and effective monitoring to enforce the Forestry Law; in addition, infractions can only be identified through sporadic institutional inspections or reports by concerned citizens.
Collaborative action between public, private, and civil society sectors to address drivers of habitat loss in production and urban territorial settings is scarce.	The environment is a contested space in Costa Rica. Some producers and urban developers make claims that environmentalists are against them, others claim that little is done to resolve threats to biodiversity and forest ecosystems. Confrontation has been more common than collaboration with regard to linking forest and biodiversity conservation with economic development. Costa Rican civil society is capable of opposing government measures that potentially affect biodiversity and forest ecosystems, such as a moratorium on oil exploration in the Caribbean and declaring open pit mining illegal. However, this capacity is weakened by the limited networking with the private sector and government institutions. The effect of this is that collaborative processes in the country are rarely multisectoral. Even though collaborative approaches are widely employed, they are usually limited in scope and tend to include only representatives of civil society, or they may be centered around the private sector, or are participatory only at the institutional level and ignore local groups and communities. In summary, collaborative actions that include public, private, and civil society sectors to address the current threats to biodiversity and forest ecosystems in production and urban territorial settings in an articulated manner are weak.

IV. STRATEGY

8. The project strategy will have a nationwide impact triggered by national policies and actions on the ground. The strategy aims to deliver global environmental benefits (GEBs) by promoting a dynamic multisectoral management process of official environmental information, in order to increase collective action for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and forests through sustainable land use management in rural and urban landscapes. This premise will be tested in the production landscapes of the ACLA-P and MAIBC (Figure 1), covering 421,161 ha (279,461ha of production landscape within the ACLA-P and 141,700 ha of biological corridors in the MAIBC)[1].

[1] Source: INFORME FINAL PNUD-COSTA RICA. Consultoría para "Realizar estudios de línea de base en el Corredor Biológico Inter Urbano María Aguilar y el Área de Conservación de La Amistad Pacífico". Proyecto Conservación de la biodiversidad a través de la gestión sostenible en los paisajes productivos Propuesta técnica. January 2017. 87 pages.)

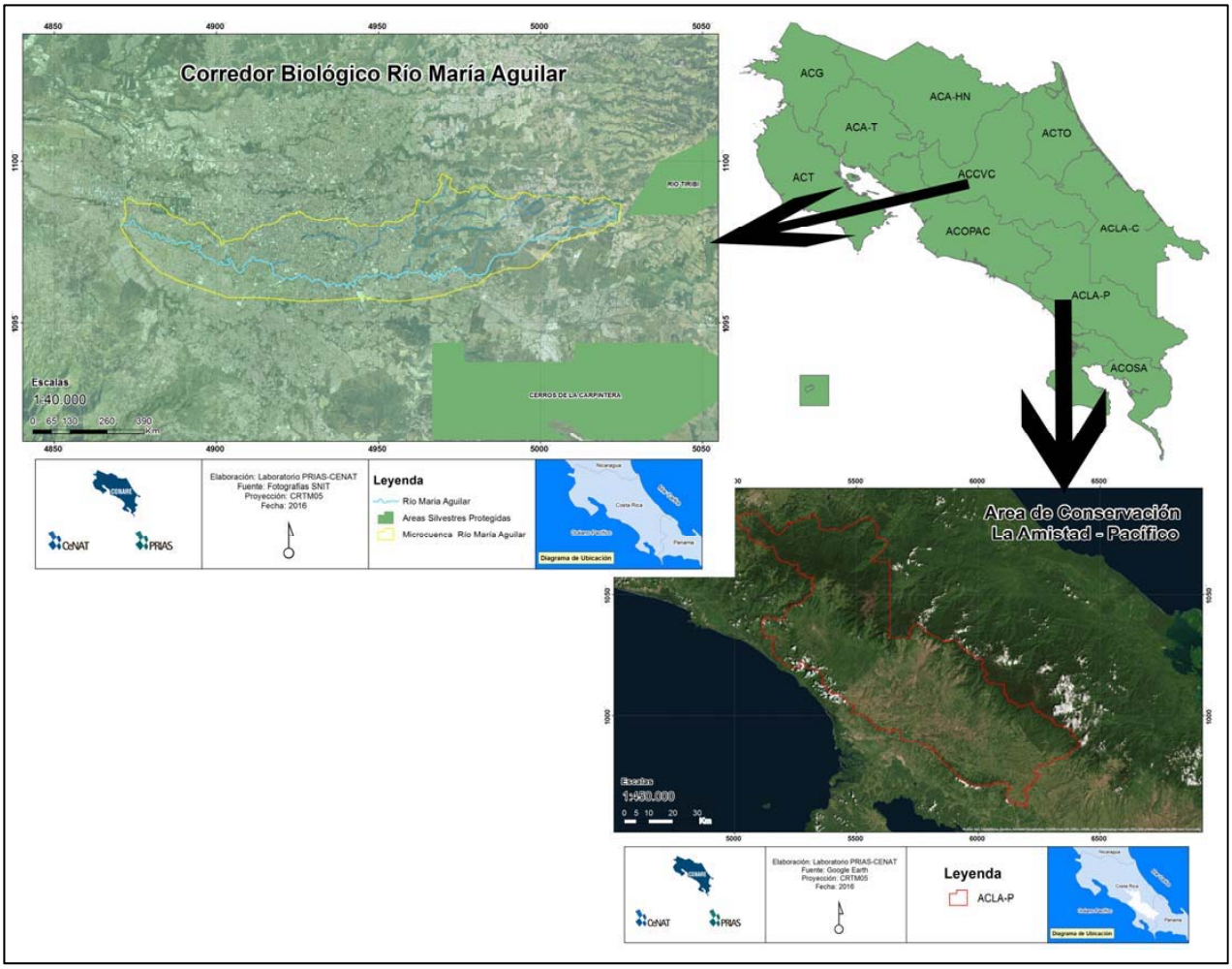


Figure 1 – Location of the ACLA-P and the MAIBC (a description of these areas is included in Annex N).

9. The project will focus on reducing the loss of natural habitat that results from rapid and uncontrolled land use change due to agricultural expansion in the ACLA-P and urban expansion in the MAIBC. The project will strengthen the National Environmental Information System's (SINIA)'s capacities to generate annual data that can be used by public and private stakeholders to address threats to biodiversity. Methodological standards for the generation and use of information on land use/land cover will be made available through the Monitoring System for Land and Ecosystem Cover and Use (SIMOCUTE), which is coordinated by CENIGA in the context of the SINIA, as well as the interinstitutional arrangement according to the roles and competencies that are defined by the current legislation.

10. The strategy aims to establish an annual dynamic of response to specific threats at the rural/production levels, first by enhancing SINAC's capacity to detect and process Forestry Law infractions; and second by improving the supply and demand of sustainable goods in which farmers are supported by an improved flow of information and the provision of tools for responsible commodity buyers and producers. At the urban level, threats will be offset by catalyzing institutional responses and community action to control habitat loss and urban encroachment, thereby enhancing forest connectivity and biodiversity conservation.

11. The project will be implemented under the following criteria (i.e., Theory of Change): a) if the loss in forest cover in the prioritized landscapes is reduced to zero thorough the implementation of sustainable production practices and effective enforcement of the Forestry Law; b) if there is an interinstitutional environment that is conducive to sharing information on LU/LC combined with updated land tenancy records; c) if spatial information regarding forest gains and losses can be produced annually at a low cost; d) if this information can be accessed by multiple stakeholders through a user-friendly information systems allowing decision makers, planners, producers,

commodities buyers, and local communities and organizations to use this information for decision-making; and e) if institutional and individual capacities of the key national, subnational, and local stakeholders are strengthened through signed agreements for cooperation, training, access to planning and management tools to reduce environmental pressures within production landscapes and in MAIBC then Costa Rica will be able to build an institutional and information management framework to implement an iterative process of sustainable management and monitoring of landscapes that ensures sustainable production practices and connectivity between landscapes and protected areas. This will result in multiple GEBs, including reduced loss in forest cover and carbon emissions, improved the conservation of biodiversity, and stable abundance of species of global and local importance, enhanced carbon socks, among other benefits. The Theory of Change of the project is summarized in Figure 2.

12. In addition, the project strategy incorporates guidance from GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) advisory document "Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Practice (2014)" regarding: a) spatial and land-use planning to ensure that land and resource use is appropriately situated to maximize production without undermining or degrading biodiversity; b) improving and changing production practices to be more biodiversity friendly, with a focus on sectors that have significant biodiversity impacts (i.e., agriculture and forestry); and c) implementing a verification/financial mechanism in one of the prioritized landscapes (ACLA-P, Component 2) to incentivize farmers and producers to change current practices that may be degrading biodiversity.

13. According to the Sixth National Agricultural Census (CENAGRO VI), which was finalized by the National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC) in June 2014, the production landscapes of Costa Rica comprised 93,017 farms, covering 2,406,418 ha in agricultural and livestock production lands and representing 47.1% of the national territory. Table 1 summarizes the as detailed by the Census.

Table 1. Land use in production landscapes in Costa Rica in 2014 (Source: CENAGRO VI).

Total No. Farms	Area (ha)	Arable Land (annual crops)	Permanent Crops	Pasture	Forests	Other
93,017	2,406,418.4	167,133.4	377,214.2	1,044,909.6	736,505.2	80,656
	%	6.9	15.7	43.4	30.6	3.4

14. The data show that the dynamic of change between the three main land uses (forest, pasture, and permanent crops) is the most important cause of natural habitat and biodiversity loss in the country. The project will address this problem by creating a favorable environment for multi-stakeholder actions to combat habitat loss at the national level and through two targeted interventions.

15. Target Area 1 (ACLA-P): The ACLA-P is one of 11 Conservation Areas in Costa Rica that are designed to conserve important biodiversity and includes a UNESCO World Heritage site (La Amistad International Park) and two Key Biodiversity Areas (Birdlife identified IPA-CR011 Los Santos La Amistad Pacífico and IPA-CR009 Cordillera de Talamanca). The ACLA-P is located in the southwestern part of the country, extending from the Orosí Valley and continuing along the Talamanca Cordillera until the border with Panamá. It includes the municipalities of El Guarco, Paraíso, Jiménez, Pérez Zeledón, Buenos Aires, and Coto Brus and has a total area of 522,792.6 ha. The ACLA-P contains the following protected areas: Tapantí Macizo de la Muerte National Park (PNTMM), Chirripó National Park (PNCh), and La Amistad International Park (PILA); Las Tablas Protected Zone; Río Macho Forest Reserve and Río Navarro and Río Sombrero Protected Zone. These protected areas comprise 130,688 ha. The Conservation Area has a wide range of ecosystems and high endemism, due its wide altitudinal range, diverse climate, and variety of soil types. The PILA National Park is the largest terrestrial protected area in Costa Rica and protects the largest continuous mass of unaltered tropical forest in the country. The ACLA-P is also strategically important for its water production, both for human consumption for the Greater Metropolitan Area (GAM), as well as for hydroelectric energy (Orosí and Reventazón rivers).

16. Target Area 2 (MAIBC): The MAIBC Is a green area consisting of a variety of different land uses. It contains part of the only Key Biodiversity Area within an urban area in Costa Rica. Birdlife designated El Rodeo, Cerros de Escazú, and La Carpintera as an Important Bird Area IPACR008, because important migratory birds cross over the area or

make use of stopover sites for resting, feeding, or overwintering. It contains 447.78 ha of secondary forest in the districts of San Ramon and Concepción, in the upper basin of the María Aguilar River and in areas close to the Tiribí and Cerros de la Carpintera Protected Zone; the fragmented secondary forest is associated with areas closer to the rivers, and has an area of 287.07 ha located throughout the María Aguilar River and its tributaries, with the highest density areas near the Ocloro River. Pastures represent the area´s largest vegetation cover with 781.52 ha, which enables a system of interconnection and interdependency. The MAIBC also has systems of scrublands with an area of 19.36 ha located mostly in the districts of San Ramón and Concepción. Finally, the MAIBC has urban green areas consisting of parks and small green areas located in urban zones, which represent an area of 47.52 ha.

17. The project is aligned with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2013-2017 for Costa Rica, supporting the achievement of the following Expected Outcomes: 1.1. Public, private, and community institutions with analysis, management, and response capacities strengthened for exercising human rights and improving conditions of human development, and prioritizing populations in vulnerable situations; 2.2. Capacities of the national statistics system are strengthened to generate, analyze, and utilize information for the development, application, monitoring, and evaluation of public policies; 4.2. Public, private, and civil society sectors will have progressed in incorporating and implementing national policies and strategies that consider environmental quality and integrated management of natural resources, as well as the valuation of environmental goods and services and the protection, conservation, and sustainable use of biodiversity; and 5.3. Strategies and programs implemented for sustainable production development, the generation of opportunities and decent working conditions, with an emphasis on micro-, small-, and medium-scale businesses, youth, and women.

18. In addition, the project is part of the UNDP's effort to support Costa Rica's progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Accordingly, the project will contribute towards achievement of the following SDGs: Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns; and Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss.

19. In addition, the project will contribute to achieving the Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets, specifically Targets 5, 7, 11 and 14, which relate to halving by 2020 the rate of loss of all natural habitats; managing sustainably areas under agriculture; fostering connectivity of protected areas; and the restoration of ecosystems. The project is aligned with Global Environment Facility (GEF) Focal Areas BD-4, LD-2 (Programme 3), LD-3 (Programme 4), and SFM-1 (Programme 9). By consolidating SINIA and strengthening multi-stakeholder collaboration to address habitat loss, the project will also be supporting the generation of sustainable flows of forest ecosystem services, restoring ecosystems, reducing pressures on natural resources from competing land uses, and scaling-up sustainable land management by addressing the drivers of loss in forest cover.

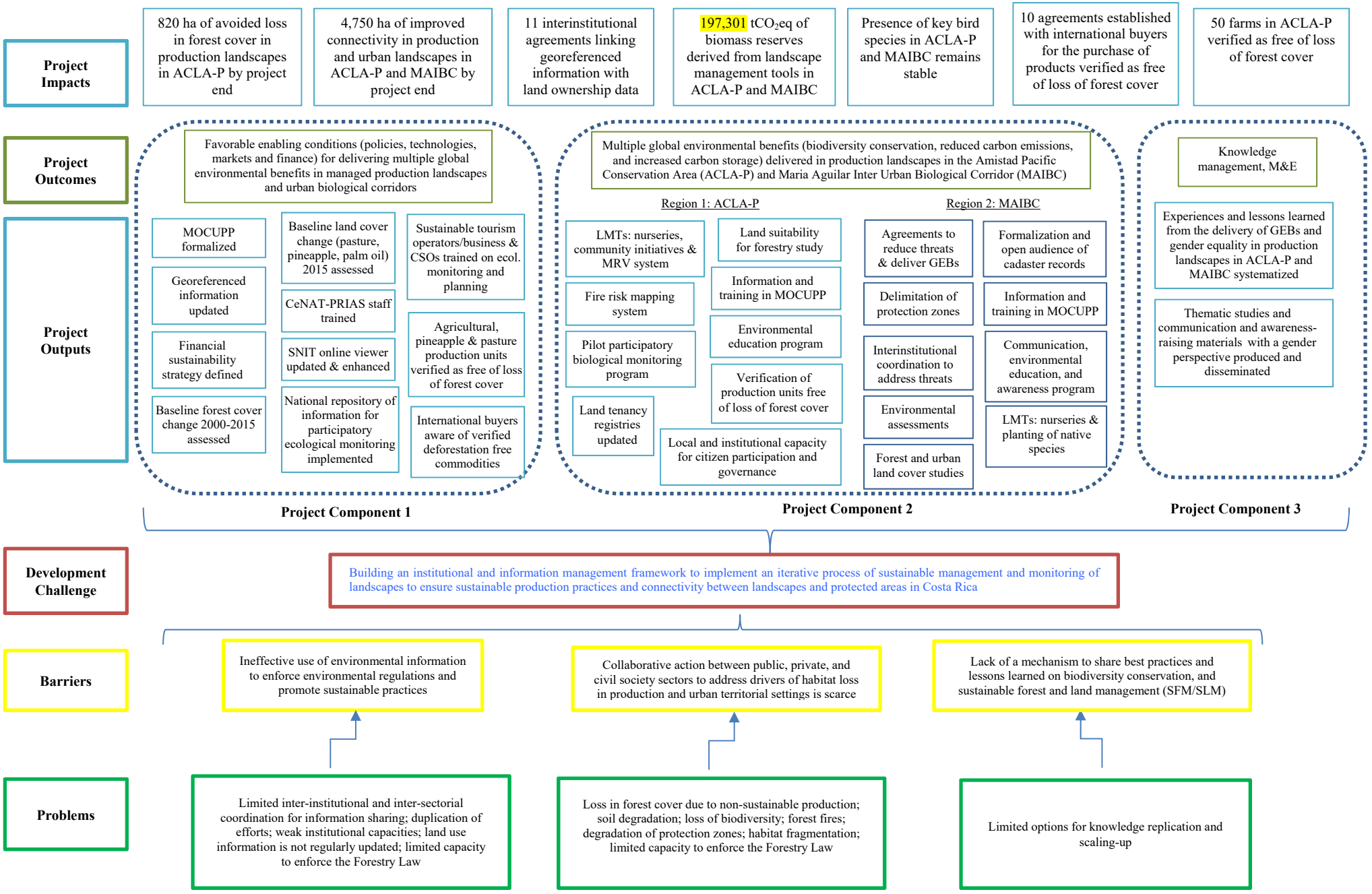


Figure 2. Theory of Change

Baseline:

20. The baseline projects are valued at $26,098,314 USD over a period of 5 years. This amount may be broken into two parts, based on the sources of funds as described below:

Investments by the National Government:

21. In 2013 the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE) created SINIA, which is coordinated by the National Center for Geo-environmental Information (CENIGA). SINIA has the mandate to coordinate a national network of environmental information and liaise with all national institutions that generate environmental data and support the development of MRV systems and information clearinghouses to comply with all multilateral environmental agreements. During 2017 CENIGA promoted inter-institutional roundtables to define the scope of the SIMOCUTE. For the expected timeframe of the project, SINIA has agreed to provide co-financing resources amounting to $127,000 USD, as in-kind and cash co-financing for institutional coordination of project activities.

22. The National Territorial Information System (SNIT) is the technological platform of the National Data Infrastructure (Decree No. 37.773). It is administered by the National Geographic Institute (IGN), which manages an online tool that creates public maps showing territorial information. As this tool is linked to the National Registry (DRI), it is possible to associate land tenancy records with layers of maps that may be developed over time. The IGN will provide in kind and cash co-financing of $8,654,722 USD for this project, related to maintenance of the web tool and support for the strengthening of the role of SNIT within SINIA. In addition, CeNAT-PRIAS will invest $786,594 USD that will contribute to the development of baselines studies and forest cover gains and losses within production landscapes as well as for monitoring trends in forest cover and land use changes.

23. The work of SINAC within the ACLA-P and MAIBC areas to legally process infractions of environmental legislation and support a participatory process for reforestation and ecological monitoring constitute a notable baseline investment. In the past, SINAC relied on information from community organizations, private citizens, and its limited resources to fully survey production landscapes. With regular access to satellite imagery of forest cover gain and loss tied to tenancy land ownership, the processing of violations and associated fines will become easier. SINAC is committed to maintaining close coordination with the project during its implementation and the development of the Land Use Change Monitoring System within Production Landscapes (MOCUPP)[2]. The resources committed to this task over 5 years are estimated at $5,567,733 USD.

24. The National Forestry Financing Fund (FONAFIFO) established a programme for Payment of Ecosystem Services. This is the most effective economic incentive for maintaining ecosystem services in the country, and, as such, generates a significant baseline condition for this Project as an economic incentive to help land tenants shift to usages with increased forest cover. Throughout project implementation the PES scheme will continue and is expected to generate $9,000,000 USD.

25. The process for drafting the strategy for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) for the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in Costa Rica was formally assigned to the FONAFIFO. FONAFIFO has managed two Target Support grants totaling $400,000 USD. The second Target Support funded $100,000 USD for the baseline map of total pineapple cultivation cover, which was made available in June 2016. In addition, FONAFIFO will use $150,000 USD of FCPF resources to develop baseline maps for one additional agricultural commodity during the lifetime of this GEF investment. Other FONAFIFO investments will include $633,436 USD to support the SIMOCUTE and $909,564 USD to strengthen SINAC's capacity to protect and manage forests.

26. Since 2012, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), MINAE, and the Livestock Corporation (CORFOGA) have been implementing a national pilot plan for low-carbon emission beef and dairy production, with an investment

[2] The MOCUPP is a tool for sustainably managing landscapes in which agricultural commodities are grown throughout the Costa Rican territory. The MOCUPP generates total land cover maps of agricultural commodities (e.g., pineapple, pasture, sugar cane, palm oil) annually using remote sensors; it also generates maps of the deforestation detected within production landscapes. These maps are published through the SNIT, which allows users to link these maps with land tenure information so they may serve to generate economic incentives for those who avoid deforestation or to process those who violate the Forestry Law. A complete description of the MOCUPP is available at www.mocup.org, MOCUPP: Monitoring Land Use Change Within Production Landscapes.

of $930,000 USD. The pilot plan has tailored an extension support package servicing 100 farms in the BRUCA region (most of which falls within the ACLA-P conservation area) to help producers shift practices and make them more environmentally and financially sustainable. This project will replicate the tailored extension support package that has already generated emissions reductions in these pilot farms through a combination of grazing, rotation, breeding, and ecosystem restoration practices by trained farmers. This initiative will receive in-kind co-financing by CORFOGA of approximately $31,590 USD during implementation of this GEF project.

27. Finally, the Aqueducts and Sewers of Costa Rica AyA will contribute a cash and in-kind cofinancing of $237,675 USD for controlling solid waste and discharge into rivers and promoting the connectivity of urban green areas, conservation, and rehabilitation of riparian forests in an urban landscape.

Alternative scenario:

28. The project will add value to existing baseline investments by triggering the multisectoral management of official environmental information in order to increase collective action to protect biodiversity affected by land use change in rural and urban landscapes in Costa Rica. The project will invest in SINIA to harness different institutional information providers: SNIT will publish information linked to land tenancy ownership records and the Airborne Research and Remote Sensing Program (PRIAS Laboratory)/National High Technology Center (CeNAT) will generate maps of forest cover gains and losses; CeNAT is the scientific program of the Council of State Universities (CENARE), which hosts the PRIAS Laboratory (from now on simply "PRIAS"). The project will strengthen the capacity of ACLA-P's institutional partners to enforce environmental regulations and facilitate community development. The project will strengthen MAG's capacity to implement an extension service aimed at improving sustainable production practices. These stakeholders will be working with farmers and other stakeholders on the ground to reduce natural habitat loss and promote biodiversity conservation.

V. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

i. Expected Results:

29. The objective of the project is to mainstream biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, and carbon sequestration objectives into production landscapes and in the interurban biological corridors of Costa Rica. This will be achieved through two interrelated components; their associated outputs and activities are described below.

Component 1: Favorable conditions (policies, technologies, markets, and finance) for delivering multiple GEBs in managed production landscapes and interurban biological corridors.

30. The project will invest in a long-term enabling environment for delivering multiple GEBs in production landscapes. The project's goal is to conserve biodiversity by reducing the occurrence of land use change from natural forest to other uses. To contribute to this goal, the project will operate within the framework of the SIMOCUTE to consolidate an environmental decision-making information system, to be applied on a yearly basis. Decree N° 37658-MINAET names the CENIGA as the coordinating entity of the SINIA, which also coordinates the SIMOCUTE. Therefore, through this component the project will invest in strengthening the role of CENIGA, so that it may fulfill its mandate as the regulatory body and hub for the diverse institutions that provide environmental information, particularly related to forest loss in the country.

Output 1.1: Interinstitutional agreement/Ministry Decree formalizes the establishment, management arrangements, and financial sustainability of the MOCUPP as part of the SIMOCUTE, including annual monitoring of forest cover change and land degradation within agricultural production landscapes and interurban biological corridors in Costa Rica, as well as the review of current national forest policy and regulations.

31. The project will consolidate the role of CENIGA as the coordinating entity of the SINIA and the SIMOCUTE for the management, quality control, and creation of geospatial maps to assess land use in production and urban landscapes, and as the regulatory body and hub for the diverse institutions that provide environmental information. To this end, the project will allow the establishment of an interinstitutional agreement or Ministerial Decree (i.e., MINAE) that formalizes the establishment, management arrangements, and financial sustainability of MOCUPP as a

tool of the SIMOCUTE for CENIGA to monitor gains and losses of forest cover on an annual basis within agricultural production landscapes and interurban biological corridors of Costa Rica.

32. For the development of the interinstitutional agreement or Ministerial Decree for formalizing the MOCUPP as part of the SIMOCUTE, the project team, in coordination with MINAE, will develop a draft that will be presented to other interested agencies (e.g., PRIAS, DRI, IGN) for developing institutional, technical, and legal concepts, which are in line with what has been established in the SIMOCUTE for these purposes. The precise definition of these agreements will be defined through an interinstitutional roundtable that will define the mechanisms for the exchange of information among the different agencies and the collaborative use of MOCUPP as well as the roles and responsibilities of each participating agency. The draft of the interinstitutional agreement or Ministerial Decree for formalizing the MOCUPP will be in line with existing forestry and land use policies and regulations in the country.

Output 1.2: Agreements with 15 institutions to provide updated georeferenced information to MOCUPP through the National Territorial Information System's (SNIT) Geoportal and associated services on a yearly basis so imagery may be tied to land tenancy.

33. The project will formalize agreements with at least 15 institutions and MINAE to provide updated georeferenced information to the SINIA and MOCUPP on an annual basis through the SNIT's web-based map viewer tool so that the imagery may be linked to land tenancy. Currently, 12 government agencies[3] share geospatial information through the SNIT, some of which is linked to the SNIT's web-based map viewer. Some of these agencies have their own web-based mapping services wherein maps and other information are available to the public. However, not all sectors are represented and share information, including key sectors to the country's economy such as agriculture, tourism, health, and infrastructure. In addition, there is very limited participation from the municipalities, which are key for providing information on land tenancy and the provision of basic services at the local level. The project's actions will help to overcome this limitation by formalizing agreements with several of the agencies representing these sectors so that they can provide updated georeferenced information to the MOCUPP. In this way, map-based information will be made available through a single interactive platform to facilitate decision making regarding land use change and monitoring and controlling the loss and degradation of forests within production landscapes and interurban biological corridors.

34. As part of the PPG activities, several institutions from multiple sectors were invited to participate in different planning activities and meetings, including the agricultural sector and municipalities within the ACLA-P and the MAIBC. During project implementation, the project team, in coordination with MINAE, will continue to inform about the MOCUPP and its importance, so that agreements are signed with at least 15 institutions and MINAE by project's end to ensure increased operationality of the tool. These agreements will include the roles and responsibilities of each participating agency, one of which will be to make updated georeferenced information available on a yearly basis to enhance the value of the MOCUPP and the effective integration of information. Follow-up and monitoring of the agreements will be done annually and progress reports on compliance will be drafted and included as part of the required monitoring and evaluation (M&E) reporting of the project.

Output 1.3: An agreed-upon long-term inter-institutional financial sustainability strategy to fund: i) forest cover monitoring services provided by the Council of State Universities (CeNAT-PRIAS) for the MOCUPP; ii) continuous updating of the national cadaster by the DRI so that land tenancy records are visible through the SNIT, including gender-disaggregated data; and iii) the continuous updating of the SNIT web-tool by the IGN.

35. The suitability of the MOCUPP as a tool within the SIMOCUTE for monitoring forest cover gains and losses within agricultural production landscapes depends on the development of a long-term funding strategy. The consolidation of the MOCUPP is dependent upon the continued availability of technical inputs, which must be developed by multiple stakeholders representing the different sectors. The development of LU/LC maps (CeNAT-PRIAS) requires strengthening the capacity and properly equipping technical staff (e.g., technological platform for data processing and reporting and availability of satellite images, field verification, etc.) as well as the development of procedures for the analysis and classification of spatial data for the proper description of land uses, including crops in production

[3] The Institute of Aqueducts and Sewers of Costa Rica (AyA), Municipality of Carrillo, Municipality of Palmares, Ministry of Education, MINAE, IGN, DRI, FUNDECOR, National Laboratory of Materials and Structural Models (LANAMME) from the University of Costa Rica, Finance Ministry, and General Directorate of Civil Aviation (DGAC).

landscapes. A complete dataset of cadastral information for the entire country must be developed and mechanisms established for updating this information on a regular basis. Similarly, the SNIT-IGN's web-based map viewer tool (will required periodic updates to improve its capability to make spatial data available to an increasing number of users and data (maps). The staff operating the tool will require further training, and a communication strategy to inform stakeholders about the services being provided will need to be implemented.

36. For the long-term funding of the above, the project will develop an inter-institutional financial sustainability strategy that builds on initial cost estimates (2016-2020) developed by UNDP and MINAE in collaboration with PRIAS, DRI, and IGN for the MAIBC pilot project and four crops (pineapple, pasture, sugarcane, and palm oil). The strategy will consider longer-term scenarios (e.g., 10 years) and additional production and urban landscapes. In addition, the inter-institutional financial sustainability strategy will include the identification of funding sources (government and private) considering that during the initial years the strategy would rely more on external funding, which will gradually decrease as the participating government agencies (PRIAS, DRI, and IGN) internalize these costs. The financial strategy will also include a risk analysis considering at least two financial/risk scenarios (low risk and medium risk), and risk mitigation measures will be outlined to reduce the probability that the MOCUPP becomes financially unsustainable.

Output 1.4: 2000-2015 baseline study of total forest cover gains and losses within production landscapes.

37. Costa Rica's efforts to establish a baseline of total gains and losses of forest cover and to monitor the loss in forest cover have focused primarily on forest cover at coarse scales and following ecological criteria (e.g., baseline maps for the REDD+ Strategy), giving little attention to the total gains and losses of forest cover within production landscapes, particularly changes associated with the expansion of specific crops or urban areas. To assess these changes in production landscapes, a baseline study is needed provide information on the trends in forest losses or gains at finer scales and to design specific strategies to reduce the loss in forest cover based on the dynamics of past and future LU/LC changes for each crop associated with tenancy data. This understanding is of great importance as 60% of the national territory is legally permitted to be used for agricultural production.

38. The project will support the development of a baseline study of total gain and loss of forest cover within production landscapes for the period of 2000 to 2015, building on the assessment completed as part of the PPG activities for establishing loss of forest cover in pineapple production landscapes in Costa Rica. This LU/LC change detection study was completed by PRIAS using readily available satellite images (e.g., LANDSAT and Rapideye), and determined that during this period a total of 5,566 ha of forest cover were lost to pineapple production landscapes. The project will focus on developing the 2000-2015 baseline of total gain and loss of forest cover within pastureland for cattle grazing, pineapple, and palm oil production landscapes. This study will be completed by PRIAS using the same approach used for the pineapple study and under the supervision of the project team and MINAE.

Output 1.5: 2015 baseline study of total land cover of pastureland for cattle grazing and pineapple and palm oil crops.

39. As part of pineapple study mentioned in Output 1.5, a 2015 baseline study of total land cover of this crop was completed using LANDSAT8 images (30-meter resolution) and the phenological characteristics of this crop. Advanced classification techniques of satellite images were used in collaboration with international scientists to determine that in 2015 there were 58,442 ha of pineapple crops in three main production regions of the country. This same approach will be used to establish the baseline of total land cover of pastureland for cattle grazing, pineapple, and palm oil crops. This information, which will be developed by PRIAS, will serve as the baseline map for monitoring future changes in land cover related to these crops. New maps will be generated on an annual basis by PRIAS, which will contribute to consolidating one of the three components of the MOCUPP. New maps will also allow managing leakages (in cases where other land uses are displaced) through the MOCUPP by comparing baseline information of the total coverage of pastureland for cattle grazing and pineapple and palm oil crops with changes in land use over time.[4]

[4] The MOCUPP, in addition to serving as a tool to conduct periodic assessments of changes in the total cover of specific agricultural commodities and forests, is a tool for institutional coordination that brings together multiple partners with complementary roles and jurisdictions, and which will ensure the chain of custody. MINAE's CENIGA) which is responsible for the management of the SINIA) will serve as the MOCUPP's institutional reference and for quality control and adherence to criteria for generating geospatial maps. The preparation of yearly maps depicting forest cover

Output 1.6: CeNAT-PRIAS staff trained in advanced classification techniques of satellite images and remote-sensing processing equipment and software for monitoring trends in forest cover and land use.

40. The project will strengthen CeNAT-PRIAS's capacity to generate spatial data that are needed to assess total gain and loss of forest cover in more detail within production landscapes and to develop maps on an annual basis to monitor changes in crops and forest cover by training its staff in, advanced classification techniques of satellite images and remote-sensing processing equipment. Although PRIAS has professional staff with experience in storing, processing, and analyzing images and data of diverse types, improving their capacity to for processing multispectral data and facilitating access to radar and multispectral data from SENTINEL satellites will allow PRIAS to have more access to spatial data on a continuous spectrum (i.e., radiance or reflectance) for characterizing LU/LC with greater precision and detail. This capacity will be further enhanced by the project by providing PRIAS with faster computers and larger data storage capacities that are needed for classifying and analyzing multispectral data. New software will facilitate developing higher-end spectral-spatial models for a more accurate correction, segmentation, data processing, and classification of multispectral images to timely obtain crop cover maps.

Output 1.7: SNIT online map viewer is updated and enhanced with new applications for users.

41. The monitoring strategy of the MOCUPP as a tool of the SIMOCUTE relies on displaying spatial data on loss and gain of forest cover integrated with information on land tenure and legal environmental restrictions on land use. Once all the data are available, the integration and publication is done in the SNIT platform and can be displayed or accessed through the online map viewer. Currently, all functions of the SNIT operate using an infrastructure consisting of only one server (2GHz-12Gb), which can be accessed through digital a communication channel of 40 Mbps. This capability will be limited as the number of users increases and more spatial data are available. Thus, the project will improve the capability of the SNIT so that information can be displayed through one 2GHz-12Gb server, while other functions (geospatial databases, applications, and data catalogs) will use different servers. In addition, a communication channel of more than 40 Mbps will be made available. These modifications, as well as updates to the web page features and applications, will improve the performance of the online map viewer as well as the ability of the SNIT to provide higher quality geo-services. The SNIT Geographic Viewer will display geospatial land cover and land use information that meets the standards defined through the SIMOCUTE and following the standards of the spatial data infrastructure (SDI) defined for the SNIT

Output 1.8: National repository of information for participatory ecological monitoring implemented collaboratively between public, private, and civil society stakeholders, including women, and linked to the National Ecological Monitoring Programme (PRONAMEC).

42. A key element for achieving a reduction in the loss of forest habitat is greater engagement and cooperation between public and private stakeholders for the implementation and evaluation of environmental planning at the national and local levels. These stakeholders, which include the State Forestry Administration, municipalities, community-based organizations, and the private sector, will be involved in participatory ecological monitoring efforts as a means of enhancing the information provided to the PRONAMEC. To this end, the project will develop a user-friendly virtual repository of information, which will be linked to the PRONAMEC databases under the coordination of SINAC/MINAE. More specifically, the data that will be collected in production landscapes and interurban biological corridors will provide information that will contribute to assessing the status of key terrestrial and freshwater species, natural communities, and ecosystems (i.e., management focal elements [MFE]) through previously defined indicators; monitoring data may include key biodiversity species that will be monitored in the ACLA-P and MAIBC to assess the project's impact (Component 2). Protocols for the collection of data related to each indicator/MFE will be developed and members of key stakeholder groups will be trained in data collection and reporting of results.

gains and losses will be done by CeNAT-PRIAS), which in turn forms part of the CONARE. The Directorate of Real Property Registration (DRI), which belongs to the National Registry, maintains the land tenure records that can be related to the maps PRIAS generates when they are published through the National Land Information System. Finally, the IGN manages the SNIT, which provides viewer services on the web for maps generated by PRIAS so they can be related to land tenure information provided by the DRI. This information will be available to the public and to national and local authorities charged with enforcing the Forest Law (SINAC and municipalities), which forbids land cover changes in forests within national reserves and regulates the use of forests within private properties.

Output 1.9: 25% of the agricultural, pineapple, and pasture production units verified as free of loss of forest cover by MINAE.

43. The project will design a free of loss of forest cover production unit verification scheme to establish that producers are adhering to predefined environmental production standards for zero loss in forest cover; MINAE will be agency responsible for verifying that agricultural, pineapple, and pasture production are free of loss of forest cover. This verification mechanism will not imply additional costs to producers and land tenants, as once it is established the MOCUPP will provide yearly updates of the participating farms' forest cover gains and losses. As such, the full cost will already be incorporated into the functioning of the information system. The project will invest in the design of the verification standard and operational manuals, including the evaluation of program effectiveness. Standards will be developed considering the Forestry Law jointly with MINAE, SINAC, FONAFIFO, and other key government agencies. The free of loss of forest cover production verification scheme will be promoted amongst producers domestically, and particularly within the targeted areas for intervention (i.e., ACLA-P and MAIBC) through workshops, radio, and social media. The standards will be made available though MINAE, SINAC, FONAFIFO's web pages and through hard copy production.

44. National producers' awareness of the free of loss of forest cover verification scheme will be assessed regularly during project implementation as well as their levels of participation, noncompliance with verification standards, and adverse self-selection. The program's environmental impacts (i.e., zero loss in forest cover) will be assessed through yearly updates to the MOCUPP (i.e., new maps of forest cover gains and losses for selected crops, including pineapple, and palm oil, as well as pasturelands) and field verifications by the project team and MINAE staff.

Output 1.10: At least 1,000 international companies buying commodities from Costa Rica aware of the free of loss of forest cover verification.

45. MOCUPP will also allow buyers sourcing agro-commodities from Costa Rica to guarantee free of loss of forest cover supply chains for those products covered by the monitoring system. Through support from UNDP's Green Commodities Programme[5] and in coordination with MINAE, the project will engage with the primary international agricultural sourcing and commodity buyers in Costa Rica (e.g., Walmart, Tesco, Ahold, Rewe, EOSTA, among others) to identify ways by which their purchasing policies could contribute to implementing Costa Rica's National Development Plan and the National Biodiversity Policy and Action Plan for environmental sustainability, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable forest management. Key elements of discussion will include how to make reward mechanisms available (preferential buying schemes) for those producers with a "free of loss of forest cover" record for the baseline period 2000-2015 (Output 1.4), as well as for producers of agro-commodities with proven zero loss in forest cover beyond 2015 (Output 1.5). This information will be provided by the MOCUPP, which buyers can access directly to guide purchasing preferences. The project will reach to at least 1,000 international companies that purchase commodities from Costa Rica by organizing public speaking events at trade shows, sustainability forums, SDGs compliance events organized by the United Nations. The sales pitch to companies will promote their preference for free of loss of forest cover sourcing. Buyers of agro-commodities' awareness of the free of loss of forest cover verification scheme will be assessed continuously during project implementation.

46. This approach is in line with the GEF's IAP "Taking Deforestation Out of Commodity Supply Chains" initiative, since it will support production and supply interventions that do not contribute to loss in forest cover, but rather increase the ability of buyers to manage the loss in forest cover in supply chains, increasing purchases from suppliers who do not cause deforestation and facilitating commercial transactions.

Component 2: Multiple GEBs (biodiversity conservation, reduced carbon emissions, and increased carbon storage) are delivered in production landscapes in the ACLA-P buffer zone forest area (Region 1) and the MAIBC (Region 2)

47. Key elements of the previous component, such as the periodic monitoring of land cover change and the establishment of a verification system for free of loss of forest cover production units, will be piloted in the ACLA-P and the MAIBC with the assistance of government officials, especially forestry officers, local governments,

[5] UNDP's Green Commodities Programme provided valuable support to MINAE, IGN, and the Center of High Technology of Costa Rica in developing the MOCUPP.

communities, and private landowners – including cattle, pineapple, and palm oil producers. In addition, under Component 2, the project will work with local partner organizations, agricultural associations, and non-government stakeholders on innovative approaches to agricultural production at the small- and medium-size farm level as a learning approach to offset threats and share knowledge.

Region 1: ACLA-P

Output 2.1: Twenty (20) nurseries for endemic and native plant species established to support the landscape management tools.

48. The project will introduce best sustainable practices for farmers, including landscape management tools (LMT)[6] such as micro-conservation corridors, live fences, and agroforestry/silvopastoral systems, among others, in order to increase connectivity between production landscapes and the ACLA-P's protected areas[7], thereby contributing to the conservation of biodiversity. To ensure a stable supply of plant material for LMT and as part of the cofinancing provided by SINAC, the project will make use of 20 existing nurseries within ACLA-P to provide endemic and native plants species, which will be available for use within their farms to create conditions between existing forest patches and nearby protected areas to allow the movement of biodiversity.

49. Guidelines for farmers to access the plant material grown in the nurseries will be developed as part of conservation agreements for implementing LMT that will be established between interested farmers and MINAE with project team support. The conservation agreements will be voluntary and will make specific reference to: a) conservation actions to be undertaken (e.g., implementation of micro-corridors and sylvopastoral systems) to increase connectivity between production landscapes and the ACLA-P's protected areas, thereby contributing to the conservation of biodiversity using nursery-grown plant material; b) environmental and economic benefits of implementing LMT, including preferential buying of products verified as production unit "free of loss of forest cover" (Output 2.10); c) conditions for financing socio-productive community initiatives in the ACLA-P through the project to support the implementation of LMT (Output 2.2); d) monitoring framework to be used to verify conservation performance and compliance with the agreement by either party (Output 2.3). Men and women will be involved in developing and implementing the conservation agreements; therefore, their different needs, priorities, and interests in conservation will be taken into account.

Output 2.2: Financing of socio-productive community initiatives in the ACLA-P support the implementation of LMTs.

50. For the implementation of the LMT (micro-conservation corridors, live fences, and agroforestry/silvopastoral systems, among others), the project will support approximately 60 socio-productive community initiatives of small- and medium-size farmers in the ACLA-P, including initiatives led by women. A call for proposals will be established by the ACLA-P in coordination with the UNDP CO and following guidelines that will be defined jointly by these institutions; the grants will range on average between $10,000 to $20,000 USD. This will include an initial concept note stating the objective of the initiative, which will be reviewed by a Committee to be established by the ACLA-P and UNDP CO to ensure that it is in line with the project's goal of implementing LMT to increase connectivity between production landscapes and the ACLA-P's protected areas. If the concept note is approved, this will be followed by a visit to the site/farm where the proposed initiative will be implemented; during this visit suggestions for improving the proposal may be given. The submittal of a full proposal (i.e., project document) will follow, which will be approved by the Project Technical Committee 2; ACLA-P will chair this committee and it will include representatives from other institutions such as the Livestock Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) Program of MAG, and CORFOGA for the support of sustainable livestock issues. ACLA-P may include representatives of other institutions to support the selection of projects in areas not related to livestock but that will allow the implementation of LMT.

[6]Landscape management tools for biodiversity conservation in production landscapes are landscape elements that create or improve habitat, increase functional connectivity, or comply simultaneously with these functions to benefit the native biodiversity [Lozano-Zambrano, F. H. (ed). 2009. Herramientas de manejo para la conservación de biodiversidad en paisajes rurales. Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt y Corporación Autónoma Regional de Cundinamarca (CAR). Bogo- tá, D. C., Colombia. 238 p.]).

[7] Tapantí Macizo de la Muerte National Park (PNTMM), Chirripó National Park (PNCh), Amistad National Park (PILA); Las Tablas Protected Zone; Rio Macho Forest Reserve and Rio Navarro, and Rio Sombrero Protected Zone.

51. The grant will be formalized through a mechanism defined in the proposal/grant guidelines, which will outline the responsibilities and rights of the beneficiary, as well as the projected delivery of reports and disbursements. The project team will provide support, follow-up, and will monitor the implementation of activities and the achievement of outcomes and objectives based on the indicators include in the approved project document. Grants will be provided according to UNDP Guidance on Micro-Capital Grants.

Output 2.3: MRV system assesses the impact of LMT on biodiversity conservation derived from the financing of the socio-productive community initiatives in the ACLA-P.

52. An MRV system will be used to assess the impact of LMT on biodiversity conservation as well as to improve carbon stocks in participating farms. Data on the status biodiversity conservation in farms that implement socio-productive community initiatives and that are strategically located to strengthen connectivity between production landscapes and the ACLA-P's protected areas will be collected using specific indicators established, including information on key species that will be monitored through the project's results framework (see Section VII). Similarly, data will be collected on improved carbon stocks though micro-corridors and sylvopastoral systems following the same methodology used during the PPG to estimate baseline and targets for increased biomass reserves (tCO_2eq) derived from LMT (see Section VII) and reduced emissions from avoided forest cover loss. This information will be compiled in reports by the project team and will include the review of reports and field visits to the farms where LMT are implemented.

Output 2.4: Risk mapping system for the prevention of forest fires includes the classification of vegetation to determine its combustion rate.

53. Forest fires have affected several areas in the ACLA-P such as PILA, San Gerónimo, and Chirripó. For the prevention of forest fires, the project will develop a forest fire risk mapping system for the ACLA-P considering vegetation cover and classification and the combustion rate of the vegetation present in the region. This information will be instrumental in the prioritization of areas within the ACLA-P for prevention and control of fires, which are a threat to biodiversity, forests, and the local population.

54. The evaluation of risk is the combination of the probability of an event occurrence (threat) and its consequences (vulnerability). To assess the level of threat (the probability that a forest fire might occur in a given place at a given intensity), the different classes of vegetation present in the ACLA-P and their spatial distribution will be determined. In addition, the types of fuel present and the combustion rate will be established in the field through small-scale controlled fire tests using available information about sites where fires have occurred in the past. Similarly, biomass analyses will be completed to determine the amount of fuel available and duration of combustion. This information, together with information of forest fragmentation and past fire occurrences, will allow the development of maps of susceptibility of different vegetation classes to fire.

55. A climatological analysis for the ACLA-P will also be conducted to identify key variables that are essential to assess risk of fire (e.g., precipitation, temperature, relative humidity, solar brightness, cloudiness, wind direction, and some variables related to the water balance); maps for each key variable will be developed. Key anthropogenic variables (number and size of settlements, production practices, road network, etc.) will also be considered, as human activities are a main cause of forest fires. All variables analyzed will be brought together (map algebra) in a GIS for the development of threat maps.

56. The assessment of vulnerability (the foreseeable consequences of forest fires) will be completed considering the impact of forest fires on humans, territory (land use conflicts), ecosystems, production systems, and infrastructure. Maps for each variable considered for these categories will also be developed using GIS. The assessment of threats and vulnerability will allow developing risk maps for the ACLA-P to facilitate decision making for the prevention of forest fires.

57. To facilitate this process and develop a risk mapping system for the prevention of forest fires, the project will strengthen 15 volunteer forest fire brigades, create four volunteer forest fire brigades, and will enhance institutional and local capacities for developing and maintaining the system, updating information, and developing new risk scenarios, and ultimately coordinating and bringing together subnational (e.g., MINAE) and local stakeholders (e.g., municipalities, local producers, CSOs, nongovernmental organizations [NGOs], etc.) to prevent and control forest fires.

Output 2.5: Pilot project for the implementation of the PRONAMEC in ACLA-P includes an interactive online platform for the exchange of information.

58. The project will operationalize a pilot project for the implementation of the PRONAMEC in ACLA-P. The PROMANEC was created in 2016 (MINAE Decree 39747) for generating and disseminating reliable scientific information on the status of conservation of the country's terrestrial, freshwater, and marine biodiversity. The PRONAMEC will provide information to assess the ecological integrity of the protected areas of the SINAC and of the biological corridors that interconnect them. The pilot-monitoring project will include the participation of representatives from civil society (i.e., NGOs local community organizations, including women's groups), research centers and universities working in the ACLA-P, government institutions, and farmers implementing LMTs, among others. The stakeholders involved with the PRONAMEC will collect and share information regarding the status of biodiversity in production landscapes and the protected areas of the ACLA-P, as well as to exchange knowledge regarding biological and ecological monitoring. This arrangement will also serve to consolidate an ecological monitoring network for the region, which will constitute a support mechanism for PRONAMEC during project implementation and after completion, thereby contributing to the project's environmental sustainability.

59. An interactive online platform for the exchange of information will be established, which will be managed by ACLA-P. The interactive online information platform will share monitoring information (that is uploaded and downloaded) by the program participants, and will be linked to the PRONAMEC's main information system and SINIA. The project will train and equip staff from ACLA-P in biological monitoring and information management, as well as other local participating groups, and monitoring protocols will be developed following national guidelines and standards so that the information collected will comply with national monitoring and reporting needs. Lessons learned and knowledge from the piloting of the participatory biological monitoring initiative will be identified and documented so that this experience can be replicated in other conservation areas around the country and consolidate the PRONAMEC.

60. In addition, the project will support three participatory biological monitoring initiatives implemented through volunteers and civil society.

Output 2.6: Land tenancy registries, disaggregated by sex, for a 50-km^2 area of production lands within the buffer zones of protected areas of the ACLA-P finalized and updated in the SNIT.

61. This component will also look to increase the DRI's capacity to formalize the land tenancy registries within the ACLA-P by incorporating 50 km^2 of land tenancy records within the ACLA-P buffer zone's production landscapes into the SNIT. The available cadastral information within the ACLA-P is unreliable, with most of it under the categories of "in process of being obtained" or "not available." Thus, the project will focus on those areas that are the most critical for biodiversity conservation and connectivity, specifically: a) the compilation of registration and cadaster information, development of images of the cadastral plans, and the registration information of farms (i.e., proof of ownership disaggregated by sex); b) updating the cadastral mosaic (i.e., vectorizing and georeferencing the cadastral plans); c) field verification in instances where the information available is not enough to produce cadastral plans; d) updating the cadastral map for the ACLA-P; e) updated maps with land cover information and metadata available for the ACLA-P and making the information available through the SNIT.

Output 2.7: Land suitability for forestry study for public lands or without registration ownership contributes to strengthening connectivity in landscapes of the ACLA-P.

62. The project will develop a land suitability for forestry study of lands owned by the state or without registration ownership so that they can become part of the natural heritage of the State. The study will consist of the following four steps: a) identification of lands with registration ownership by the state or without registration ownership in production landscapes of the ACLA-P; b) determination of whether these lands are suitable for forestry using variables established in the official methodology for the determination of land use capability; c) registration of lands identified as suitable for forestry without forest cover as part of the natural heritage of the State; and d) delimitation of land use to avoid land tenure conflicts.

63. This is intended to comply with the mandate of the Forestry Law regarding the development of the forest cadastre, reduce the threats to biodiversity in the State's natural heritage, and reduce socio-environmental conflicts with land dwellers located in the buffer zones of protected areas.

64. SINAC staff in ACLA-P will complete the study with the support from specialized consultants. The identification of lands suitable for forestry without forest cover will guide project investment to implement LMT (Outputs 2.1 and 2.2) for strengthening connectivity between production landscapes and the ACLA-P's protected areas, enhancing carbon stocks, and reducing loss of forest cover and carbon emissions. The study will consider the Forestry Law and land use regulations.

Output 2.8: MINAE staff, municipal authorities, female and male judges, and female and male private producers informed about and trained in the MOCUPP and how to use it to enforce the Forestry Law.

65. The project will provide training to MINAE staff, municipal officials (Pérez Zeledón, Guarco, Buenos Aires, and Coto Brus), judges, and private producers on the MOCUPP and its use in enforcing the Forestry Law. This training is a key element of the MOCUPP as currently only SINAC and MINAE officials handle infractions of the Forestry Law and report them to the Environmental Administrative Tribunal and the Public Ministry. However, staff shortages and their limited presence in rural areas prevents MINAE and SINAC from carrying out site visits to verify infractions and process them. The MOCUPP is a way to speed up the detection of land use-related infractions of the Forestry Law as well as the processing time for infractions. For the MOCUPP to be most effective, there should be close collaboration between MINAE, municipal authorities, local judges, and producers. This requires that these stakeholders be informed about the MOCUPP and its benefits and to be trained on how to access and use the MOCUPP web-based interface. The project will provide this training through workshops and webinars and field activities for the verification of infractions. The training will emphasize how to access LU/LC and cadastral information as well as how to integrate and visualize this information within the SNIT environment. Users will be registered with the SNIT so that they can be regularly informed about the availability of new maps.

66. Training in aspects related to biodiversity conservation in production landscapes will complement the training in the MOCUPP. During the PPG, the level of knowledge and tools available for different stakeholders in the ACLA-P regarding these topics (e.g., MINAE, municipalities, CSOs, and NGOs) were evaluated using the UNDP's Development Capacity Scorecard. The results indicated that there are different levels of capacity among stakeholders and that the area requiring the most attention is capacity for M&E. The impact of training will be assessed twice more during project implementation using the UNDP's Development Capacity Scorecard.

Output 2.9: Environmental education program led by ACLA-P in coordination with stakeholders associated with biodiversity and forest conservation in production landscapes.

67. Conservation and monitoring efforts for biodiversity conservation, reducing carbon emissions, and increasing carbon stocks will be complemented by a local environmental education program led by SINAC in coordination with social stakeholders, which will focus on the interlinking issues of biodiversity and forest conservation and livelihoods, agriculture, livestock, and forestry activities in production landscapes. Effective biodiversity and forest conservation in production landscapes depends on the full support of local stakeholders, and includes enhanced knowledge, raising awareness, and training in the related topics. The environmental education program will be directed towards economic and social stakeholders whose understanding of biodiversity conservation and sustainable production and changes in attitude towards the problem being addressed by the project is essential to achieving the GEBs outcomes.

68. The environmental education program supported by the project under SINAC's leadership in coordination with local social stakeholders will consist of the following: a) attitudes and training needs assessment of economic (e.g., farmers and producers' associations) and social stakeholders (e.g., CSOs including women groups and local schools, among others); b) definition of objectives; prioritization of topics and development of associated education/learning materials; c) establishment of the learning/training methodology, specifying the tools to be used and how they will be applied in the education/learning process and which may include education modules, workshops, online training, hands-on learning though field visits, and information exchanges, etc.; d) implementation of the methodologies prioritized in coordination with local social stakeholders, strengthening the interface humans-biodiversity; and d) evaluation of the environmental education program to determine changes in behavior, understanding, awareness, and skill levels to promote biodiversity and forest conservation in production landscapes.

Output 2.10: Verification system for production units free of loss of forest cover designed and discussed in multi-stakeholder workshops and piloted within the ACLA-P.

69. Land cover maps of specific crops (pineapple, African palm oil, and pasture) in the production landscapes of the ACLA-P and maps of forest cover loss or gain on farms on which those crops are produced (Component 1) will serve as input for the establishment of a "Production Units Free of Loss of Forest Cover" (PUFL) environmental recognition within the framework of the Environmental Recognition System of MINAE (Decree 37109).

70. Technical assistance and promotion of interinstitutional dialogue and consultation with the private sector will be provided for the development of the PUFL, which will begin operating in the third year of the project. Support will be provided to the Office for Environmental Quality Management (DIGECA) of MINAE to conduct the process of regulating the environmental recognition. Part of the process will involve the identification of an impartial entity acting as an organizer of the environmental recognition, who would manage the logistics related to the environmental recognition and use scientific-technical criteria in the evaluation (following a procedure established by Decree 37109).

71. The project will identify producers/private owners in the ACLA-P and purchasers of those products interested in benefiting and making use of that recognition. Consultations will be conducted to understand their needs and expectations and to provide information as to how the recognition will be awarded, as well as the economic and environmental benefits and their risks, including the role of MINAE-DIGECA and MOCUPP in providing baseline information and annual updates on the gains and losses of forest cover of the participating farms at no cost to the producers/private owners (Component 1).

72. The project will invest in promoting the recognition among the private sector. It will invest in working with companies to negotiate and establish ten (10) agreements and/or contracts with international purchasers of products from units verified as PUFL. The project will support DIGECA to work with the private sector to promote the purchase of farm products recognized as free of loss of forest cover.

73. To evaluate the economic and social benefits, studies will be conducted among farmers to analyze the changes in their annual income, disaggregated by gender, from the products of production units verified as free of loss of forest cover.

Output 2.11: Local and institutional capacities for citizen participation and governance in production landscapes of the ACLA-P strengthened.

74. With project financing, local organizational capacities for the management of biodiversity present in productive landscapes of the ACLA-P will be strengthened. This will contribute to promoting and developing socio-productive activities and strengthening citizen participation (Output 2.2.) and governance models for decision-making involving key stakeholders in conservation actions; this will include various initiatives such as support for voluntary forestry brigades, Natural Resource Surveillance Committees (COVIRENAS), Community Water Associations (ASADAS), Biological Corridors Local Councils, and Associations of Integral Development, among others. The implementation of networks of anonymous informants for the prevention and control of environmental crimes and early warning systems for threats to biodiversity will also be supported.

75. Project funds will also be used to strengthen SINAC's institutional capacities to cooperate with municipalities, representatives of the Judiciary, the public force, the migration police, the Customs General Directorate, the National Environmental Technical Secretariat (SETENA), the Water Directorate, and other key stakeholders, through training, advocacy, and negotiation activities, and strengthening of alliances and acquisition of equipment for the execution and coordinated actions of prevention, control, and protection of biodiversity in the production landscapes of the ACLA-P.

Region 2: MAIBC

Output 2.13: Five municipalities in the MAIBC and other public entities sign joint action agreements for controlling solid waste and discharge into rivers and promoting the connectivity of urban green areas, conservation, and rehabilitation of riparian forests of the María Aguilar River and tributaries.

76. The project will provide support for the establishment of agreements between the municipalities of San José, La Unión, Curridabat, Montes de Oca, and Alajuelita (intermunicipal watershed agencies), all of which have participation within the MAIBC, and other public entities such as MINAE, the Ministry of Public Education, Institute of AyA)

77. , and the Ministry of Health, among others, to ensure joint efforts in defining actions for controlling solid waste and discharges into the María Aguilar River and tributaries and promoting the connectivity, conservation, and rehabilitation of riparian forests within the MAIBC. These agreements will also allow for joint efforts involving the private sector, CSOs, local NGOs, and the general public in reducing solid waste production and discharges into the María Aguilar River. Public involvement will be a central aspect of these agreements as the users and inhabitants of the corridor are among the principal polluters and must be part of the solution to this problem.

78. The project coordinator will facilitate discussions between the municipalities and the public entities interested in establishing agreements and will provide support in developing drafts, which will be shared with the interested parties for their technical and legal review. Once the interested parties approve to the terms of the agreements, they will be signed and made available to the general public through official channels and following the established guidelines.

Output 2.14: Delimitation of protection zones in compliance with Article 33 of the Forestry Law and Regulation includes contour maps.

79. Article 33 of the Forestry Law (Law Nº7575, February 13, 1996) mandates that as part of the actions to conserve the country's protection zones, areas within a 100-meter radius surrounding permanent springs must be zoned off and protected. Similarly, the Law dictates a 10-meter strip of land within an urban area be zoned as a buffer area, measured horizontally on both sides on the banks of rivers and streams; this area increases to 50 meters if the terrain is flat or uneven. Article 34 of the Law states that cutting down trees within these protection zones is prohibited. The project will ensure this zoning is completed within the MAIBC and will develop digital zoning maps, providing reliable information regarding boundaries, which will be published by the National Institute of Housing and Urban Development (INVU) and will guide municipal authorities and interested groups in protecting and rehabilitating the forest cover in these areas that are critical for improving surface water quality, enhancing connectivity, and improving habitat for resident or migratory species. Contour maps will be developed using a digital elevation model, which can be easily produced within the GIS environment.

80. Once the maps are produced digitally, they will be shared and discussed with municipal stakeholders and other interested groups, including the MAIBC Local Council and women's groups. Field visits to the key areas will be arranged for on-the-ground verification with local participants.

Output 2.15: Protocols for interinstitutional coordination to address issues related to discharges, elimination of solid wastes and illegal constructions on the banks of the María Aguilar River formalized.

81. This output is geared to facilitate interinstitutional coordination in addressing the main threats that the MAIBC faces, including pollution, illegal urban expansion, and degradation of riverbanks of the María Aguilar River. The protocol will include guidelines for: a) joint planning and control, including enforcement of the Forestry Law and municipal-level regulations, including regulatory plans; b) information sharing to facilitate the development of an environmental assessment of the MAIBC (Output 2.16), an assessment of forest cover gains and losses within the MAIBC for years 2017, 2018, and 2019 (Output 2.17), and the development of a 2017 baseline study on urban and forest cover (Output 2.18); c) implementation of LMT and protection, rehabilitation, and reforestation of protection zones; and d) community involvement in MAIBC management and monitoring.

82. Workshops will be held with participating institutions, such as MINAE, SINAC Subregional Office in San José, the Ministry of Health, INVU, the MAIBC Local Council, AyA, PRIAS, DRI, IGN, local NGOs and CSOs, and universities and research centers, among others. The protocol and its guidelines will constitute a mechanism to facilitate participatory decision making using technical information and strengthened enforcement capacity for the conservation of biodiversity in an urban landscape and improving surface water quality and the protection of the María Aguilar River watershed and its tributaries, strengthening the continuity of green areas in the MAIBC

Output 2.16: Environmental assessment for the MAIBC completed.

83. The project will support the development of an environmental assessment for the MAIBC that contains key baseline information to support decision making for reducing water pollution, reforestation and rehabilitation of protection zones, and enhanced connectivity. The study will include: a) a soil and phytosanitary analysis for the identification of protection zones, their condition, and potential area for rehabilitation; b) identification and mapping

of potential pollution sources in the watershed through an inventory of point and non-point wastewater discharges to the María Aguilar River and its tributaries; and c) a socioeconomic analysis (population, education, gender, age groups, mapping interest groups, among others) that measures the perception and expectations of the inhabitants of the MAIBC regarding biodiversity conservation, reducing carbon emissions (including establishing a carbon emissions baseline as a reference to achieving carbon neutrality), and increasing carbon storage, among other environmental befits of global and local importance. The assessment will be complemented with baseline information on urban land and forest cover to be available through Output 2.18.

84. The environmental assessment will be completed with the active participation of local community members and CSOs, including women's groups and prioritizing organizations working to protect and restore the corridor, under the coordination of the MAIBC Local Council and with support from authorities in the five municipalities, MINAE, SINAC, among others. Assessment results will be available to the public and environmental authorities for review and consultation.

Output 2.17: Gains and losses of forest cover within the MAIBC for years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

85. To facilitate measuring regeneration trends in forest cover in the MAIBC, gains and losses of forest cover will be assessed for 2017, 2018, and 2019. These studies will be completed by PRIAS using similar remote-sensing techniques to those described for assessing gains and loss of forest cover within production landscapes (Output 1.4). For specific areas where more spatial detail is required (less than a 30-meter resolution provided by LANDSAT images), SENTINEL images and unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) will be used. Maps resulting from these assessments will determine how urban areas change from one year to another and in particular if this happens at the cost of existing forest, which would be an infringement of the Forestry Law and the Municipal Regulatory Plans. Accordingly, forestry and municipal authorities will have monitoring tools to use to enforce forest regulations and impose sanctions on those who break the law. Digital maps will be accessible through the SNIT online map viewer.

Output 2.18: Baseline study of urban land and forest cover (2015) as part of the MOCUPP annual monitoring of urban encroachment on natural habitat.

86. A 2015 baseline study of urban and forest cover in the MAIBC will be developed by the project with the support of PRIAS using LANDSAT8 images (30-meter resolution), SENTINEL images, and UAV. This information will produce baseline maps to monitor the changes in urban and forest cover over time and to assess forest gains and losses along the MAIBC, particularly for years 2017, 2018, and 2019 (Output 2.17). Digital maps produced will also be available through the SNIT online map viewer and will be available for download as part of the SNIT geo-services. The information generated by PRIAS and the SNIT will be provided to the Institutions and municipalities involved in the MAIBC free of charge and therefore will be sated in the Agreements signed between the parties.

Output 2.19: Formalization and open audience of cadastral records by the DRI within the MAIBC.

87. The project will support updating the cadastral records by the DRI within the MAIBC. All interested parties and groups will be able to review the records and send comments and opinions to the DRI, which will take these into consideration before making all updates official. Updated cadastral records will be published through the SNIT and will enable municipal authorities to link them to gain or loss of forest cover information for years 2017, 2018, and 2019 (Output 2.18), enhancing their capacity to enforce and monitor compliance with the Forestry Law and municipal ordinances regarding land use (including municipal regulatory plans) and urban development within the MAIBC, and in particular for preventing illegal occupation or restricted land use changes. In addition, all interested parties and groups will have access to the updated cadastral records through the SNIT online map viewer and will be able to request specific cadastral information from the DRI or PRIAS through a simple process that includes an official request and registering as a SNIT user free of charge for project parties.

Output 2.20: Government staff (MINAE, Ministry of Health, CENIGA, and INVU), authorities from five municipalities, male and female judges, women and men from the private sector, community members and other interested parties informed about and trained in the SNIT/MOCUPP and how to use it to enforce the Forestry Law and decision making in an urban environment.

88. The project will provide training to MINAE, the Subregional Office in San José, AyA, Ministry of Health, CENIGA, and INVU staff; municipal officials (San José, La Unión, Curridabat, Montes de Oca and Alajuelita); judges; and the

private sector (industry and urban development) on how to use the MOCUPP to enforce the Forestry Law in and urban environment. These stakeholders will be informed about the MOCUPP and its benefits and will be trained on how to access and use the MOCUPP web-based interface. The project will provide this training through workshops and webinars, and field activities for the verification of infractions. Through the former, emphasis will be placed on how to access LU/LC and cadastral information and how to integrate and visualize this information within the SNIT environment. Users will be registered with the SNIT so that they can be regularly informed about the availability of new maps. Training in aspects related to biodiversity conservation and connectivity in urban landscapes, forest rehabilitation and improving water quality, and mainstreaming gender will complement training in the MOCUPP.

Output 2.21: Eight (8) nurseries established to support the LMTs.

89. For the implementation of LMT in the MAIBC, the project will establish 8 nurseries that will provide the necessary endemic and native plant material for consolidating urban micro-corridors, protection zones, and enhancing urban green areas along the MAIBC. Campaigns will be organized with the MAIBC for implementing activities for reforestation and ecological rehabilitation of riverbanks and for springs protection; the MAIBC Local Council has extensive experience in these topics and will be instrumental in mobilizing local community members and CSOs to participate in these activities. Nurseries will be established within or near areas with the highest priority for building ecosystem connectivity and can be managed by municipal authorities, the private sector, or CSOs, including women's organizations.

Output 2.22: 16,000 individuals of endemic and native species of trees and shrubs planted in the MAIBC.

90. The implementation of LMTs (urban micro-corridors, protection zones, and enhancing urban green areas) will result in the planting of at least 16,000 new trees and shrubs using endemic and native species. This will result in an increase in the amount of flora and fauna, including birds that use the MAIBC as temporary habitat, and an increase of local resident species or other vertebrates such as small mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. The reforestation and rehabilitation of protection zones such as riverbanks and springs and the planting of endemic and native species of trees and shrubs will also contribute to improving the water quality of the Maria Aguilar River by reducing sedimentation and erosion and filtering surface water runoff. Planting will be a participatory process that includes local schools, NGOs, CSOs, and the general public under the MAIBC Local Council, municipal authorities, and the project team. Reforestation and rehabilitation activities will take into account the Protocol for the Reforestation, Rehabilitation, and Maintenance of Protection Zones in the GAM published by MINAE, and the Municipality of San José. Endemic and native species to be use may include *Annona cherimola, Ardisia* sp*., Byrsonima crassifolia, Cecropia* sp., *Calyptranthes pallens*, and *Trichilia havanensis*.

91. The project team and SINAC and MINAE staff will provide technical support and guidance for prioritizing the areas where trees and shrubs will be planted, which will also be selected using maps delineating protection zones that will be completed as part of Output 2.14.

Ouput 2.23: Environmental education program led by SINAC for economic and social stakeholders associated with the conservation of biodiversity in the MAIBC.

92. The project will implement an environmental education and awareness-raising strategy directed at the populations of the five municipalities of the MAIBC, including government agencies, municipalities, and the private and public banking sectors. This strategy will promote the active participation of all members of the communities, without distinction of gender, involving children, youth, adults, and the elderly to improve environmental conditions in the communities that are within the MAIBC and recover the María Aguilar River and associated biodiversity.

93. The environmental education program, which will be led by SINAC, will consider conservation and monitoring efforts for biodiversity conservation, reduced carbon emissions, and increased carbon stocks using a watershed approach. The effective conservation of the María Aguilar River watershed depends on the full support of the above-mentioned stakeholders, and includes improvements in knowledge, awareness, and training in the topics related to the project.

94. The environmental education program will consist of: a) raising awareness of communities near the María Aguilar River to integrate community problems with participation of all age groups; b) raising awareness of MAIBC

residents in the use of water resources, climate change, and mitigation of natural disasters; c) knowledge about of common flora and fauna present in the metropolitan area; d) watershed management; e) water resource management; f) design and maintenance of gardens; g) treatment and management of wastewater; h) control of diffuse sewage pollution into storm sewers and rivers; i) integration of urban planning and natural resources management; and j) management of solid and liquid wastes.

Ouput 2.24: Communications strategy for the MAIBC.

95. Through a communications strategy, the project will raise awareness and promote dialogue on the benefits of sustainable management of the María Aguilar River watershed, especially among municipal authorities, community leaders, the Central Government, and the private sector.

96. The strategy will include informing about the activities carried out by the MAIBC in order to increase the knowledge and awareness of the population with respect to issues such as cleaning and sanitation of the María Aguilar River and improvement of environmental practices promoted by the Corridor. In addition, the strategy will inform on the progress of the project and facilitate appropriation of the project by the social stakeholders and institutions involved for the sustainability of the MAIBC.

97. The key areas for the development of the communication strategy are: a)) raising awareness of communities near the María Aguilar River of the need to integrate community issues with participation by all age groups; b) raising awareness of MAIBC residents about water resource use, climate change, and mitigation of natural disasters. Awareness of these key issues will be implemented through the development of the following: a) knowledge about common flora and fauna present in the metropolitan area; b) watershed management; c) water resource management; d) wastewater treatment and diffuse contamination; e) urban planning; f) management of solid and liquid waste; g) environmental law; and h) labeling of the María Aguilar River flow.

Component 3: Knowledge Management and Monitoring and Evaluation.

98. This component of the project will allow the gathering and sharing of lessons learned in a systematic and efficient manner, with special emphasis on the development and dissemination of knowledge. It will also support adaptive management so that the project integrates experiences that result during implementation of the activities in the new programmatic cycles of the project. This project will take a highly innovative approach to tracking land use changes in production landscapes by linking the use of forest loss/gain mapping tools to land registry tools in both rural and urban landscapes, and involving multiple public and private stakeholders. It will require a novel technical approach and a great deal of social, legal, and political interaction. Consequently, the project will develop proper tools for knowledge management, M&E, and learning, whereby the systemization of lessons learned and dissemination of best management practices (BMPs) becomes a norm throughout the project. The project will develop a strategy for communication and visibility, including websites and blogs, knowledge sharing through public workshops and presentations, meetings with community organizations, NGOs, and other institutions and round tables to promote research and share experiences and lessons learned. This strategy will facilitate the flow of information and create links to generate citizen-based audits and to verify both the dissemination and the degree of impact obtained. In addition, due to its innovative nature (rural-urban approach/land use monitoring tied to tenancy/verification schemes, among others), by project's end Costa Rica will have pioneered new tools and processes worthy of wider dissemination at the regional and international levels.

99. The project will participate, as it is relevant and appropriate, in networks sponsored by UNDP/GEF, organized by expert staff who work in projects that share common characteristics. The Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) of UNDP/GEF will establish an electronic platform for sharing lessons learned among the project coordinators who share similar objectives.

Output 3.1: The experiences and lessons learned from monitoring changes in land cover, biodiversity, carbon emissions and stocks, and gender equality and women's empowerment on production landscapes in ACLA-P systematized.

*100.*The project will identify lessons learned related to the implementation of strategies to promote biodiversity conservation, reduced carbon emissions, and increased carbon storage in production landscapes of the ACLA-P. This

effort will bring forth useful lessons and successful experiences that result from the actions to implement LMT to improve connectivity; the development of a spatial-based tool for the prevention of forest fires; biological monitoring; the operationalization of the MOCUPP; environmental education; agreements and/or contracts between buyers and farmers for products from production units verified as free of loss of forest cover; and the mainstreaming of gender into sustainable production. Identifying the lessons learned and BMPs will help to: a) guide future actions; b) guide dialogue at the national, subnational, and local levels with regard to policies and strategies for reducing loss in forest cover, improving connectivity, and enhancing carbon stocks in productive landscapes; and c) improve the impact of the projects and programs financed by GEF.

Output 3.2: The experiences and lessons learned from monitoring changes in land cover, biodiversity, carbon emissions and stocks, and gender equality and women's empowerment in the MAIBC systematized in guideline documents and toolboxes to inform future urban policy.

83. The project will identify lessons learned related to the implementation of strategies to promote biodiversity conservation, reduce pollution of surface waters of the María Aguilar River, and increase carbon storage in the MAIBC. This effort will bring forth useful lessons and successful experiences that result from actions to control solid waste and discharge into rivers and headwaters, delimitation of protection zones for the restoration and protection of riverbanks and headwaters, environmental assessments to guide decision-making, the operationalization of the MOCUPP in an urban landscape, the implementation of LMT to enhance connectivity and restore degraded forests, and enhance monitoring and control with local community participation. Identifying the lessons learned and BMPs will help to: a) guide future actions; b) guide dialogue at the national, subnational, and local levels with regard to policies and strategies for reducing loss in forest cover, improving connectivity, and enhancing carbon stocks in urban landscapes; and c) improve the impact of the projects and programs financed by GEF.

Output 3.3. Thematic studies and other knowledge documented, and communication and public awareness materials with a gender perspective produced and available for dissemination.

*101.*Data, analysis, and lessons learned that result from the implementation of the MOCUPP in a production landscape and an urban landscape will be reported periodically during project implementation with active participation from the key stakeholders (e.g., MINAE, SINAC, PRIAS, IDR, IGN, municipalities, farmers, urban residents, NGOs, and CSOs) will be the main source for the development of communication and informational materials. The materials that are produced (e.g., technical reports and publications, videos, brochures, fact sheets, electronic news, and blogs) will be published through printed and digital media; in the case of digital media, the material will be disseminated through existing information platforms (including the SNIT) among the key project stakeholders and a project web page that will be created for such purpose, as well as to inform about progress made. The printed materials will be distributed directly to the public, private, and civil sector institutions and organizations working in rural development, the protection and integrated management of the environment, and peace building.

ii. Partnerships:

*102.*The project will build upon past and ongoing initiatives for the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable soil management, and sustainable forest management.

*103.*The Project *Conservation, sustainable use of biodiversity, and maintenance of ecosystem services of internationally important protected wetlands,* financed by the GEF and implemented by SINAC, will generate wetlands inventories and official maps for the ACLA-P and other regions of the country. Once these maps are published though the SNIT by the end of 2016 they will provide important input for MOCUPP consolidation. By having official maps of wetlands published through the SNIT, the photo interpreters at CeNAT-PRIAS may use official information of wetlands to make CeNAT's forest cover maps more reliable, as they are based on officially determined wetlands and not on their own unconfirmed interpretation of wetlands. During court or tribunal processing this may make the difference between accepting MOCUPP reports as evidence in court. Within the ACLA-P alone the wetlands project will invest at least $150,000 USD of GEF resources to develop wetland maps published through the SNIT.

*104.*A significant portion of UNDP's GEF Portfolio for addressing chemicals and waste management is anchored nationally at the DIGECA, which is responsible for compliance with international conventions and protocols such as Montreal, Stockholm, and Minamata. The project will interact with DIGECA's so that it cooperates fully with SINIA.

Close coordination will be maintained throughout project implementation so that other existing GEF initiatives that have significant investments in environmental information are used and shared by the stakeholders involved in SINIA.

105. The REDD+ Landscape CCAD-GIZ Program launched in 2014 supports landscape restoration processes in the Central Pacific Conservation Area (ACOPAC) in Costa Rica ("Landscape Management" [CCAD-GIZ-BMZ]). This area presents soils with significant levels of degradation as well as severe forest fragmentation in water catchment areas as a result of high pressure from agro-industrial crops in the area, along with the expansion of urban areas and poor agricultural practices. This initiative will contribute to: a) the restoration and conservation of natural springs for human consumption through payments for environmental services and municipal regulations; b) the conservation of soil and water resources in extensive livestock production areas through the application of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) in the livestock sector; and c) the maintenance and expansion of ecosystem goods and services, promoting payment for environmental protection services, natural regeneration, establishment of agroforestry systems, and sustainable management of secondary forests. The project proposed herein will establish synergies with the GIZ in Costa Rica to promote the exchange of lessons learned, best practices, and knowledge in all these areas. To this end, the GIZ will be invited to participate as an observer of the technical committees that will be established to provide general oversight of the project proposed herein.

106. The *Implementation of the National Biocorridor Programme (PNCB) within the Context of Costa Rica's National Biodiversity Strategy* ("Biocorridor Management" [BMUB-GIZ]) aims to develop partners' capacities to maintain the biological diversity and ecosystem services in Costa Rica's biocorridors. To this end, it is supporting the National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC), local governments, and local communities to enable them to cooperatively develop and implement strategy plans for the establishment and management of networks of interlinked biotopes. A small project fund will also promote measures relating to corridor management and processes for converting agricultural production systems. Coordination with this GIZ-funded initiative will also be achieved within the context of the project's technical committees.

107. In addition to the mechanism mentioned above that will used to promote coordinating and cooperation with the PNCB, UNDP actively participates through its country office in the implementation of Costa Rica's Biodiversity Strategy and works closely with its partners. Additional coordination and cooperation between the project proposed herein, the PNCB, and the GIZ will be achieved within this context.

iii. Stakeholder engagement:

108. The successful implementation of the project will largely depend on the effective communication and coordination with the multiple project stakeholders and the implementation of mechanisms to ensure these stakeholders' participation. The key national and subnational stakeholders include the MINAE, MAG, CENIGA, SINAC/ACLAP, CeNAT-PRIAS, IGN, among others. At the local level, the most relevant stakeholders are the MAIBC Local Committee, municipal authorities, CSOs, private landowners, and small and medium producers. The project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan is included in Annex L.

iv. Mainstreaming gender:

109. According to the project objective and the proposed actions, it is categorized *as Gender-responsive: results addressed differential needs of men or women and equitable distribution of benefits, resources, status, and rights, but do not address root causes of inequalities in their lives*.

110. Improvements to gender equality and women's empowerment will be targeted through planned activities within the ACLA-P and MAIBC. In the ACLA-P area the project will strengthen the participation of women leaders in the local conservation area committee (COL-ACLA-P) and particular attention will be given to generating income and employment opportunities for women and young people in the application of biodiversity mainstreaming measures within agricultural production. In the MAIBC the project will engage women's organizations and NGOs and CSOs led by women to provide reforestation and restoration and local community actions pertaining to the maintenance of ecosystem services and integrity of the biological corridor; these entities will be stimulated to appoint female representatives to form part of the governance structure of the MAIBC and within participating municipalities.

111. During the PPG a detailed Gender Mainstreaming Plan (included as Annex K) was developed to ensure gender mainstreaming in the project; specific gender-based indicators will be used for monitoring and a gender specialist will be hired to facilitate improvements on gender equality and women's empowerment. In addition, the project will receive technical support and guidance from the INAMU for mainstreaming gender issues in sustainable landscape management measures and decision making in the ACLA-P and MAIBC.

*112.*The following activities will be developed and integrated into the project as part of the project's gender mainstreaming strategy:

- Identification of the role of men and women in production processes and the necessities for strengthening their roles in implementing sustainable production systems.
- Assessments and strategies to address the needs of women in production and conservation efforts and support in those actions for which they need strengthening.
- Implementation of strategies for strengthening women's participation in sustainable production systems and conservation efforts in biological corridors.
- Technical assistance programs designed to consider the needs for strengthening women's skills and knowledge in accordance with their needs and interests, regarding sustainable production, biodiversity conservation, enhancement of carbon stocks, and reduction of carbon emissions.
- Ensure that women access knowledge developed by the project and can make decisions about the management of production landscapes in the ACLA-P and urban corridors of the MAIBC.
- Identification of the role of women and the current participation of women in making decisions about land use planning in rural and urban settings and current barriers that limit their participation.
- Strategies to ensure the participation of women in the MOCUPP and facilitating their integration with multi-stakeholder platforms for making decisions about land use and reduction of loss in forest cover.
- Assessment of the role of women in producers' associations and women-based CSOs to develop strategies to strengthen the leadership of women in these organizations.
- Systematization of lessons learned regarding the role of women in the implementation of sustainable production practices, biodiversity conservation, and the reduction of loss in forest cover.
- Shared knowledge by women about the planning and management of productive landscapes and urban biological corridors, and their participation in governance and decision-making processes.

v. South-South and Triangular Cooperation:

*113.*There is great potential for south-south cooperation with the other countries in the region for implementing similar initiatives (e.g., Guatemala and Honduras) through exchanges with the Country Offices and the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) of the UNDP. Technically qualified staff and groups of experts in the issues addressed by the project who are from these countries will have many opportunities to exchange experiences and knowledge. Finally, successful experiences will have a prominent place in the lessons learned that would be disseminated to ensure their widespread adoption and replication in other LAC countries.

VI. FEASIBILITY

i. Cost efficiency and effectiveness:

*114.*A strategy to deliver multiple environmental benefits (biodiversity conservation, reduced carbon emissions, and increased carbon storage) through the development of enabling conditions (policies, technologies, and market and financing mechanism) for the sustainable management of production landscapes and urban biological corridors and the piloting of these conditions in the ACLA-P and the MAIBC will be more cost-effective in the short, medium, and long term than the alternative strategy. The alternative strategy would result in the continuation of the current loss in forest cover rate of 699.9 ha annually in the ACLA-P, increasing the loss of key habitat for biodiversity and land

degradation; and the fragmentation and decreasing natural forest cover in the MAIBC due to urban encroachment and degradation of protection zones critical for improving surface water quality, protecting against flooding, and providing safe movement for local biodiversity.

115. Under the GEF scenario, the different national, subnational, and local stakeholders will work together to reduce loss in forest cover and enhance forest cover in production landscapes and urban corridors, based on a shared vision for managing these landscapes to conserve biodiversity, improve carbon sequestration, and manage lands sustainably. This strategy will allow removing institutional, technical, information, capacity, and financial barriers that currently exist in addressing the threats and causes of loss in forest cover, including the expansion of agriculture, cattle ranching, and urban development. Under the GEF scenario, the demand for forested lands to establish non-sustainable production systems in rural landscapes will be reduced through the production of best production practices and the yearly assessment of gains and losses of forest cover through the MOCUPP, which will allow environmental authorities to effectively enforce forest regulations that prohibit the conversion of natural forests to other land uses. This approach will be cost-effective as the MOCUPP is a low-cost monitoring tool that uses readily available satellite imagery for the development of baseline information and yearly updates of LU/LC changes. This will also serve to verify the participating farms' gains and losses of forest cover at no cost for producers/private owner. The GEF project scenario will allow the delivery of GEBs including increase carbon stocks and connectivity through the implementation of LMT. In addition, the GEF project will promote reforestation and the rehabilitation of degraded forests in protection zones in urban areas with positive effects for local biodiversity conservation and connectivity, and will contribute to erosion control along riverbanks and lead to reduced impacts from flooding and improve surface water quality. This will translate into direct benefits for the local producers through an increase in income as a result of preferential purchasing and pricing of free of loss of forest cover products, and urban residents through an improved quality of life. In addition, local producers of the ACLA-P and urban residents of the MAIBC will become principal planners and managers of these landscapes and generators of multiple local, national, and global environmental benefits.

116. Under the business-as-usual scenario, the monitoring for enforcement of the Forestry Law and infractions of it will continue to rely on sporadic institutional inspections or reports by concerned citizens, current rates of loss in forest cover will remain high, and critical habitat for diversity will continue to be lost. This will continue to occur within the context of low institutional capacity, limited collaborative actions between multiple sectors to address drivers of biodiversity loss, lack of reliable and updated information on forest gains and losses, and limited local participation in decision making. The business-as-usual scenario would result in increased environmental and social impacts, which would prove to be costlier in both the short and long term than the GEF strategy proposed herein.

ii. Risk Management:

117. As per standard UNDP requirements, the Project Manager will monitor risks on a quarterly basis and report on the status of risks to the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP Country Office will record progress in the UNDP ATLAS risk log. Risks will be reported as critical when the impact and probability are high (i.e., when impact is rated as 5, and when impact is rated as 4 and probability is rated at 3 or higher). Management responses to critical risks will also be reported to the GEF in the annual Project Implementation Report (PIR). The detailed risk management strategy for the project is included in Annex H.

iii. Social and environmental safeguards:

118. The overall project risk categorization is **low risk**. The project will include activities with minimal or no risk of adverse social or environmental impacts. Risk mitigation and risk assessment measures will be fully incorporated into the UNDP Risk log and presented to the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) as an annex to this project document (see Annex F). The Risk log will be updated in the Atlas system for the duration of the project, as necessary. Environmental and social grievances during implementation would be reported to the GEF in the annual PIR.

iv. Sustainability and Scaling Up:

119. It will also reward farmers who have a proven record in free of loss of forest cover production, generating additional income for these, through innovative verification schemes at no cost to farmers.

*120.*The foundation for environmental sustainability of the project is based on the consolidation of the MOCUPP to provide information on forest gains and losses over time, which will be used by national and local institutions in decision making for enhancing connectivity and prioritizing biodiversity conservation actions. A risk mapping system for the prevention of forest fires, a pilot participatory biological monitoring program, and land suitability for forestry are tools to be delivered by the project in the ACLA-P, which will also allow subnational and local environmental authorities to prioritize efforts to improve biodiversity conservation, enhance carbon stocks, and reduce carbon emissions. In the MAIBC, the delimitation of protection zones and environmental assessments for identifying their condition and potential area for rehabilitation, as well as the identification and mapping of potential pollution sources, will provide municipal authorities and local interest groups with key information for restoring, reforesting, and protecting key habitat for urban biodiversity and for facilitating their movement along the corridor, in addition to defining strategies to improve surface water quality.

*121.*Social sustainability will be achieved primarily through the direct participation of local producers (farmers and cattle ranchers), local community members (including women), CSOs, and NGOs, and local governments in the planning and implementation of sustainable production and conservation activities, as well as through long-term, direct, and indirect economic and environmental benefits that the project activities will deliver. These include: a) implementing sustainable production practices that increase the income of local producers though economic incentives (i.e., verification of free of loss of forest cover products); b) improved environmental quality (reduction of discharges and wastes, improved water quality, reforestation and rehabilitation of protection zones) in an urban corridor for the enjoyment of nature and recreation; c) environmental education for interlinking issues of biodiversity and forest conservation and improved livelihoods of rural communities; and d) empowerment of local communities and CSOs, including women, through their active participation in the planning, management, and monitoring of LU/LC changes and the environment in the landscapes they inhabit.

*122.*The financial sustainability of the project's outcomes will be achieved through the development of a long-term inter-institutional financial sustainability strategy for the MOCUPP considering medium- to long-term information needs for forest cover monitoring and the updating of cadastral records for critical areas of connectivity and biodiversity conservation in production landscapes and urban corridors. The support that the project will provide to farmers (agricultural, pineapple, and pasturelands) for free of loss of forest cover production and verification will lead to preferential buying and pricing of their products to serve as an incentive that will continue to operate beyond project completion and which is backed by agreements and/or contracts with buyers.

123. Institutional sustainability will be achieved through strengthening the governance and capacity of the environmental and land use management agencies, municipal authorities, producers' organizations, local interest groups and CSOs, and the private sector. This will consist of an inter-institutional agreement or Ministerial Decree formalizing the establishment, management arrangements, and financial sustainability of the MOCUPP, including annual monitoring of gains and loss of forest cover within agricultural production landscapes and urban biological corridors of Costa Rica. This effort will be supported by a multiple-stakeholder approach involving both public and private stakeholders that will continue beyond the life of this project. It will allow MINAE, municipalities, and the judicial system to improve both the prevention and control of forest loss, thereby speeding up the monitoring and processing of violations. The project will strengthen the capacity of CeNAT-PRIAS's ability to classify and analyze spatial data and will ensure the continued development of annual maps to monitor changes in forest cover with improved technologies.

124. Institutional sustainability in the MAIBC will include long-term agreements between the municipalities of San José, La Unión, Curridabat, Montes de Oca, and Alajuelita, and public entities (MINAE, the Ministry of Public Education, AyA, and the Ministry of Health, etc.) to enhance institutional coordination for controlling solid waste and discharges into surface waters. Finally, local environmental authorities, male and female judges, and women and men from the private sector in the ACLA-P and MAIBC will have improved capacity to ensure that they will continue to use the SNIT/MOCUPP to enforce the Forestry Law at the local level and for decision making regarding LU/LC changes after project completion.

125. Scaling up: With results from the pilot program demonstrating how SINIA can improve enforcement of environmental legislation at the same time that it helps increase the income of producers who adopt BMPs, the project strategy and activities will be rolled out and replicated by different public sector entities. SINAC will be able

to structurally modify how it processes Forestry Law infractions within production landscapes, and is expected to instruct other conservation areas in Costa Rica to adopt the successful lessons learned. FONAFIFO will design new incentives, as the MOCUPP will provide most of the necessary information required to reward land tenants who increase forest cover and ecosystem services within their farms, with little additional cost. Municipalities and the Ministry of Finance will be better-equipped to collect taxes and the MAG will be better able to monitor commodities production by having official estimates of land cover, which may then be the basis for total output production estimates. All of these conditions will accelerate adoption of lessons learned and consolidate the new dynamic of multi-stakeholder actions to reduce forest cover and habitat loss.

126. The project will support a low-cost technological solution by utilizing widely available Landsat and SENTINEL imagery and UAV data, which would ensure scaling-up to other countries. Ministerial representations from Madagascar, Morocco, and Paraguay have all visited Costa Rica to discuss the initial idea of the system. The UNDP Green Commodities Programme is now working with these countries and Côte d'Ivoire to replicate the MOCUPP.

127. Lessons learned and the knowledge acquired as a result of the project will be compiled and shared through Component 3, which addresses information management. This information will be used in the design and implementation of similar projects. In addition, the tools available through the UNDP and GEF (information networks, forums, documents and publications, etc.) will be made use of to disseminate best practices and experiences related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable land and forest management.

VII. PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goals: Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns; Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss.					
This project will contribute to the following country outcome included in the UNDAF/Country Programme Document: 1.1. Public, private, and community institutions with analysis, management, and response capacities strengthened for exercising human rights and improving conditions of human development, and prioritizing populations in vulnerable situations; 2.2. Capacities of the national statistics system are strengthened to generate, analyze, and utilize information for the development, application, monitoring, and evaluation of public policies; 4.2. Public, private, and civil society sectors will have progressed in incorporating and implementing national policies and strategies that consider environmental quality and integrated management of natural resources, as well as the valuation of environmental goods and services and the protection, conservation, and sustainable use of biodiversity; 5.3. Strategies and programs implemented for sustainable production development, the generation of opportunities and decent working conditions, with an emphasis on micro-, small-, and medium-scale businesses, youth, and women.					
This project will be linked to the following output of the UNDP Strategic Plan: Output 1.3: Solutions developed at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste.					
	Objective and Outcome Indicators	**Baseline**	**Mid-term Target**	**End of Project Target**	**Assumptions**
Project Objective: To mainstream biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management and carbon sequestration objectives into production landscapes and urban biological corridors of Costa Rica	Mandatory Indicator 1 (UNDP): Number of people benefiting directly from solutions for managing natural resources and ecosystem services, ensuring gender equality	Direct: 0 – ACLA-P: 0 – MAIBC: 0	Direct: – ACLA-P: 160 (40 farms) – MAIBC: 25,000	Direct: – ACLA-P: 400 (100 farms) – MAIBC: 25,000	– Willingness by decision makers to incorporate objectives for biodiversity conservation, sustainable land and forest management, sustainable production landscape management, and urban biological corridors – Willingness by local land owners and farmers to incorporate environmental sustainability criteria as part of their production activities – Optimal sampling that will include disaggregation by sex
	Project Indicator 2: Area (ha) of avoided loss in forest cover in production landscapes by project end	– ACLA-P: 0 (699.9 ha of annual loss in forest cover[8])	– ACLA-P: 287 ha	– ACLA-P: 820 ha (535.9 ha of annual loss in forest cover[9])	
	Project Indicator 3: Forest cover (ha) in an urban landscape by project end	– 147.1 ha	– 147.1 ha	– 147.1 ha	
Component 1: Favorable enabling conditions (policies, technologies, markets and finance) for delivering multiple global	Indicator 4: Interinstitutional agreement formalizes the National Monitoring System for Land Use Change in Production Landscapes (MOCUPP)	– 0	– Draft of the Interinstitutional Agreement	– Interinstitutional agreement published	– Willingness by decision makers and local stakeholders to incorporate environmental sustainability objectives (biodiversity, soils, and forests)

[8] Based on the analysis of loss of forest cover for the period 2001-2013 conducted by PRIAS-CENAT using data from the REDD+ baseline level

[9] A reduction in loss in forest cover by 20% per year is assumed.

environmental benefits in managed production landscapes and urban biological corridors *Outcomes*: *Enabling policy, institutional arrangements, community participation and market conditions for delivering multiple global environmental benefits (GEBs) in production landscapes, resulting in:* *1.1. The ability of the State to enforce the Forestry Law and generate economic incentives for maintaining ecosystem services is strengthened through:* *i) Interinstitutional agreement formalizes the National Monitoring System for Land Use Change in Production Landscapes (MOCUPP)* *ii) Eleven (11) interinstitutional agreements signed annually with the National Territorial Information System (SNIT), linking georeferenced information with land ownership data and the most recent and available satellite imagery, and available through the SNIT/MOCUPP viewer.* *1.2. Ten (10) agreements established with international buyers for the acquisition of products verified as free of loss of forest cover.*	Indicator 5: Number of interinstitutional agreements signed annually with the SNIT, linking georeferenced information with land ownership data and the most recent and available satellite imagery, and available through the SNIT/MOCUPP viewer.	– 0	– 5 agreements	– 11 agreements	in production landscapes and urban biological corridors under management
	Indicator 6: Number of agreements established with international buyers for the acquisition of products verified as free of loss of forest cover	– 0	– 5	– 10	– Willingness by the international buyers to enter into business agreements and become informed through the MOCUPP
Outputs:					

1. Interinstitutional agreement/Ministry Decree formalizes the establishment, management arrangements, and financial sustainability of the MOCUPP as part of the SIMOCUTE, including annual monitoring of forest cover change and land degradation within agricultural production landscapes and interurban biological corridors in Costa Rica, as well as the review of current national forest policy and regulations. 2. Agreements with 15 institutions to provide updated georeferenced information to MOCUPP through the National Territorial Information System's (SNIT) Geoportal and associated services on a yearly basis so imagery may be tied to land tenancy. 3. An agreed-upon long-term inter-institutional financial sustainability strategy to fund: i) forest cover monitoring services provided by the Council of State Universities (CeNAT-PRIAS) for the MOCUPP; ii) continuous updating of the national cadaster by the DRI so that land tenancy records are visible through the SNIT, including gender-disaggregated data; and iii) the continuous updating of the SNIT web-tool by the IGN. 4. 2000-2015 baseline study of total forest cover gains and losses within production landscapes. 5. 2015 baseline study of total land cover of pastureland for cattle grazing and pineapple and palm oil crops. 6. CeNAT-PRIAS staff trained in advanced classification techniques of satellite images and remote-sensing processing equipment and software for monitoring trends in forest cover and land use. 7. SNIT online map viewer is updated and enhanced with new applications for users. 8. National repository of information for participatory ecological monitoring implemented collaboratively between public, private, and civil society stakeholders, including women, and linked to the PRONAMEC. 9. 25% of the agricultural, pineapple, and pasture production units verified as free of loss of forest cover by MINAE. 10. At least 1,000 international companies buying commodities from Costa Rica aware of the free of loss of forest cover verification.				
Component 2: Multiple global environmental benefits (biodiversity conservation, reduced carbon emissions and increased carbon storage) are delivered in production landscapes in the ACLA-P buffer zone forest zone (Region 1) and Maria Aguilar Inter Urban Biological Corridor (Region 2) *Outcomes:* ***Region 1: ACLAP*** *2.1. Connectivity and biodiversity conservation between production landscapes and ACLA-P's protected areas are increased over 700 ha of micro corridors and 2,000 ha of silvopastoral systems through the implementation of Landscape management tools (LMTs).*	**Region 1: Conservation Area La Amistad-Pacífico – ACLA-P**				
	Indicator 7: Area (ha) of landscape management tools[10] that contribute to improving ecosystem connectivity and biodiversity conservation established at the end of the project	– Micro-corridors: 0 – Sylvopastoral systems: 0	– Micro-corridors: 300 ha – Sylvopastoral systems: 800 ha	– Micro-corridors: 700 ha – Sylvopastoral systems: 2,000	– There are no substantive changes in land use/cover – Sampling efforts are optimal – Environmental variability is within the normal range
	Indicator 8: Increase in biomass reserves (tCO_2eq) derived from landscape management tools	– 0 tCO_2eq	– 25,370 tCO_2eq	– 103,100 tCO_2eq[11]	
	Indicator 9: Reduction in CO_2e emissions in prioritized farms by project end	– 142,434 tCO_2eq due to losses in forest plantations[12]	– 71,218 tCO_2eq	– 142,434 tCO_2eq	
	Indicator 10: Presence of key bird species in the ACLA-P remains stable	– Quetzal (*Pharomachrus mocinno*) – Three-wattled Bellbird campana (*Procnias tricarunculata*) – Great tinamu grande (*Tinamus major*) (Species will be confirmed during the first year of project implementation)	– Quetzal (*Pharomachrus mocinno*) – Three-wattled Bellbird (*Procnias tricarunculata*) – Great tinamu (*Tinamus major*)	– Quetzal (*Pharomachrus mocinno*) – Three-wattled Bellbird (*Procnias tricarunculata*) – Great tinamu (*Tinamus major*)	

[10] The landscape management tools for biodiversity conservation in production landscapes are landscape elements that make up or improve habitat, increase functional connectivity, or comply simultaneously with these functions to benefit the native biodiversity [Lozano-Zambrano, F. H. (ed.). 2009. Herramientas de manejo para la conservación de biodiversidad en paisajes rurales. Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt y Corporación Autónoma Regional de Cundinamarca (CAR). Bogotá, D. C., Colombia. 238 p.]).

[11] Refer to Annex P for calculations on the carbon benefits of the project.

[12] Refer to Annex P for calculations on the carbon benefits of the project.

2.2. Increase of forest cover and carbon storage within in the ACLA-P buffer zone's farms leading to: *i) 103,100 tCO_2eq biomass stocks derived from LMTs.* *ii) Reduction in 142,434 tCO_2eq emissions in prioritized farms by project end.* *iii) Presence of key bird species in the ACLA-P remains stable: Quetzal (Pharomachrus mocinno), Three-wattled Bellbird (Procnias tricarunculata), and Great tinamu (Tinamus major)* *2.3. 820 ha of avoided loss in forest cover by project end (reduction of forest cover loss from 699.9 ha/yr. to 535.9 ha/yr.)* *2.5. 50 farms verified as free of loss of forest cover* *2.6. Change in annual income per initiative and disaggregated by gender with verified increase in forest cover (baseline and targets will be determined during project implementation)* ***Region 2: MAIBC*** *2.7. Increase of biological diversity, forest cover and carbon storage within the MAIBC leading to:* *i) 2,050 hectares of landscape management tools (micro corridors, protection zones, and urban green areas) increase connectivity and conserve biodiversity within MAIBC.* *ii) 94,201 tCO_2eq of biomass stocks derived from LMTs by project end.*	Indicator 11: Number of farms verified as free of loss of forest cover	– 0	– 25 farms	– 50 farms	– Verification process is optimal – Willingness of farmers to participate in the verification process
	Indicator 12: Change in annual income per initiative and disaggregated by gender with verified increase in forest cover	– X (Baseline and targets will be determined during project implementation)	– X	– X	– There is willingness by landowners and local agricultural workers to incorporate environmental sustainability criteria as part of their production activities – Available and stable national and international markets for environmentally-friendly products
	Region 2: Maria Aguilar Inter Urban Biological Corridor – MAIBC				
	Indicator 13: Area (ha) of landscape management tools (micro-corridors, protection zones*, urban green areas**) that contributes to improving ecosystem connectivity and biodiversity conservation at the end of the project * River and stream banks, spring buffers, groundwater recharge areas, and catchment areas or outlets for drinking water ** Urban parks, urban open space, tree-lined streets and avenues	– Micro-corridors: 0 – Protection zones: 0 – Urban green areas: 0	– Micro-corridors: 400 ha – Protection zones: 20 ha – Urban green areas: 500 ha	– Micro-corridors 1,000 ha – Protection zones (i.e., river banks): 50 ha – Urban green areas: 1,000 ha	– There are no substantive changes in land use/coverage – Ecological monitoring and control efforts are optimal – Environmental variability is within the normal range
	Indicator 14: Increase in biomass reserves (tCO_2eq)	– 0 tCO_2eq	– 31,400 tCO_2eq	– 94,201 tCO_2eq[13]	
	Indicator 15: Presence of migratory bird species in the MAIBC remains stable	– Summer tanager (*Piranga rubra*) – Baltimore oriole (*Icterus galbula*)	– Summer tanager (*Piranga rubra*) – Baltimore oriole (*Icterus galbula*)	– Summer tanager (*Piranga rubra*) – Baltimore oriole (*Icterus galbula*)	

[13] Refer to Annex P for calculations on the carbon benefits of the project.

iii) Presence of migratory bird species in the MAIBC remains stable: Summer tanager (Piranga rubra) and Baltimore oriole (Icterus galbula). *2.2. 100% of forest cover (i.e., 147.1 ha) in the MAIBC remains by project end*					

Outputs:

Local institutions strengthened and supporting sustainable management and conservation of production landscapes, including:

Region 1: ACLA-P

1. Twenty (20) nurseries for endemic and native plant species established to support LMTs.
2. Financing of socio-productive community initiatives in the ACLA-P support the implementation of LMTs.
3. MRV system assesses the impact of LMT on biodiversity conservation derived from the financing of the socio-productive community initiatives in the ACLA-P.
4. Risk mapping system for the prevention of forest fires includes the classification of vegetation to determine its combustion rate.
5. Pilot project for the implementation of the PRONAMEC in ACLA-P includes an interactive online platform for the exchange of information.
6. Land tenancy registries, disaggregated by sex, for a 50-km^2 area of production lands within the buffer zones of protected areas of the ACLA-P finalized and updated in the SNIT.
7. Land suitability for forestry study for public lands or without registration ownership contributes to strengthening connectivity in landscapes of the ACLA-P.
8. MINAE staff, municipal authorities, female and male judges, and female and male private producers informed about and trained in the MOCUPP and how to use it to enforce the Forestry Law.
9. Environmental education program led by ACLA-P in coordination with stakeholders associated with biodiversity and forest conservation in production landscapes.
10. Verification system for production units free of loss of forest cover designed and discussed in multi-stakeholder workshops and piloted within the ACLA-P.
11. Local and institutional capacities for citizen participation and governance in production landscapes of the ACLA-P strengthened.

Region 2: MAIBC

12. Five municipalities in the MAIBC and other public entities sign joint action agreements for controlling solid waste and discharge into rivers and promoting the connectivity of urban green areas, conservation, and rehabilitation of riparian forests of the María Aguilar River and tributaries.
13. Delimitation of protection zones in compliance with Article 33 of the Forestry Law and Regulation includes contour maps.
14. Protocols for interinstitutional coordination to address issues related to discharges, elimination of solid wastes and illegal constructions on the banks of the María Aguilar River formalized.
15. Environmental assessment of the MAIBC completed.
16. Gains and losses of forest cover within the MAIBC for years 2017, 2018, and 2019.
17. Baseline study of urban land and forest cover (2015) as part of the MOCUPP annual monitoring of urban encroachment on natural habitat.
18. Formalization and open audience of cadastral records by the DRI within the MAIBC.
19. Government staff (MINAE, Ministry of Health, CENIGA, and INVU), authorities from five municipalities, male and female judges, women and men from the private sector, community members and other interested parties informed about and trained in the SNIT/MOCUPP and how to use it to enforce the Forestry Law and decision making in an urban environment.
20. Eight (8) nurseries established to support the LMTs.
21. 16,000 individuals of endemic and native species of trees and shrubs planted in MAIBC.
22. Environmental education program led by SINAC for economic and social stakeholders associated with the conservation of biodiversity in the MAIBC.
23. Communications strategy for the MAIBC.

Component 3: Knowledge management and monitoring and evaluation *Outcomes* *3.1. Ten (10) documents on successful experiences about the incorporation of conservation biodiversity objectives, land management, and carbon sequestration in sustainable production landscapes and interurban biological corridors in Costa Rica.* *3.2. Change in the indices about Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP; indices will be defined at the beginning of the project) as a result of awareness and environmental education at the subnational and local levels*	Indicator 16: Number of documents on successful experiences about the incorporation of conservation biodiversity objectives, land management, and carbon sequestration in sustainable production landscapes and interurban biological corridors in Costa Rica.	– 0	– 5	– 10	– Wide and timely dissemination – Optimal sampling
	Indicator 17: Change in the indices about Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP; indices will be defined at the beginning of the project) as a result of awareness and environmental education at the subnational and local levels	– ACLA-P: X – MAIBC: X (Baseline and target will be established during first year of project implementation)	– ACLA-P: X – MAIBC: X	– ACLA-P: X – MAIBC: X	
Outputs: 1. The experiences and lessons learned from monitoring changes in land cover, biodiversity, carbon emissions and stocks, and gender equality and women's empowerment on production landscapes in ACLA-P systematized. 2. The experiences and lessons learned from monitoring changes in land cover, biodiversity, carbon emissions and stocks, and gender equality and women's empowerment in the MAIBC systematized in guideline documents and toolboxes to inform future urban policy. 3. Thematic studies and other knowledge documented, and communication and public awareness materials with a gender perspective produced and available for dissemination.					

VIII. MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) PLAN

128. The project results as outlined in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation to ensure the project effectively achieves these results.

129. Project-level monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (UNDP POPP) and UNDP Evaluation Policy. While these UNDP requirements are not outlined in this project document, the UNDP Country Office will work with the relevant project stakeholders to ensure UNDP M&E requirements are met in a timely fashion and to high quality standards. Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements (as outlined below) will be undertaken in accordance with the GEF M&E policy and other relevant GEF policies[14].

130. In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed during the Project Inception Workshop and will be detailed in the Inception Report. This will include the exact role of project target groups and other stakeholders in project M&E activities including the GEF Operational Focal Point and national/regional institutes assigned to undertake project monitoring. The GEF Operational Focal Point will strive to ensure consistency in the approach taken to the GEF-specific M&E requirements (notably the GEF Tracking Tools) across all GEF-financed projects in the country. This could be achieved for example by using one national institute to complete the GEF Tracking Tools for all GEF-financed projects in the country, including projects supported by other GEF Agencies.

M&E Oversight and monitoring responsibilities:

131. Project Manager: The Project Manager is responsible for day-to-day project management and regular monitoring of project results and risks, including social and environmental risks. The Project Manager will ensure that all project staff maintain a high level of transparency, responsibility and accountability in M&E and reporting of project results. The Project Manager will inform the Project Committee, the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor (RTA) of any delays or difficulties as they arise during implementation so that appropriate support and corrective measures can be adopted.

132. The Project Manager will develop Annual Work Plans (AWPs) based on the multi-year work plan included in Annex A, including annual output targets to support the efficient implementation of the project. The Project Manager will ensure that the standard UNDP and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring the results framework indicators are monitored annually in time for evidence-based reporting in the GEF PIR, and that the monitoring of risks and the various plans/strategies developed to support project implementation (e.g. gender strategy, knowledge management strategy, etc.) occur on a regular basis.

133. Project Committee: The Project Committee will take corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. The Project Committee will hold project reviews to assess the performance of the project and appraise the AWP for the following year. In the project's final year, the Project Committee will hold an end-of-project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to highlight project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences. This final review meeting will also discuss the findings outlined in the project terminal evaluation report and the management response.

134. Project Implementing Partner: The Implementing Partner is responsible for providing any and all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary and appropriate. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes, and is aligned with national systems so that the data used by and generated by the project supports national systems.

135. UNDP Country Office: The UNDP Country Office will support the Project Manager as needed, including through annual supervision missions. The annual supervision missions will take place according to the schedule outlined in the AWP. Supervision mission reports will be circulated to the project team and Project Committee within one month of the mission. The UNDP Country Office will initiate and organize key GEF M&E activities including the annual GEF

[14] See https://www.thegef.org/gef/gef_agencies

PIR, the independent mid-term review and the independent terminal evaluation. The UNDP Country Office will also ensure that the standard UNDP and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality.

136. The UNDP Country Office is responsible for complying with all UNDP project-level M&E requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP. This includes ensuring the UNDP Quality Assurance Assessment during implementation is undertaken annually; that annual targets at the output level are developed, and monitored and reported using UNDP corporate systems; the regular updating of the ATLAS risk log; and, the updating of the UNDP gender marker on an annual basis based on gender mainstreaming progress reported in the GEF PIR and the UNDP ROAR. Any quality concerns flagged during these M&E activities (e.g., annual GEF PIR quality assessment ratings) must be addressed by the UNDP Country Office and the Project Manager.

137. The UNDP Country Office will retain all M&E records for this project for up to seven years after project financial closure in order to support ex-post evaluations undertaken by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) and/or the GEF IEO.

138. UNDP-GEF Unit: Additional M&E and implementation quality assurance and troubleshooting support will be provided by the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor and the UNDP-GEF Directorate as needed.

139. **Audit**: The project will be audited according to UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies on DIM implemented projects.[15]

Additional GEF monitoring and reporting requirements:

140. Inception Workshop and Report: A project inception workshop will be held within two months after the project document has been signed by all relevant parties to, amongst others:

a) Re-orient project stakeholders to the project strategy and discuss any changes in the overall context that influence project implementation;

b) Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting and communication lines and conflict resolution mechanisms;

c) Review the results framework and finalize the indicators, means of certification and monitoring plan;

d) Discuss reporting, monitoring and evaluation roles and responsibilities and finalize the M&E budget; identify national/regional institutions to be involved in project-level M&E; discuss the role of the GEF Operational Focal Point (OFP) in M&E;

e) Update and review responsibilities for monitoring the various project plans and strategies, including the risk log; Environmental and Social Management Plan and other safeguard requirements; the gender strategy; the knowledge management strategy, and other relevant strategies;

f) Review financial reporting procedures and mandatory requirements, and agree on the arrangements for the annual audit; and

g) Plan and schedule Project Committee meetings and finalize the first year AWP.

141. The Project Manager will prepare the inception report no later than one month after the inception workshop. The inception report will be cleared by the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser, and will be approved by the Project Committee.

142. GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR): The Project Manager, the UNDP Country Office, and the UNDP-GEF RTA will provide objective input to the annual GEF PIR covering the reporting period July (previous year) to June (current year) for each year of project implementation. The Project Manager will ensure that the indicators included in the Project Results Framework are monitored annually in advance of the PIR submission deadline so that progress can be reported in the PIR. Any environmental and social risks and related management plans will be monitored regularly, and progress will be reported in the PIR.

[15] See guidance here: https://info.undp.org/global/popp/frm/pages/financial-management-and-execution-modalities.aspx

143. The PIR submitted to the GEF will be shared with the Project Committee. The UNDP Country Office will coordinate the input of the GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders to the PIR as appropriate. The quality rating of the previous year's PIR will be used to inform the preparation of the subsequent PIR.

144. Lessons learned and knowledge generation: Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention area through existing information sharing networks and forums. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to the project. The project will identify, analyze and share lessons learned that might be beneficial to the design and implementation of similar projects and disseminate these lessons widely. There will be continuous information exchange between this project and other projects of similar focus in the same country, region and globally.

145. GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools: The following GEF Tracking Tool(s) will be used to monitor global environmental benefit results: BD-4, LD-2; LD-3, SFM-1.

146. The baseline/CEO Endorsement GEF Focal Area Tracking Tool(s) – submitted in Annex D to this project document – will be updated by the Project Manager/Team and shared with the mid-term review consultants and terminal evaluation consultants (not the evaluation consultants hired to undertake the MTR or the TE) before the required review/evaluation missions take place. The updated GEF Tracking Tool(s) will be submitted to the GEF along with the completed Mid-term Review report and Terminal Evaluation report.

147. Independent Mid-term Review (MTR): An independent mid-term review process will begin after the second PIR has been submitted to the GEF, and the MTR report will be submitted to the GEF in the same year as the 3rd PIR. The MTR findings and responses outlined in the management response will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project's duration. The terms of reference, the review process and the MTR report will follow the standard templates and guidance prepared by the UNDP IEO for GEF-financed projects available on the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center (ERC). As noted in this guidance, the evaluation will be 'independent, impartial and rigorous'. The consultants that will be hired to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the UNDP-GEF Directorate. The final MTR report will be available in English and will be cleared by the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF RTA, and approved by the Project Committee.

148. Terminal Evaluation (TE): An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terminal evaluation process will begin three months before operational closure of the project allowing the evaluation mission to proceed while the project team is still in place, yet ensuring the project is close enough to completion for the evaluation team to reach conclusions on key aspects such as project sustainability. The Project Manager will remain on contract until the TE report and management response have been finalized. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and guidance prepared by the UNDP IEO for GEF-financed projects available on the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center. As noted in this guidance, the evaluation will be 'independent, impartial and rigorous'. The consultants that will be hired to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the UNDP-GEF Directorate. The final TE report will be cleared by the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF RTA, and will be approved by the Project Committee. The TE report will be publically available in English on the UNDP ERC.

149. The UNDP Country Office will include the planned project terminal evaluation in the UNDP Country Office evaluation plan, and will upload the final terminal evaluation report in English and the corresponding management response to the UNDP ERC. Once uploaded to the ERC, the UNDP IEO will undertake a quality assessment and validate the findings and ratings in the TE report, and rate the quality of the TE report. The UNDP IEO assessment report will be sent to the GEF IEO along with the project terminal evaluation report.

150. Final Report: The project's terminal PIR along with the TE report and corresponding management response will serve as the final project report package. The final project report package shall be discussed with the Project Committee during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up.

Mandatory GEF M&E Requirements and M&E Budget:

GEF M&E requirements	Primary responsibility	Indicative costs to be charged to the Project Budget[16] (US$)		Time frame
		GEF grant	Co-financing	
Inception Workshop	UNDP Country Office	USD 3,000	USD 3,000	Within two months of project document signature
Inception Report	Project Manager	None	None	Within two weeks of inception workshop
Standard UNDP monitoring and reporting requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP	UNDP Country Office	None	None	Quarterly, annually
Monitoring of indicators in project results framework	Project Manager	None, covered through Outcome 3	None, covered through Outcome 3	Annually
GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)	Project Manager and UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF team	None	None	Annually
NIM Audit as per UNDP audit policies	UNDP Country Office	USD 15,000 (Per year: USD 3,000)	None	Annually or other frequency as per UNDP Audit policies
Lessons learned and knowledge generation	Project Manager	None, covered through Outcome 3	None, covered through Outcome 3	Annually
Monitoring of environmental and social risks, and corresponding management plans as relevant	Project Manager UNDP CO	None	None	On-going
Addressing environmental and social grievances	Project Manager UNDP Country Office BPPS as needed	None for time of project manager, and UNDP CO	None	
Project Committee meetings	Project Committee UNDP Country Office Project Manager	USD 4,000 (Per year: USD 800)	USD 4,000 (Per year: USD 800)	At minimum annually
Supervision missions	UNDP Country Office	None[17]	None	Annually
Oversight missions	UNDP-GEF team	None[17]	None	Troubleshooting as needed
Knowledge management as outlined in Outcome 3	Project Manager	USD 164,500	USD 150,000	On-going

[16] Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff time and travel expenses.

[17] The costs of UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF Unit's participation and time are charged to the GEF Agency Fee.

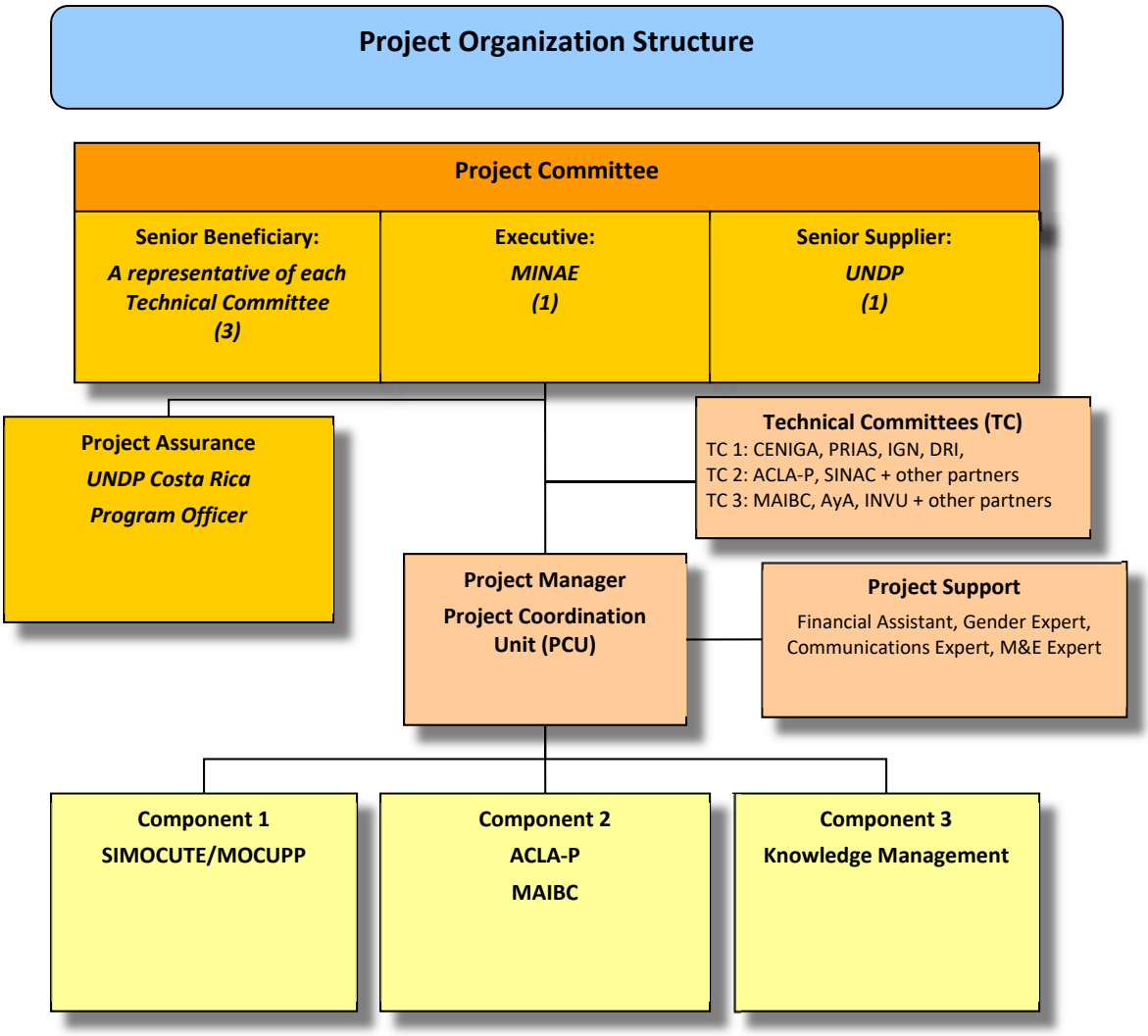
GEF Secretariat learning missions/site visits	UNDP Country Office and Project Manager and UNDP-GEF team	None	None	To be determined.
Mid-term GEF Tracking Tool to be updated by (add name of national/regional institute if relevant)	Project Manager	USD 2,000	USD 2,000	Before mid-term review mission takes place.
Independent Mid-term Review (MTR) and management response	UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team	USD 21,700	USD 10,000	Between 2nd and 3rd PIR.
Terminal GEF Tracking Tool to be updated by (add name of national/regional institute if relevant)	Project Manager	USD 2,000	USD 2,000	Before terminal evaluation mission takes place
Independent TE included in UNDP evaluation plan, and management response	UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team	USD 28,300	USD 10,000	At least three months before operational closure
Translation of MTR and TE reports into English	UNDP Country Office	USD 8,000	None	
TOTAL COST Excluding project team staff time, and UNDP staff and travel expenses		**USD 248,500**	**USD 181,000**	

IX. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

151. Roles and responsibilities of the project's governance mechanism: The project will be implemented following UNDP's direct implementation modality (DIM; Annex J), according to the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between UNDP and the Government of Costa Rica*,* and the Country Programme*.*

152. UNDP is responsible for the implementation of this project in coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE) including the monitoring and evaluation of project interventions, achieving project outcomes, and for the effective use of UNDP resources.

153. The project organisation structure is as follows:



154. The **Project Committee** (also called Project Steering Committee) is responsible for making by consensus, management decisions when guidance is required by the Project Manager, including recommendation for UNDP/Implementing Partner approval of project plans and revisions. In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, Project Committee decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the Board, final decision shall rest with the UNDP Programme Manager. The terms of reference (ToRs) for the Project Committee are contained in Annex E. The Project Committee is comprised of the following individuals: Resident Representatives of UNDP, MINAE, and a representative of each Technical Committee.

155. Specific functions of the Project Commitee will include:

- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints;
- Address project issues as raised by the Project Manager;
- Provide guidance and agree on possible countermeasures/management actions to address specific risks;
- Assess project progress and provide direction and recommendations to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans;

- Review Combined Delivery Reports (CDR) prior to certification by the Implementing Partner;
- Review the Progress Reports and verify compliance with goals;
- Appraise the Project Annual Review Report, make recommendations for the next AWP, and inform the Outcome Board about the results of the review;
- Provide ad-hoc direction and advice for exception situations when Project Manager's tolerances are exceeded;
- Assess and decide on project changes through revisions

156. Three **Technical Committee (TC)** will provide general oversight to the project. The TCs will meet once every three months or when necessary. The first TC will provide technical support for the implementation of Project Component 1 and will be composed of: CENICA (who will chair the TC), PRIAS, IGN, DRI, MINAE (International Office), and UNDP. The second TC will provide technical support for the implementation of Project activiteis in ACLA-P under Component 2 and will be composed of: ACLA-P's project institutional coordinator (who will chair the TC), a representative from MAG's Livestock NAMA Program), and a representative from CORFOGA. The third TC will provide technical support for the implementation of Project activities in MAIBC under Component 2 ad will be composed of: a representative of each of the five municipalities in the MAIBS, a representative do SINAC Regional Office in San Jose, a representative of INVU, a representative of AyA, and a representatice of the MAIBC Local Council. However, representatives of other institutions may be invited to participate in the TCs as deemed necessary; in addition, the GIZ will be invited to participate as an observer to promote coordination and synergies between the project and the projects funded by the German Government in Costa Rica.

157. Specific functions of the TCs will include:

- Provide the information required by the Project Coordinator and the administrative assistant;
- Participate in the selection processes of providers of goods and services who will be hired by the project to implement the planned activities in the MAIBC;
- Provide reports to the Project Manager regarding contracted goods and services; and
- Report to the Project Committee on the execution of the project.

158. National Project Director (under DIM: UNDP): The National Project Director is responsible for the day-to-day management and decision-making regarding the Project on behalf of the Project Committee and in adherence to the restrictions established by that Committee. The main responsibility of the National Project Director is to ensure delivery of the outputs specified in this Project Document, with the required level of quality and within the specified time and cost constraints. As this is a DIM project, the Project's National Director is the UNDP Resident Representative. The Deputy Director is the UNDP Assistant Resident Representative.

159. The responsabilities of the National Project Director of the TCs are as follows:

- Ensure that the project delivers the outputs specified in this Project Document;
- Promote coordination among participating institutions;
- Carry out additional coordination actions to guarantee the success of the Project;
- Review administrative procedures, approve or reject payment requests and report them to UNDP;
- At the end of the Project, transfer the inventory of the Project in accordance with UNDP procedures;
- Periodically evaluate the fulfillment of the Project objectives;
- Periodically evaluate project staff;
- Develop a detailed Work Plan at the beginning of Project implementation and follow up on its fulfillment;
- Define the ToRs of consultancies and in accordance with the criteria provided by UNDP, and request their contracting;
- Coordinate all activities related to the Project and ensure that the expected outputs are obtained on time and in compliance with UNDP criteria and requirements;
- Carry out, in coordination with UNDP, the administrative and financial processes required by the Project;
- Request payments following UNDP guidelines; and
- Prepare and submit related project reports.

160. The **Project Manager** will run the project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Implementing Partner within the constraints laid down by the Committee. The Project Manager function will end when the final project terminal evaluation report, and other documentation required by the GEF and UNDP, has been completed and submitted to UNDP (including operational closure of the project). Indicative terms of reference (ToR) for the Project Manager are included in Annex E.

161. Role of UNDP: UNDP will contribute to achieving the Project's objectives by making the following resources available:

- Technical support for the achievement of the Project objectives;
- Logistical support for the organization and implementation of Project activities;
- Access to the global and regional experience that UNDP has developed in this area in other countries;
- Support to the Project through the UNDP Country Office; and
- Advisory services on priority issues, such as human development and gender equality and equity.

162. The support from the UNDP Country Office in Costa Rica guarantees efficiency, transparency and quality in the management of these projects. The services offered by the UNDP Country Office include the following:

- Administration of funds: The UNDP Country Office provides support for the programming, planning, and fund management and financial and budget execution monitoring processes to facilitate Project decision-making.
- For the provision of this service, UNDP offers its accumulated experience in the management of Development Projects, providing support to implementation. In addition, UNDP will produce periodic financial reports as required.
- Procurement Services: The UNDP Country Office will coordinate the activities to obtain the necessary inputs for the achievement of the objectives and goals of the Project in a timely and efficient manner, including goods and services. This includes services such as revision of the Procurement Plan, revision of ToRs or technical specifications, evaluation of proposals and offers, recommendation of offers that comply with contracting needs, among others.
- Contracts: The UNDP Country Office monitors contracts to ensure that deliverables comply with planning requirements. Monitoring services include bank guarantees, delivery of goods, disbursements, payments, and amendments of contracts, among others.
- Capacity-building: This is ensured through three modalities that take into account the gender perspective and human development approach: (a) formal and traditional training when requested by the Project; (b) transfer of knowledge from best practices coming from UNDP's extensive global knowledge network and support from the UNDP Regional Hub; and (c) team learning to solve day-to-day experiences throughout the Project.

*163.*Responsibilities of INVU: The INVU is responsible for delimiting protection zones according to the Forestry Law. It is also part of the MAIBC Local Committee. Its responsibilities within the Project are to promote coordination with the municipalities that make up the MAIBC; provide support to project staff to delimit the protection zones of the María Aguilar River; and endorse the final result.

*164.*The **project assurance** roll will be provided by the UNDP Country Office; a Program Officer, will be in charge of supporting the implementation of this project and of it's monitoring. Additional quality assurance will be provided by the UNDP RTA as needed.

165. Governance role for project target groups: At the subnational and local levels (i.e., ACLA-P and MAIBC) SINAC and MAIBC Committee representatives will form part of the Project TCs and will name a representative to the Project Committee. These partners will have the opportunity to participate in decision making with regard to project management, including implementation of plans and project reviews, and also with respect to the technical aspects of the project. In addition, at the local level the communities, local organizations, and the private sector will have ample participation in decision-making, agreements, and dialogue for the promotion and implementation of sustainable production systems and environmentally friendly production practices in farms and urban areas of the prioritized landscapes.

166. Agreement on intellectual property rights and use of logo on the project's deliverables and disclosure of information**:** In order to accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF for providing grant funding, the GEF logo will appear together with the UNDP logo on all promotional materials, other written materials like publications developed by the project, and project hardware. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by the GEF will also accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF. Information will be disclosed in accordance with relevant policies notably the UNDP Disclosure Policy[18] and the GEF policy on public involvement[19].

167. Project management*:* The PCU will be located in the city of San José de Costa Rica and housed in UNDP offices, and made up of the Project Manager, a Financial Assistant, a Gender Expert, a Communications Expert, and M&E Expert. Component 2 of the project will be implemented in La Amistad Pacifico Conservation Area (ACLA-P), southwestern Costa Rica, and in the Rio Maria Aguilar Inter-Urban Biological Corridor (MAIBC), central Cost Rica.

X. FINANCIAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

168. The total cost of the project is USD 32,797,629. This is financed through a GEF grant of USD 6,699,315; and USD 26,098,314 in parallel co-financing. UNDP, as the GEF Implementing Agency, is responsible for the execution of the GEF resources and the cash co-financing transferred to UNDP bank account only.

169. Parallel co-financing: The actual realization of project co-financing will be monitored during the mid-term review and terminal evaluation process and will be reported to the GEF. The planned parallel co-financing will be used as follows:

Co-financing source	Co-financing type	Co-financing amount	Planned Activities/Outputs	Risks	Risk Mitigation Measures
CeNAT	Cash and In-kind	786,594	Outputs 1,3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 2.17, 2.18	Low	The UNDP Country Office will monitor the co-financing contributions to the project
CENIGA-MINAE	Cash and In-kind	127,000	Output 1.1, Output 2.20	Low	The UNDP Country Office will monitor the co-financing contributions to the project
CORFOGA	In-kind	31,590	Output 2.2	Moderate - Dependent on annual budgeting and effective allocation of funds to the institution	The UNDP Country Office will monitor the co-financing contributions to the project
IGN	Cash and In-kind	8,654,722	Outputs 1.3, 1.7, 2.19	Low	The UNDP Country Office will monitor

[18] See http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/transparency/information_disclosurepolicy/
[19] See https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines

					the co-financing contributions to the project
AyA	Cash and In-kind	237,675	Component 2 - MAIBC	Moderate - Dependent on annual budgeting and effective allocation of funds to the institution	The UNDP Country Office will monitor the co-financing contributions to the project
FONAFIFO	Cash	10,693,000	Component 1, Component 2 – ACLA-P	Low	The UNDP Country Office will monitor the co-financing contributions to the project
SINAC	Cash and In-kind	5,567,733	Component 2 – ACLA-P and MAIBC	Low	The UNDP Country Office will monitor the co-financing contributions to the project

170. Budget Revision and Tolerance: As per UNDP requirements outlined in the UNDP POPP, the Project Committee will agree on a budget tolerance level for each plan under the overall AWP allowing the project manager to expend up to the tolerance level beyond the approved project budget amount for the year without requiring a revision from the Project Committee. Should the following deviations occur, the Project Manager and UNDP Country Office will seek the approval of the UNDP-GEF team as these are considered major amendments by the GEF:

a) Budget re-allocations among components in the project with amounts involving 10% of the total project grant or more;
b) Introduction of new budget items/or components that exceed 5% of original GEF allocation.

171. Any over expenditure incurred beyond the available GEF grant amount will be absorbed by non-GEF resources (e.g. UNDP TRAC or cash co-financing).

172. Refund to Donor: Should a refund of unspent funds to the GEF be necessary, this will be managed directly by the UNDP-GEF Unit in New York.

173. Project Closure: Project closure will be conducted as per UNDP requirements outlined in the UNDP POPP. On an exceptional basis only, a no-cost extension beyond the initial duration of the project will be sought from in-country UNDP colleagues and then the UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator.

174. Operational completion: The project will be operationally completed when the last UNDP-financed inputs have been provided and the related activities have been completed. This includes the final clearance of the Terminal Evaluation Report (that will be available in English) and the corresponding management response, and the end-of-project review Project Committee meeting. The Implementing Partner through a Project Committee decision will notify the UNDP Country Office when operational closure has been completed. At this time, the relevant parties will have already agreed and confirmed in writing on the arrangements for the disposal of any equipment that is still the property of UNDP.

175. Financial completion: The project will be financially closed when the following conditions have been met:

a) The project is operationally completed or has been cancelled;
b) The Implementing Partner has reported all financial transactions to UNDP;
c) UNDP has closed the accounts for the project;
d) UNDP and the Implementing Partner have certified a final Combined Delivery Report (which serves as final budget revision).

176. The project will be financially completed within 12 months of operational closure or after the date of cancellation. Between operational and financial closure, the implementing partner will identify and settle all financial obligations and prepare a final expenditure report. The UNDP Country Office will send the final signed closure documents including confirmation of final cumulative expenditure and unspent balance to the UNDP-GEF Unit for confirmation before the project will be financially closed in Atlas by the UNDP Country Office.

XI. TOTAL BUDGET AND WORK PLAN

Total Budget and Work Plan			
Atlas Proposal or Award ID:	00091073	Atlas Primary Output Project ID:	00096514
Atlas Proposal or Award Title:	Conserving biodiversity through sustainable management in production landscapes in Costa Rica		
Atlas Business Unit	Costa Rica		
Atlas Primary Output Project Title	Conserving biodiversity through sustainable management in production landscapes in Costa Rica		
UNDP-GEF PIMS No.	5842		
Implementing Partner	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)		

GEF Component/Atlas Activity	Responsible Party (Atlas Implementing Agent)	Fund ID	Donor Name	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Notes
OUTCOME 1:	**UNDP**	**62000**	**GEF**	71400	Contractual services individuals	41,600	41,600	41,600	41,600	41,600	**208,000**	1
				71600	Travel	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	**12,250**	2
				72100	Contractual services companies	325,942	325,943	226,200	226,200	226,200	**1,330,485**	3
				73100	Rental & Maintenance-Premises	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	**35,000**	4
				74200	Audio Visual & Print Production Cost			4,000		4,000	**8,000**	5
				75700	Training, workshop, meetings	14,000	14,000	14,000			**42,000**	6
					Total Outcome 1	**390,992**	**390,993**	**295,250**	**277,250**	**281,250**	**1,635,735**	
OUTCOME 2:	**UNDP**	**62000**	**GEF**	**Region 1: Amistad Pacifico Conservation Area (ACLA-P)**								
				71400	Contractual Services Individuals	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,400	**52,000**	7
				71600	Travel	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	**10,000**	8
				72100	Contractual Services Companies	291,497	291,497	291,497	291,497	291,497	**1,457,485**	9
				72605	Grants	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	**1,000,000**	10
				74200	Audio Visual & Print Production Cost			2,500		2,500	**5,000**	11

				Region 2: Maria Aguilar Inter-Urban Biological Corridor (MAIBC)								
				71400	Contractual Services Individuals	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,400	**52,000**	12
				71600	Travel	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	**6,250**	13
				72100	Contractual Services Companies	297,137	297,137	297,137	297,137	297,137	**1,485,685**	14
				72200	Equipment and Furniture	170,145					**170,145**	15
				74200	Audio Visual & Print Production Cost			2,500		2,500	**5,000**	16
					Total Outcome 2	**982,829**	**812,684**	**817,684**	**812,684**	**817,684**	**4,243,565**	
OUTCOME 3: KM and M&E	**UNDP**	**62000**	**GEF**	71200	International Consultants			10,500		14,000	**24,500**	17
				71300	Local Consultants	10,000	30,000	38,300	30,000	40,400	**148,700**	18
				71400	Contractual services individuals	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	**270,000**	19
				71600	Travel	2,000	2,000	6,100	2,000	7,100	**19,200**	20
				74100	Professional services	3,000	3,000	7,000	3,000	7,000	**23,000**	21
				74200	Audio Visual & Print Production Cost			3,500		3,500	**7,000**	22
				75700	Training, workshop, meetings	3,800	800	1,600	800	1,600	**8,600**	23
					Total Outcome 3	**72,800**	**89,800**	**121,000**	**89,800**	**127,600**	**501,000**	
PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT	**UNDP**	**62000**	**GEF**	71400	Contractual services individuals	27,600	27,600	27,600	27,600	27,600	138,000	24
				71600	Travel	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	**9,000**	25
				72500	Office Supplies	503	503	503	503	503	**2,515**	26
				72800	IT Equipment	5,500					**5,500**	27
				73100	Rental & Maintenance - Premises	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	**40,000**	28
				74500	Miscellaneous	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	**20,000**	29
				64397/74596	Services to Projects – CO Staff / GOE for CO	20,800	20,800	20,800	20,800	20,800	**104,000**	30
					Total Management	**68,203**	**62,703**	**62,703**	**62,703**	**62,703**	**319,015**	

				PROJECT TOTAL	**1,514,824**	**1,356,180**	**1,296,637**	**1,242,437**	**1,289,237**	**6,699,315**	

Summary of Funds:

	Amount Year 1	Amount Year 2	Amount Year 3	Amount Year 4	Amount Year 5	Total
GEF	1,514,824	1,356,180	1,296,637	1,242,437	1,289,237	6,699,315
CeNAT	225,425	225,425	111,914	111,915	111,915	786,594
CENIGA-MINAE	62,000	62,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	127,000
CORFOGA	15,795	15,795				31,590
IGN	2,163,680	2,163,680	2,163,681	2,163,681		8,654,722
AyA	79,120	79,120	79,120	157	158	237,675
FONAFIFO	2,258,600	2,108,600	2,108,600	2,108,600	2,108,600	10,693,000
SINAC	1,113,547	1,113,547	1,113,547	1,113,546	1,113,546	5,567,733
TOTAL	**7,432,991**	**7,124,347**	**6,874,499**	**6,741,336**	**4,624,456**	**32,797,629**

Budget notes

Component 1: Favorable enabling conditions (policies, technologies, markets and finance) for delivering multiple global environmental benefits in managed production landscapes and urban biological corridors	
1	Project Manager: technical support to enabling conditions for delivering multiple GEBs in managed production landscapes and urban biological corridors, including: i) Inter-Institutional agreement / Ministerial Decree to formalize MOCUPP (Output 1.1); ii) Agreements with 15 institutions to provide updated georeferenced information to MOCUPP (Output 1.2); iii) Long term inter-institutional financial sustainability strategy (Output 1.3); iv) National repository of information for participatory ecological monitoring (Output 1.8). Total cost: $208,000; 40 months $5,200/month.
2	Travel related to technical support for enabling conditions for delivering multiple GEBs in managed production landscapes and urban biological corridors. Total cost: $12,250 @ $2,450/year during 5 years.
3	a) Land use change monitoring in production landscapes (MOCUPP), including: i) 2000-2015 baseline study of total gain and loss of forest cover within production landscapes (Output 1.4); ii) 2015 baseline study of total land cover of pineapple, pasture, and oil palm crops (Output 1.5); iii) training of CeNAT-PRIAS staff on advanced classification techniques of satellite images and remote sensor processing equipment and software for monitoring of forest and land use trends (Output 1.6). Total cost: $1,006,000. Note: Outputs 2.17 and 2.18 will also be completed as part of this contract. b) Update and enhance the SNIT online tool (Output 1.7). Total cost: $199,485. c) Verification of free of loss of forest cover agricultural, pineapple and pasture production units (Output 1.9), including: i) design of the verification standard and operational manuals for the free of loss of forest cover production unit verification scheme; ii) International awareness program for Costa Rica free of loss of forest cover commodities (Output 1.10). Total cost: $125,000
4	Office rent and utilities. Total cost: $35,000; 28 months @ $1,250/month.

5	Publications related to enabling conditions for delivering multiple GEBs in managed production landscapes and urban biological corridors. Total cost: $8,000.
6	Workshops/roundtables for national discussion on free of loss of forest cover production unit verification (Output 1.9). Total cost: $42,000; 12 workshop/roundtable @ $3,500/event.
Component 2. Multiple global environmental benefits (biodiversity conservation, reduced carbon emissions and increased carbon storage) are delivered in production landscapes in the ACLA-P buffer zone forest zone and MAIBC	
Region 1: Amistad Pacific Conservation Area (ACLA-P)	
7	Project Manager: technical support to the delivery of GEBs in ACLA-P. Total cost: $52,000; 10 months $5,200/month.
8	Travel related to technical support for to the delivery of GEBs in ACLA-P. Total cost: $10,000 @ $2,000/year during 5 years.
9	a) ACLA-P Field Activities. i. Development of a MRV system to assess the impact of LMT on biodiversity conservation (Output 2.3). Total cost: $30,000. ii. Risk mapping system for the prevention of forest fires (Output 2.4). Total cost: $200,000 iii. Pilot participatory biological monitoring program linked to the PRONAMEC (Output 2.5). Total cost: $200,000. iv. Land ownership registries, disaggregated by sex, for a 50-km2 area of production lands (Output 2.6). Total cost: $235,000. v. Land suitability for forestry study in landscapes of ACLA-P (Output 2.7). Total cost: $50,000. vi. Training of government and municipal staff, judges, and private producers about the SNIT/MOCUPP for enforcement and decision-making (Output 2.8). Total cost: $30,000. vii. Environmental education program led by SINAC for economic and social stakeholders associated with biodiversity and forest conservation in production landscapes (Output 2.9). Total cost: $342,485. viii. Verification system for free of loss of forest cover productive units, including surveillance and control (Output 2.10). Total cost: $200,000. ix. Strengthening of local and institutional capacities for citizen participation and governance in production landscapes of the ACLA-P (Output 2.11). Total cost: $170,000.
10	Socio-productive community initiatives for the implementation of the landscape management tools (Output 2.2). Grants will be provided according to UNDP Guidance on Micro-Capital Grants. Total cost: $1,000,000.
11	Publications for the dissemination of information related to the delivery of GEBs in ACLA-P. Total cost: $5,000.
Region 2: Maria Aguilar Inter-Urban Biological Corridor (MAIBC)	
12	Project Manager: technical support to the delivery of GEBs in MAIBC. Total cost: $52,000; 10 months $5,200/month.
13	Travel related to technical support for to the delivery of GEBs in MAIBC. Total cost: $6,250 @ 1,250/year over 5 years.
14	a) Delimitation and mapping of protection zones (Output 2.13) and updating the cadastral records within the MAIBC and (Output 2.18). Total cost: 285,000 b) MAIBC Field Activities: i. Agreements and protocols for controlling solid waste discharge into rivers and promoting the connectivity, conservation, and rehabilitation of riparian forests (Output 2.12. and Output 2.14). Total cost: $10,000. ii. Environmental assessment for MAIBC (Output 2.15): soil and phytosanitary analysis ($100,000); 2015 baseline study of forest cover ($257,830); identification and mapping of potential pollution sources ($80,000); socioeconomic analysis ($50,000). Total cost: $487,830. iii. Training of government and municipal staff, judges, and private producers about the SNIT/MOCUPP for enforcement and decision-making (Output 2.19). Total cost: $35,000. iv. Landscape management tools: 8 nurseries established (Output 2.20); 16,000 individuals of endemic and native species of trees and shrubs planted (Output 2.21). Total cost: $400,000. v. Communication, environmental education, and awareness-raising strategy, with a gender focus, for promoting the protection and conservation of MAIBC (Output 2.22 and Output 2.23). Total cost: $267,855.
15	Equipment to support MAIBC field activities: a) Local Council MAIBC. Total cost: $89,295. b) Municipalities within the MAIBC. Total cost: $80,850.
16	Publications related to the delivery of GEBs in MAIBC. Total cost: $5,000.
Component 3: Knowledge Management and M&E	

17	a) Mid-term project review: Total cost: $10,500; 3 weeks at $3,500/week. b) Terminal project evaluation. Total cost: $14,000; 4 weeks at $3,500/week.
18	a) Mid-term project review: Total cost: $6,300; 3 weeks at $2,100/week. b) Terminal project evaluation. Total cost: $8,400; 4 weeks at $2,100/week. c) Mid-term GEF Tracking Tools update. Total cost: $2,000. d) Terminal GEF Tracking Tools update. Total cost: $2,000. e) Gender Expert. Monitoring of gender mainstreaming (Gender Mainstreaming Plan). Total cost: $50,000; @ $10,000/year during 5 years. f) Communications Expert (Output 3.1 and Output 3.2). Total cost: $80,000; @ $20,000/year during 4 years.
19	Monitoring & evaluation expert (including monitoring of indicators in project results framework - PRF), MRV, and knowledge management (Output 3.3). Total cost: $270,000; 60 months @ $4,500/month.
20	a) Travel costs for mid-term review. Total cost: $4,100. b) Travel costs for terminal evaluation: Total cost: $5,100. c) Travel costs for knowledge management (Output 3.3): Total cost: $10,000; @ $2,000/year during 5 years.
21	a) External audit (5). Total cost: $15,000; $3,000/yr. during 5 years. b) Translations of MTR and FE Reports. Total cost: $8,000; $4,000/report.
22	Publications related to communication (Output 3.1 and Output 3.2) and knowledge management (Output 3.3). Total cost: $7,000.
23	a) Project Inception Workshop. Total cost $3,000. b) Mid-term review related workshops. Total cost: $800. b) Terminal evaluation related workshops. Total cost: $800. d) Project Committee meetings. Total cost: $4,000; $800/yr. during 5 years
Project Management	
24	Financial Assistant: financial management of the project, accounting, purchasing, and reporting. Total cost: $138,000; 60 months @ $2,300/month.
25	Travel costs related to project management. Total cost: $9,000 @ 1,800/year during 5 years.
26	Office and IT supplies. Total cost: $2,515 @ $503/year during 5 years.
27	a) Computers (3). Total cost: $4,500; @ $1,500/unit. b) Printers (1). Total cost: $500. c) Video beam (1). Total cost: $500.
28	Office rent and utilities. Total cost: $40,000; 32 months at $1,250/month.
29	Incidental expenses related to project management. Total cost: $20,000; $4,000/year during 5 years.
30	Estimated Direct Project Costs for executing services (procurement; travel etc.) and Country Office staff time. Direct project service costs will be charged periodically, based on the UNDP Universal Pricelist (UPL) or the actual corresponding service cost. The amounts indicated here are estimations. However, as part of annual project operational planning the direct project services to be requested during that calendar year would be defined and the amount included in the yearly budgets.

XII. LEGAL CONTEXT

177. This document together with the Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) signed by the Government and UNDP which is incorporated herein by reference, constitute together a Project Document as referred to in the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA); as such all provisions of the CPAP apply to this document. All references in the SBAA to "Executing Agency" shall be deemed to refer to "Implementing Partner"; as such term is defined and used in the CPAP and this document.

178. UNDP as the Implementing Partner shall comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations safety and security management system.

179. UNDP will undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the [project funds]20 [UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document]21 are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document.

[20] To be used where UNDP is the Implementing Partner

[21] To be used where the UN, a UN fund/programme or a specialized agency is the Implementing Partner.

XIII. ANNEXES

A. Multi year Workplan
B. Monitoring Plan
C. Evaluation Plan
D. GEF Tracking Tool (s) at baseline
E. Terms of Reference for Project Committee, Project Manager, Chief Technical Advisor and other positions as appropriate
F. UNDP Social and Environmental and Social Screening Template (SESP)
G. UNDP Project Quality Assurance Report
H. UNDP Risk Log
I. Results of the capacity assessment of the project implementing partner and HACT micro assessment
J. Agreements
K. Gender Analysis and Project Gender Mainstreaming Plan
L. Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Communication Plan
M. Summary of Consultants and Contractual Services Financed by the Project for the First Two Years
N. Target Landscape Profile
O. Legal/Institutional Assessment

Task	Responsible Party	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Component 1: Favorable enabling conditions (policies, technologies, markets and finance) for delivering multiple global environmental benefits in managed production landscapes and urban biological corridors																					
Output 1.1: 1. Interinstitutional agreement/Ministry Decree formalizes the establishment, management arrangements, and financial sustainability of the MOCUPP as part of the SIMOCUTE, including annual monitoring of forest cover change and land degradation within agricultural production landscapes and interurban biological corridors in Costa Rica, as well as the review of current national forest policy and regulations.																					
1.1.1. Develop a draft agreement/Ministry Decree.	UNDP, MINAE																				
1.1.2. Technical and legal consultations and signature.	MINAE																				
Output 1.2: 2. Agreements with 15 institutions to provide updated georeferenced information to MOCUPP through the National Territorial Information System's (SNIT) Geoportal and associated services on a yearly basis so imagery may be tied to land tenancy.																					
1.2.1. Develop a draft agreement/Ministry Decree.	UNDP, MINAE																				
1.2.2. Technical and legal consultations and signature.	MINAE																				
1.2.3. Annual follow-up and monitoring of the agreements	UNDP, MINAE																				
Output 1.3: 3. An agreed-upon long-term inter-institutional financial sustainability strategy to fund: i) forest cover monitoring services provided by the Council of State Universities (CeNAT-PRIAS) for the MOCUPP; ii) continuous updating of the national cadaster by the DRI so that land tenancy records are visible through the SNIT, including gender-disaggregated data; and iii) the continuous updating of the SNIT web-tool by the IGN.																					
1.3.1. Develop an agreed inter-institutional financial sustainability strategy for the MOCUPP.	UNDP, MINAE, PRIAS, DRI, and IGN																				
Output 1.4: 4. 2000-2015 baseline study of total forest cover gains and losses within production landscapes.																					
1.4.1. LU/LC change detection study associated to pasture, pineapple, and oil palm crops.	PRIAS																				
1.4.2. Publication of baseline maps in SNIT.	IGN, UNDP, MINAE																				
Output 1.5: 5. 2015 baseline study of total land cover of pastureland for cattle grazing and pineapple and palm oil crops.																					
1.5.1. Baseline study of total land cover of pasture.	PRIAS																				
1.5.2. Baseline study of total land cover of pineapple.	PRIAS																				
1.5.3. Baseline study of total land cover of oil palm crops.	PRIAS																				
1.5.4. Publication of baseline maps in SNIT.	IGN, UNDP, MINAE																				
Output 1.6 6. CeNAT-PRIAS staff trained in advanced classification techniques of satellite images and remote-sensing processing equipment and software for monitoring trends in forest cover and land use.																					

1.6.1. Training of staff in advanced classification techniques of satellite images and remote sensing processing equipment.	CeNAT-PRIAS																				
Output 1.7: SNIT online map viewer is updated and enhanced with new applications for users.																					
1.7.1 SNIT online map viewer is updated and enhanced	IGN																				
Output 1.8: National repository of information for participatory ecological monitoring implemented collaboratively between public, private, and civil society stakeholders, including women, and linked to the PRONAMEC.																					
1.8.1. Develop a user-friendly virtual repository of ecological information with stakeholder participation	UNDP, SINAC/MINAE																				
1.8.2. Develop protocols for the collection of data related to each indicator/MFE.	UNDP, SINAC/MINAE																				
1.8.3. Train key stakeholders groups in data collection and reporting of results.	UNDP, SINAC/MINAE																				
Output 1.9: 25% of the agricultural, pineapple, and pasture production units verified as free of loss of forest cover by MINAE.																					
1.9.1. Design of the verification standard and operational manuals, including the evaluation of program effectiveness	UNDP, MINAE																				
1.9.2. Promote the verification scheme amongst producers.	UNDP, MINAE																				
1.9.3. Free of loss of forest cover production unit verification by MINAE	MINAE																				
Output 1.10: At least 1,000 international companies buying commodities from Costa Rica aware of the free of loss of forest cover verification.																					
1.10.1. International awareness campaign for Costa Rica free of loss of forest cover commodities and monitoring.	UNDP's Green Commodities Programme																				
Component 2: Multiple global environmental benefits (biodiversity conservation, reduced carbon emissions, and increased carbon storage) are delivered in production landscapes in the ACLA-P buffer zone forest zone (Region 1) and MAIBC (Region 2)																					
Region 1: Amistad Pacific Conservation Area - ACLA-P																					
Output 2.11: Twenty (20) nurseries for endemic and native plant species established to support LMTs.																					
2.1.1. Establishment of 20 nurseries with endemic and native plants species in highest priority for enhancing ecosystem connectivity.	ACLA-P																				
2.1.2. Develop guidelines for farmers to access plant material grown in nurseries	ACLA-P																				

2.1.3. Establish voluntary conservation agreement with farmers to implement LMT.	ACLA-P, UNDP																				
Output 2.2. Financing of socio-productive community initiatives in the ACLA-P support the implementation of LMTs.																					
2.2.1. Promote socio-productive community initiatives among small- and medium-size farmers in ACLA-P to implement LMT.	ACLA-P, UNDP																				
2.2.2. Award grants to farmers, including signing of MOUs.	ACLA-P, UNDP																				
2.2.3. Provide support, follow-up, and monitor the implementation of LMT.	ACLA-P, UNDP																				
Output 2.3. MRV system assesses the impact of LMT on biodiversity conservation derived from the financing of the socio-productive community initiatives in the ACLA-P.																					
2.3.1. Assess the impact of the landscape management tools on biodiversity conservation and enhanced carbon stocks	ACLA-P, UNDP																				
2.3.2. Produce reports and make them available be available to national, subnational, and local stakeholders.	ACLA-P, UNDP																				
2.3.3. Review estimations and reports, including field visits to the farms where LMTs are implemented	ACLA-P, UNDP																				
Output 2.4. Risk mapping system for the prevention of forest fires includes the classification of vegetation to determine its combustion rate.																					
2.4.1. Determine different classes of vegetation present in ACLA-P and their spatial distribution as part of threat analysis.	ACLA-P																				
2.4.2. Determine types of fuel present, combustion rates, and duration of combustion in the field through small-scale controlled fire tests.	ACLA-P																				
2.4.3. Conduct climatological analysis for ACLA-P to identify key variables that are essential to assess risk of fire.	ACLA-P																				
2.4.4. Assessment of vulnerability considering the impact of forest fires on humans, territory (land use conflicts), ecosystems, production systems, and infrastructure	ACLA-P																				
2.4.5. Develop risk maps for ACLA-P to facilitate decision-making for the prevention of forest fires.	ACLA-P																				
Output 2.5. Pilot project for the implementation of the PRONAMEC in ACLA-P includes an interactive online platform for the exchange of information.																					
2.5.1. Design the pilot participatory biological monitoring program	ACLA-P																				

2.5.2. Implement and interactive online platform for the exchange of information with a link to PRONAMEC.	ACLA-P																				
2.5.3. Develop monitoring protocols and train SINAC staff in ACLA-P and local participating groups in biological monitoring and information management.	ACLA-P																				
Output 2.6. Land tenancy registries, disaggregated by sex, for a 50-km^2 area of production lands within the buffer zones of protected areas of the ACLA-P finalized and updated in the SNIT.																					
2.6.1. Compile registration and cadaster information; develop of images of the cadastral plans, and the register information of farms.	DRI																				
2.6.3. Update the cadastral mosaic, i.e., vectorizing and georeferencing the cadastral plans.	DRI																				
2.6.4. Update the cadastral map for ACLA-P and make the information available through SNIT.	DRI, IGN																				
Output 2.7. Land suitability for forestry study for public lands or without registration ownership contributes to strengthening connectivity in landscapes of the ACLA-P.																					
2.7.1. Identify lands suitable for forestry using soil, topography, and rainfall variables.	ACLA-P																				
2.7.2. Develop a forest cover baseline.	ACLA-P																				
2.7.3. Identify lands suitable for forestry without forest cover.	ACLA-P																				
Output 2.8. MINAE staff, municipal authorities, female and male judges, and female and male private producers informed about and trained in the MOCUPP and how to use it to enforce the Forestry Law.																					
2.8.1. Conduct training on MOCUPP and biodiversity conservation.	PRIAS, SINAC, UNDP																				
2.8.2. Assess training impact using the UNDP's Development Capacity Scorecard.	UNDP																				
Output 2.9. Environmental education program led by ACLA-P in coordination with stakeholders associated with biodiversity and forest conservation in production landscapes.																					
2.9.1. Assess attitudes and training needs of economic and social stakeholders.	ACLA-P																				
2.9.2. Define objectives, prioritize education topics, develop education/learning materials, and establish the learning/training methodology.	ACLA-P																				
2.9.3. Implement environmental education activities (education modules, workshops, online training, hands-on learning though field visits, and information exchanges, etc.)	ACLA-P																				

2.9.4. Evaluate impact of the environmental education program.	ACLA-P, Project Team																				
Output 2.10. Verification system for production units free of loss of forest cover designed and discussed in multi-stakeholder workshops and piloted within the ACLA-P.																					
2.10.1. Conduct consultations to understand the needs and expectations of beneficiaries and inform about how the verification mechanism would deliver economic and environmental benefits.	MINAE, UNDP																				
2.10.2. Verify zero loss in forest cover farms (50).	MINAE																				
2.10.3. Monitoring impact of the pilot experience and document lessons learned.	MINAE, UNDP																				
Output 2.11. Local and institutional capacities for citizen participation and governance in production landscapes of the ACLA-P strengthened																					
2.11.1. Assess capacity needs.	ACLA-P, SINAC																				
2.11.2. Conduct training, workshops, and meetings.	ACLA-P, SINAC																				
Region 2: Maria Aguilar Inter Urban Biological Corridor (MAIBC)																					
Output 2.12. Five municipalities in the MAIBC and other public entities sign joint action agreements for controlling solid waste and discharge into rivers and promoting the connectivity of urban green areas, conservation, and rehabilitation of riparian forests of the María Aguilar River and tributaries.																					
2.12.1. Facilitate discussions between the municipalities and the public entities interested in establishing agreements	UNDP, MINAE																				
2.12.2. Develop drafts and sign agreements.	UNDP, MINAE																				
Output 2.13. Delimitation of protection zones in compliance with Article 33 of the Forestry Law and Regulation includes contour maps.																					
2.13.1. Delimitation of protection zones and development of digital maps.	MINAE, INVU																				
2.13.2. Share and discussed with municipal and local interest groups delimitation results.	UNDP, MINAE																				
Output 2.14. Protocols for interinstitutional coordination to address issues related to discharges, elimination of solid wastes and illegal constructions on the banks of the María Aguilar River formalized.																					
2.14.1. Hold consultation workshops with participation institutions to develop protocols.	UNDP, MINAE																				
2.14.2. Publish and distribute protocols.	UNDP, MINAE																				
Output 2.15. Environmental assessment for the MAIBC completed.																					
2.15.1. Soil and phytosanitary analysis for the identification of protection zones,	MAIBC Local Council, MINAE, SINAC																				

2.15.2 Identification and mapping of potential pollution sources	MAIBC Local Council, MINAE, SINAC																				
2.15.3. Socioeconomic analysis to measure the perception and expectations of the inhabitants of MAIBC	MAIBC Local Council, MINAE, SINAC																				
Output 2.16. Gains and losses of forest cover within the MAIBC for years 2017, 2018, and 2019.																					
2.16.1. Assess gain and loss of forest cover assessments will be conducted for years 2017, 2018, and 2019	PRIAS																				
2.16.2. Publish results in the SNIT	IGN																				
Output 2.17. Baseline study of urban land and forest cover (2015) as part of the MOCUPP annual monitoring of urban encroachment on natural habitat.																					
2.17.1. 2015 baseline study of urban and forest cover in the MAIBC	PRIAS																				
2.17.2. Publish results in the SNIT	IGN																				
Output 2.18. Formalization and open audience of cadastral records by the DRI within the MAIBC.																					
2.18.1. Update cadastral records within MAIBC	DRI																				
2.18.2. Publish results in the SNIT	IGN																				
2.18.3. Make cadastral records available to all interested parties and groups for review and comments	UNDP, MINAE, DRI																				
Output 2.19. Government staff (MINAE, Ministry of Health, CENIGA, and INVU), authorities from five municipalities, male and female judges, women and men from the private sector, community members and other interested parties informed about and trained in the SNIT/MOCUPP and how to use it to enforce the Forestry Law and decision making in an urban environment.																					
2.19.1. Conduct training on MOCUPP, biodiversity conservation, water quality, and gender mainstreaming	PRIAS, SINAC, MINAE,																				
2.19.2. Assess training impact using the UNDP's Development Capacity Scorecard.	UNDP																				
Output 2.20. Eight (8) nurseries established to support the LMTs.																					
2.20.1 Establish nurseries within or nearby areas with highest priority to building ecosystem connectivity	MAIBC Local Council																				
Output 2.21. 16,000 individuals of endemic and native species of trees and shrubs planted in MAIBC.																					
2.21.1. Reforestation and rehabilitation of protection zones with endemic and native species.	MAIBC Local Council																				
2.21.2. Assess impacts of implementation of LMT.	MAIBC Local Council, UNDP																				
Output 2.22. Environmental education program led by SINAC for economic and social stakeholders associated with the conservation of biodiversity in the MAIBC.																					

2.22.1. Define objectives, prioritize education topics, develop education/learning materials, and establish the learning/training methodology.	MAIBC Local Council, SINAC																				
2.22.2 Implement environmental education activities	MAIBC Local Council, SINAC																				
2.22.3 Evaluate impact of the environmental education program.	MAIBC Local Council, SINAC																				
Output 2.23. Communications strategy for the MAIBC.																					
2.23.1. Define objectives and develop communication materials.	MAIBC Local Council																				
2.22.2 Implement communication activities	MAIBC Local Council																				
2.22.3 Evaluate impact of the Communications strategy.	MAIBC Local Council																				
Component 3: Knowledge Management and Monitoring and Evaluation.																					
Output 3.1. The experiences and lessons learned from monitoring changes in land cover, biodiversity, carbon emissions and stocks, and gender equality and women empowerment on production landscapes of the forested areas of the ACLA-P buffer systematized																					
3.1.1. Identify and systematize lessons learned and successful experiences in ACLA-P	UNDP																				
Output 3.2. The experiences and lessons learned from monitoring changes in land cover, biodiversity, carbon emissions and stocks, and gender equality and women empowerment in the MAIBC systematized in guideline documents and toolboxes to inform future urban policy																					
3.2.1. Identify and systematize lessons learned and successful experiences in MAIBC	UNDP																				
Output 3.3. Thematic studies and other knowledge are documented, and communication and public awareness materials with a gender perspective produced and available for dissemination.																					
3.3.1. Develop materials on knowledge and communication and publication in digital and printed media.	UNDP																				

ANNEX B: MONITORING PLAN

The Project Manager will ensure the collection of data as specified in the Results Framework, Tracking Tools, and SESP and according to the monitoring plan shown below. Data will be shared on an annual basis with the UNDP Country Office, the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor, and the MINAE.

Monitoring	Indicators	Target	Data source/Collection Methods	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Assumptions and Risks
Project Objective: To mainstream biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management and carbon sequestration objectives into production landscapes and urban biological corridors of Costa Rica	Number of people benefiting directly from solutions for managing natural resources and ecosystem services, ensuring gender equality	Direct: – ACLA-P: 400 (100 farms) – MAIBC: 25,000	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up – Project follow-up meetings	– Annually – Reported in DO tab of the GEF PIR	– Project Manager	– PIR – Reports of project follow-up meetings	– Willingness by decision makers to incorporate objectives for biodiversity conservation, sustainable land and forest management, sustainable production landscape management, and urban biological corridors – Willingness by local land owners and farmers to incorporate environmental sustainability criteria as part of their production activities – Optimal sampling that will include disaggregation by sex
	Area (ha) of avoided loss in forest cover in production landscapes	– ACLA-P: 820 ha (535.9 ha of annual loss in forest cover)	– MOCUPP – Field verification studies	– Mid and final point of the project	– PRIAS	– Field notes and verification reports	
	Forest cover (ha) in an urban landscape by project end	– 147.1 ha	– MOCUPP – Field verification studies	– Mid and final point of the project	– PRIAS	– Field notes and verification reports	
Component 1: Favorable enabling conditions (policies, technologies,	Interinstitutional agreement formalizes the National Monitoring System for Land Use	– Interinstitutional agreement published	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up	– Annually	– Project Manager – Project technical team	– PIR – Signed agreements	– Willingness by decision makers and local stakeholders to incorporate environmental

markets and finance) for delivering multiple global environmental benefits in managed production landscapes and urban biological corridors	Change in Production Landscapes (MOCUPP)						sustainability objectives (biodiversity, soils, and forests) in production landscapes and urban biological corridors under management – Willingness by the international buyers to enter into business agreements and become informed through the MOCUPP
	Interinstitutional agreements signed annually with the SNIT, linking georeferenced information with land ownership data and the most recent and available satellite imagery, and available through the SNIT/MOCUPP viewer.	– 11 agreements	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up	– Annually	– Project Manager – Project technical team	– PIR – Signed agreements	
	Number of agreements established with international buyers for the acquisition of free of loss of forest cover products.	– 10	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up	– Annually	– Project Manager – Project technical team	– PIR – Signed agreements	
Component 2: Multiple global environmental benefits (biodiversity conservation, reduced carbon emissions, and increased carbon storage) are delivered in production		**Region 1: Conservation Area La Amistad-Pacífico – ACLA-P**					
	Area (ha) of landscape management tools that contribute to improving ecosystem connectivity and biodiversity conservation established at the end of the project	– Micro-corridors: 700 ha – Sylvopastoral systems: 2,000	– Field verification studies – Remote sensing	– Mid and final point of the project	– Project Manager – Project technical team – PRIAS	– Field notes and verification reports – Remote sensing reports/maps	– There are no substantive changes in land use/cover – Sampling efforts are optimal – Environmental variability is within the normal range

landscapes in the ACLA-P buffer zone forest zone (Region 1) and MAIBC (Region 2)	Increase in biomass reserves (tCO_2eq) derived from landscape management tools	– 103,100 tCO_2eq	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up – Field assessments	– Annually	– Project Manager – Project technical team	– PIR – Field assessment results	
	Reduction in CO_2e emissions in prioritized farms by project end	– 142,434 tCO_2eq	– Field verification studies – Remote sensing	– Mid and final point of the project	– Project Manager – Project technical team – PRIAS	– Field notes and verification reports – Remote sensing reports/maps	
	Presence of key bird species in the ACLA-P remains stable	– Quetzal (*Pharomachrus mocinno*) – Three-wattled Bellbird (*Procnias tricarunculata*) – Great tinamu (*Tinamus major*)	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up – Field assessments	– Annually	– Project Manager – Project technical team	– PIR – Field assessment results	
	Number of farms verified as free of loss of forest cover	– 50	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up – Verification certificates	– Annually	– Project Manager – MINAE	– PIR – Field assessment results	– Verification process is optimal – Willingness of farmers to participate in the verification process
	Change in annual income per farm and disaggregated by gender with verified increase in forest cover (Baseline and targets will be determined during project implementation)	– X (target will be determined during project implementation)	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up – Producer surveys	– Annually	– Project Manager – Project technical team	– PIR – Analysis of results of surveys to producers	– There is willingness by landowners and local agricultural workers to incorporate environmental sustainability criteria as part of their production activities – Available and stable national and international markets for environmentally-friendly products
		Region 2: Maria Aguilar Inter Urban Biological Corridor – MAIBC					

	Area (ha) of landscape management tools (micro-corridors, protection zones, urban green areas) that contributes to improving ecosystem connectivity and biodiversity conservation at the end of the project	– Micro-corridors 1,000 ha – Protection zones (i.e., river banks): 50 ha – Urban green areas: 1,000 ha	– Field verification studies – Remote sensing	– Mid and final point of the project	– Project Manager – Project technical team – PRIAS	– Field notes and verification reports – Remote sensing reports/maps –	– There are no substantive changes in land use/coverage – Ecological monitoring and control efforts are optimal – Environmental variability is within the normal range
	Increase in biomass reserves (tCO_2eq)	– 94,201 tCO_2eq	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up – Field assessments	– Annually	– Project Manager – Project technical team	– PIR – Field assessment results	
	Presence of migratory bird species in the MAIBC remains stable	– Summer tanager (*Piranga rubra*) – Baltimore oriole (*Icterus galbula*)	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up – Field assessments	– Annually	– Project Manager – Project technical team	– PIR – Field assessment results	
Project Outcome 3: Knowledge Management and M&E	Number of documents produced that document successful experiences about the incorporation of conservation biodiversity objectives, land management, and carbon sequestration in sustainable production landscapes and urban biological	– 10	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up	– Annually	– Project Manager – Project technical team	– PIR – Project related-publications and documents – Web pages with project information (e.g., UNDP, MINAE, SINAC).	– Wide and timely dissemination – Sampling efforts are optimal

	corridors in Costa Rica.						
	Change in the indices about Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (CAP; this will be defined at the beginning of the project) as a result of awareness and environmental education at the subnational and local levels	– ACLA-P: X – MAIBC: X	– Periodic project monitoring and follow-up – Knowledge and attitude surveys	– Twice during the life of the project	– Project Manager – Project technical team	– PIR – Knowledge and attitude survey results	
Mid-term GEF Tracking Tool	N/A	–	– Completed GEF Tracking Tools (BD-4, LD-2; LD-3, SFM-1) – Baseline GEF Tracking Tool included in Annex D	– After 2nd PIR submitted to GEF	– Project consultant but not evaluator	– Completed GEF Tracking Tools	– None
Terminal GEF Tracking Tool	N/A	–	– Completed GEF Tracking Tools (BD-4, LD-2; LD-3, SFM-1) – Baseline GEF Tracking Tool included in Annex D	– After final PIR submitted to GEF	– Project consultant but not evaluator	– Completed GEF Tracking Tools	– None
Mid-term Review	N/A	–	– Will include the review of technical and financial documents of the project and interviews with key stakeholders, following UNDP and GEF guidelines for mid-term reviews	– Submitted to GEF same year as 3rd PIR	– Independent evaluators	– Completed MTR	– None
Environmental and Social risks	N/A	–	– Updated SESP	– Annually	– Project Manager – UNDP CO	– Updated SESP	– None

ANNEX C: EVALUATION PLAN

Evaluation Title	Planned start date Month/year	Planned end date Month/year	Included in the Country Office Evaluation Plan	Budget for consultants	Other budget (i.e. travel, site visits, workshops)	Budget for translation
Mid-term evaluation	06/2021	08/2021	No	USD 16,800	USD 4,900	USD 4,000
Terminal Evaluation	08/2023	09/2023	No	USD 22,400	USD 5,900	USD 4,000
			Total evaluation budget	**USD 66,000**		

ANNEX D: GEF TRACKING TOOLS AT BASELINE

The GEF Tracking Tools (BD-4, LD-2; LD-3, SFM-1; see separate attachment) will be used to track project-level results. These will be based on results tracked at the level of the three prioritized landscapes individual. As noted in the Monitoring Plan (see Annex B above), these will be reported on by the National Project Manager and shared with the UNDP Country Office, the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor, and MINAE. Tracking Tools will be updated by project consultants (but not evaluators) during the mid-point and end of the project.

E.1. Terms of Reference of Project Committee

Responsibilities

The Project Committee will provide overall strategic policy and management direction for the project and play a critical role in reviewing and approving the project planning & execution conducted by the PCU and the Executing Agency. In line with the adoption of an adaptive management approach, the Project Committee will review project progress, make recommendations and adopt the (biennial) project work plans and budget.

Whenever feasible, approval by the Project Committee members of interim revisions (as applicable) of the biennial project work plans and budgets will be sought by electronic means, in order to optimize cost-efficiency of the project management arrangements.

Specific Duties

Specific functions of the Project Committee will include:

- Review and approve the Initiation Plan (if such plan was required and submitted to the Local Project Appraisal Committee - LPAC).
- Agree on Project Manager's responsibilities, as well as the responsibilities of the other members of the Project Management team;
- Delegate any Project Assurance function as appropriate;
- Review the Progress Report for the Initiation Stage (if an Initiation Plan was required);
- Review and appraise detailed Project Plan and AWP, including Atlas reports covering activity definition, quality criteria, issue log, updated risk log and the monitoring and communication plan.
- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints;
- Address project issues as raised by the Project Manager;
- Provide guidance and agree on possible countermeasures/management actions to address specific risks;
- Agree on Project Manager tolerances in the AWP and quarterly plans when required;
- Conduct regular meetings to review the Project Quarterly Progress Report and provide direction and recommendations to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans.
- Review Combined Delivery Reports (CDR) prior to certification by the Implementing Partner.
- Appraise the Project Annual Review Report, make recommendations for the next AWP, and inform the Outcome Board about the results of the review.
- Review and approve end project report, make recommendations for follow-on actions;
- Provide ad-hoc direction and advice for exception situations when Project Manager's tolerances are exceeded;
- Assess and decide on project changes through revisions;
- Assure that all Project deliverables have been produced satisfactorily;
- Review and approve the Final Project Review Report, including lessons-learned;
- Make recommendations for follow-on actions to be submitted to the Outcome Board;
- Commission project evaluation (only when required by partnership agreement);
- Notify operational completion of the project to the Outcome Board.

As the Project Committee will provide overall guidance to the Project it will not be expected to deal with day-to-day management and administration of the Project. This will be handled by the Project Manager, in coordination with the Executing Agency, and under guidance from the Offices of the Implementing Agency (to ensure conformity with UN's requirements).

The Project Committee is especially responsible for evaluation and monitoring of Project outputs and achievements. In its formal meetings, the Project Committee will be expected to review the Project work plan and budget expenditure, based on the Project Manager's report. The Project Committee should be consulted for supporting any

changes to the work plan or budget, and is responsible for ensuring that the Project remains on target with respect to its outputs. Where necessary, the Project Committee will support definition of new targets in coordination with, and approval from, the Implementing/Executing Agencies.

Membership

The Project Committee is expected to be composed of:

- Representative of the GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP Country Office
- Representative of the Implementing Partner: MINAE
- Representatives of project partner organizations: SINAC and Municipalities.

Other parties can be invited as observers to the Project Committee Meetings, as deemed relevant and beneficial for the implementation of the Project.

Frequency and Conduct of Meetings

It is anticipated that there will be at least three full meetings of the Project Committee to take place at the following times during the duration of the Project:

- Project Inception
- Project Midterm
- Project End

Other options such as meetings of representative groupings of the Project Committee, teleconferencing and e-mail will be explored to allow for discussion and review of project matters during the years when no formal Steering Committee Meeting are planned. Formal meetings will be scheduled and arranged by the PCU in consultation with, and at the request of, the other Project Committee members.

E.2. Terms of Reference for Key Project Staff

A full-time Project Manager, a full-time national Project Administrator/Finance Assistant, two full-time local Administrative Assistants, three Thematic Leaders/Technical Advisors, and a full-time National Technical Advisers will staff the PCU. ToRs for these positions will be further discussed and will be fine-tuned during the Inception Workshop so that roles and responsibilities and UNDP GEF reporting procedures are clearly defined and understood. Also, during the Inception Workshop the ToRs for specific consultants and sub-contractors will be fully discussed and, for those consultancies to be undertaken during the first six months of the project, full ToRs will be drafted and selection and hiring procedures will be defined.

Project Manager

The UNDP CO will hire the Project Manager to carry out the duties specified below, and to provide further technical assistance as required by the project team to fulfill the objectives of the project. He/she will be responsible for ensuring that the project meets its obligations to the GEF and the UNDP, with particular regard to the management aspects of the project, including supervision of staff, serving as stakeholder liaison, implementation of activities, and reporting. The Project Manager will lead the PCU and will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project activities and the delivery of its outputs. The Project Manager will support and coordinate the activities of all partners, staff, and consultants as they relate to the implementation of the project. The Project Manager will be responsible for the following tasks:

Specific Duties

- Prepare detailed work plan and budget under the guidance of the Project Committee and UNDP;
- Make recommendations for modifications to the project budget and, where relevant, submit proposals for budget revisions to the Project Committee, and UNDP;
- Facilitate project planning and decision-making sessions;
- Organize the contracting of consultants and experts for the project, including preparing ToRs for all technical assistance required, preparation of an action plan for each consultant and expert, supervising their work, and reporting to the UNDP Project Officer;
- Provide technical guidance and oversight for all project activities;
- Oversee the progress of the project components conducted by local and international experts, consultants, and cooperating partners;
- Coordinate and oversee the preparation of all outputs of the project;
- Foster, establish, and maintain links with other related national and international programs and national projects, including information dissemination through media such as web page actualization, etc.;
- Organize Project Committee meetings at least once every semester as well as annual and final review meetings as required by UNDP, and act as the secretary of the Project Committee;
- Coordinate and report the work of all stakeholders under the guidance of UNDP;
- Prepare PIRs/APRs in the language required by the GEF and the UNDP´s CO and attend annual review meetings;
- Ensure that all relevant information is made available in a timely fashion to UNDP regarding activities carried out nationally, including private and public sector activities, which impact the project;
- Prepare and submit quarterly progress and financial reports to UNDP as required, following all UNDP quality management system and internal administrative process;
- Coordinate and participate in M&E exercises to appraise project success and make recommendations for modifications to the project;
- Prepare and submit technical concepts and requirements about the project requested by UNDP, the Government of Costa Rica, or other external entities;
- Perform other duties related to the project in order to achieve its strategic objectives;
- Ensure the project utilizes best practices and experiences from similar projects;
- Ensure the project utilizes the available financial resources in an efficient and transparent manner;
- Ensure that all project activities are carried out on schedule and within budget to achieve the project outputs;

- Solve all scientific and administrative issues that might arise during the project.

Outputs

- Detailed work plans indicating dates for deliverables and budget;
- Documents required by the control management system of UNDP;
- ToRs and action plan of the staff and monitoring reports;
- List of names of potential advisors and collaborators and potential institutional links with other related national and international programs and national projects;
- Quarterly reports and financial reports on the consultant's activities, all stakeholders' work, and progress of the project to be presented to UNDP (in the format specified by UNDP);
- A final report that summarizes the work carried out by consultants and stakeholders during the period of the project, as well as the status of the project outputs at the end of the project;
- Minutes of meetings and/or consultation processes;
- Yearly PIRs/APRs;
- Adaptive management of project.

All documents are to be submitted to the UNDP Project Officer and in MS Word and in hard copy.

Qualifications (indicative)

- A graduate academic degree in areas relevant to the project (e.g., biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, or sustainable land management);
- Minimum 5 years of experience in project management with at least 3 years of experience in at least two areas relevant to the project (e.g., biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, or sustainable land management);
- Experience facilitating consultative processes, preferably in the field of natural resource management;
- Proven ability to promote cooperation between and negotiate with a range of stakeholders, and to organize and coordinate multi-disciplinary teams;
- Strong leadership and team-building skills;
- Self-motivated and ability to work under the pressure;
- Demonstrable ability to organize, facilitate, and mediate technical teams to achieve stated project objectives;
- Familiarity with logical frameworks and strategic planning;
- Strong computer skills;
- Flexible and willing to travel as required;
- Excellent communication and writing skills in Spanish and English;
- Previous experience working with a GEF-supported project is considered an asset.

Project Finance Assistant

The Project Finance Assistant is responsible for the financial and administrative management of the project activities and assists in the preparation of quarterly and annual work plans and progress reports for review and monitoring by UNDP.

Specific Duties

- Responsible for providing general financial and administrative support to the project;
- Take own initiative and perform daily work in compliance with annual work schedules;
- Assist project management in performing budget cycle: planning, preparation, revisions, and budget execution;
- Provide assistance to partner agencies involved in project activities, performing and monitoring financial aspects to ensure compliance with budgeted costs in line with UNDP policies and procedures;
- Monitor project expenditures, ensuring that no expenditure is incurred before it has been authorized;
- Assist project team in drafting quarterly and yearly project progress reports concerning financial issues.

- Drafting the contracts of national / local consultants and all project staff, in accordance with the instructions of the UNDP Contract Office;
- Ensure that UNDP procurement rules are followed during procurement activities that are carried out by the project and maintain responsibility for the inventory of the project assets;
- Perform preparatory work for mandatory and general budget revisions, annual physical inventory and auditing, and assist external evaluators in fulfilling their mission;
- Prepare all outputs in accordance with the UNDP administrative and financial office guidance;
- Ensure the project utilizes the available financial resources in an efficient and transparent manner;
- Ensure that all project financial activities are carried out on schedule and within budget to achieve the project outputs;
- Perform all other financial related duties, upon request;
- Make logistical arrangements for the organization of meetings, consultation processes, and media;
- Draft correspondence related to assigned project areas; provide clarification, follow up, and responses to requests for information;
- Assume overall responsibility for administrative matters of a more general nature, such as registry and maintenance of project files;
- Provide support to the PC and project staff in the coordination and organization of planned activities and their timely implementation;
- Assist the Project Manager in liaising with key stakeholders from the Government of Costa Rica counterpart, co-financing agencies, civil society, and NGOs, as required;
- Ensure the proper use and care of the instruments and equipment used on the project
- Resolve all administrative and support issues that might arise during the project.
- Provide assistance in all logistical arrangements concerning project implementation.

Qualifications (indicative)

- Undergraduate Degree in finance, business sciences, or related fields;
- A demonstrated ability in the financial management of development projects and in liaising and cooperating with government officials, donors, and civil society;
- Self-motivated and ability to work under the pressure;
- Team-oriented, possesses a positive attitude, and works well with others;
- Flexible and willing to travel as required;
- Excellent interpersonal skills;
- Excellent verbal and writing communication skills in Spanish and English;
- Good knowledge of Word, Outlook, Excel, and Internet browsers;
- Previous experience working with a GEF and/or UNDP-supported project is considered an asset.

Communications Expert

The Communications Expert will be responsible for advising on and issuing communications, as well as awareness-raising, and visibility activities related to the project. This position will provide technical support to the PCU under the supervision of the Project Manager.

Specific Duties:

- Coordinate and conduct the communication, awareness-raising, and visibility campaigns of the project at the local and national levels;
- Collect and analyze lessons learned and best practices, and design replication strategies within other production landscapes and interurban biological corridors;
- Coordinate the design, production, and dissemination of diverse reports, publications, and knowledge products through different media, including print, websites, and social networks;
- Promote visibility of the project results and activities through placement and distribution of information material and creative partnerships;

- Advise and assist the project teams at the national level for developing awareness campaigns, communication strategies, visibility actions, and media initiatives;
- Establish synergies with other GEF and non-GEF initiatives, government agencies, private sector entities, donor agencies, among other stakeholders to promote cooperation and coordination of implementation of related efforts at the national level; and
- Draft and ensure that key results, reports, lessons learned, and relevant success stories are disseminated through different communication vehicles.

Qualifications (indicative)*:*

- Degree in Communications, or other related field;
- At least 3-5 years of experience in the field of communications or knowledge management, preferably focused on conservation of biodiversity, SFM or SLM;
- Previous experience working with a GEF project is considered an asset;
- Ability to synthesize, systematize, edit, and publish information to produce communications materials and products;
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills; commitment to team work and to working across disciplines; and
- Fluency in Spanish is essential, both spoken and written. Working knowledge of English is an asset.

M&E Specialist

The M&E Specialist will be responsible for the advisory and conduction of all M&E activities related to the project. This position will provide technical support to the PCU under the supervision of the Project Manager.

Specific Duties:

- Responsible for the proper functioning of the Project's M&E, including the Project impact indicators contained in the PRF, GEF Tracking Tools for Biodiversity, Land Degradation, and SFM in accordance with the GEF requirements;
- Coordinate with the Project Manager and the different technical and administrative units of MINAE to program all M&E activities;
- Establish in the AWP the necessary time and resources to comply with the UNDP and GEF M&E requirements for the project;
- Coordinate the preparation of forms, questionnaires, and other tools for collecting information in the field within the framework of M&E and the PRF;
- Provide support to the Project Manager in preparing M&E reports required by UNDP and the GEF, indicating, among other things, the progress in complying with the indicators included in the PRF; and
- Prepare the ToRs for the MTR and TE of the Project.

Qualifications (indicative):

- Degree in biodiversity conservation, SFM or SLM or other similar areas with a focus on project monitoring and evaluating;
- At least 5-10 years of experience in the fields of biodiversity conservation, SFM or SLM, or other similar areas, 3 years of which shall be in project monitoring and evaluation;
- Experience in data analysis, publications and/or reporting based on field data is required;
- Previous experience working with a GEF project is considered an asset;
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills; commitment to teamwork and to working across disciplines; and
- Fluency in Spanish is essential, both spoken and written. Working knowledge of English is an asset.

Gender Specialist

The Gender Specialist will be responsible for ensuring that gender is mainstreamed during project execution and the for the implementation of the project Gender Mainstreaming Plan. This position will provide technical support to the PCU under the supervision of the Project Manager.

Specific Duties:

- Coordinate with the Project Manager and the different technical and administrative units of MINAE for gender mainstreaming;
- Establish in the AWP the necessary time and resources to implement the project Gender Mainstreaming Plan;
- Collect sex-disaggregated data in line with the PRF and Gender Mainstreaming Plan;
- Provide support to the Project Manager in preparing gender-based reports required by UNDP and the GEF, indicating, among other things, the progress in complying with the indicators included in the PRF and the Gender Mainstreaming Plan;
- Participate and coordinate in project training activities for gender mainstreaming; and
- Coordinate actions with government agencies, NGOs, CSOs, and women's organization or groups whose work focuses on gender in the ACLA-P and the MAIBC.

Qualifications (indicative):

- Degree in social or natural sciences or other relevant discipline, preferably with a specialization in gender and project cycle management;
- At least 5 years of experience in the field of gender equality and gender mainstreaming;
- Demonstrated expertise in mainstreaming gender in UNDP and/or GEF projects and programs in Costa Rica;
- Experience working with government institutions and international organizations that support gender and development work in environmental projects and programs;
- Knowledge of with gender analysis tools and methodologies for gender mainstreaming;
- Previous experience working with a GEF project is considered an asset;
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills; commitment to team work and to working across disciplines; and
- Fluency in Spanish is essential, both spoken and written. Working knowledge of English is an asset.

ANNEX F: SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SCREENING

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	Conserving biodiversity through sustainable management in production landscapes in Costa Rica
2. Project Number	00096514
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Costa Rica

Part A. Integrating Overarching Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Overarching Principles in order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?

Briefly describe in the space below how the Project mainstreams the human-rights based approach

The human rights based approach aims to empower people to know and claim their rights and increase the ability and accountability of individuals and institutions who are responsible for respecting, protecting and fulfilling rights. The Costa Rican constitution protects the right to a clean and healthy environment and this project aims for state institutions, private sector and community organizations to manage environmental geographic information and take action to address the threats to biodiversity and promote sustainable forest and land management. All of the national, subnational, and local stakeholders associated with the project have the right to freely express their opinions and participate in decision making related to the project implementation and key stakeholders were consulted and participated in the design of the project.

Briefly describe in the space below how the Project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment

The Project will help improve gender equality and women's empowerment through targeted interventions in the Maria Aguilar Inter Urban Biological Corridor (MAIBC) and the La Amistad Pacifico Conservation Area (ACLA-P). In the urban landscape the project will engage women organizations and non-governmental organizations NGOs and community-based organizations (CBOs) lead by women to provide reforestation and local community actions pertaining the maintenance of ecosystem services and integrity of the MAIBC, these entities will be stimulated to appoint a representative to form part of the governance structure of the MAIBC. Within the ACLA-P area the project will strengthen the participation of women leaders in the local conservation area committee (COL-ACLA-P) and particular attention will be given to generating income and employment opportunities for women and young people in the application of biodiversity mainstreaming measures within agricultural production. The implementation of landscape management tools through socio-productive community initiatives, training for sustainable production, and access to incentives through a free of loss of forest cover verification mechanism with preferential purchasing and pricing of products from project participating farms, will entail a selection process that will favor the empowerment of female-headed farms.

Briefly describe in the space below how the Project mainstreams environmental sustainability

The project will mainstream biodiversity conservation into Costa Rica landscapes by reducing the most significant threat to biodiversity in the country: loss of natural habitat which is caused by land use change due to agricultural expansion and urban growth. Project investments will strengthen the National Environmental Information System (SINIA) by making available annual data on land cover/land use change that will inform public and private sectors to take action to combat loss of natural habitat and other threats to biodiversity. The strategy will be to establish a set of response to these specific threats every year and in different settings: a) in rural areas, a more effective response by the National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC) for processing of Forestry Law violations, response by responsible buyers and producers in terms of improved supply and demand of sustainable goods; and b) in urban areas, by catalyzing response and community action to help control habitat loss, reforest and restore protection zones (e.g., riverbanks and springs) while increasing carbon stocks, improve water quality of surface waters, and enhance forest connectivity.

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? *Note: Describe briefly potential social and environmental risks identified in Attachment 1 – Risk Screening Checklist (based on any "Yes" responses). If no risks have been identified in Attachment 1 then note "No Risks Identified" and skip to Question 4 and Select "Low Risk". Questions 5 and 6 not required for Low Risk Projects.*	**QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks?** *Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 6*			**QUESTION 6: What social and environmental assessment and management measures have been conducted and/or are required to address potential risks (for Risks with Moderate and High Significance)?**
Risk Description	***Impact and Probability (1-5)***	***Significance (Low, Moderate, High)***	***Comments***	***Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.***
Risk 1: The Project activities proposed are within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park) and areas proposed for protection	I = 1 P = 5	**Low**	The project aims to work within the buffer zone of the several protected areas in ACLA-P, including the Chirripó National Park, La Amistad International Park, and the Macizo de la Muerte, with the explicit intention of improving connectivity and maintaining ecosystem services. In addition, some project activities will aim to forest and restore protection zones n the MAIBC, which according to the Forestry Law contribute to the protection of the country's forests.	The work in environmentally sensitive areas entails choosing a project unit team with significant previous training on sustainable practices and also natural resource conflict management. In Costa Rica the communities living adjacent to projected areas have, in some places, tense relations with the Ministry of Environment staff, mostly because of their role enforcing biodiversity and forestry laws. The project team will make sure project interventions within ACLA-P and MAIBC are done in compliance with SESA standards and requirements. The specific provision to minimize risk will be to ensure that the Terms of Reference of these staff incorporate these competences and to keep the Project Board informed about of any potential conflicts.
Risk 2: Outcomes of the Project could be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change	I = 3 P = 1	**Low**	Despite the fact that the project will build resilience to climate change by enhancing	The project will increase ecosystem connectivity and strengthen ecosystem services in the prioritized landscapes through the use of tools that will promote sustainable forest

			connectivity and carbons stocks in the prioritized production and urban landscapes, these actions could be vulnerable to extreme climate vulnerability, particularly to tropical storms.	and land use and conservation of biodiversity, thereby reducing the project outputs' vulnerability to climate change. With the goal of increasing resilience to climate change, the project will strengthen the capacity of the public and private stakeholders at the local and regional levels to develop response measures through tools for planning, knowledge and information, monitoring, management and interinstitutional coordination.

	QUESTION 4: What is the overall Project risk categorization?		
	Select one (see SESP for guidance)		**Comments**
	Low Risk	**X**	**No significant social or environmental risks identified**
	Moderate Risk	☐	
	High Risk	☐	
	QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are relevant?		
	Check all that apply		**Comments**
	Principle 1: Human Rights	☐	
	Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	☐	
	1. Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management	☐	
	2. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	☐	
	3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions	☐	
	4. Cultural Heritage	☐	
	5. Displacement and Resettlement	☐	
	6. Indigenous Peoples	☐	
	7. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	☐	

Final Sign Off

Signature	*Date*	*Description*
QA Assessor	15 Feb 2016	UNDP staff member responsible for the Project, typically a UNDP Programme Officer. Final signature confirms they have "checked" to ensure that the SESP is adequately conducted.
QA Approver	16 Feb 2016	UNDP senior manager, typically the UNDP Deputy Country Director (DCD), Country Director (CD), Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), or Resident Representative (RR). The QA Approver cannot also be the QA Assessor. Final signature confirms they have "cleared" the SESP prior to submittal to the PAC.
PAC Chair	16 Feb 2016	UNDP chair of the PAC. In some cases PAC Chair may also be the QA Approver. Final signature confirms that the SESP was considered as part of the project appraisal and considered in recommendations of the PAC.

SESP Attachment 1. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks		
Principles 1: Human Rights		**Answer (Yes/No)**
1.	Could the Project lead to adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	N
2.	Is there a likelihood that the Project would have inequitable or discriminatory adverse impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups? [22]	N
3.	Could the Project potentially restrict availability, quality of and access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups?	N
4.	Is there a likelihood that the Project would exclude any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	N
5.	Is there a risk that duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project?	N
6.	Is there a risk that rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	N
7.	Have local communities or individuals, given the opportunity, raised human rights concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process?	N
8.	Is there a risk that the Project would exacerbate conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	N
Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment		
1.	Is there a likelihood that the proposed Project would have adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	N
2.	Would the Project potentially reproduce discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	N
3.	Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process and has this been included in the overall Project proposal and in the risk assessment?	N
4.	Would the Project potentially limit women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? *For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being*	N
Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability: Screening questions regarding environmental risks are encompassed by the specific Standard-related questions below		
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management		
1.1	Would the Project potentially cause adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services? *For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes*	N

[22] Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, gender, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender people and transsexuals.

1.2	Are any Project activities proposed within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities?	Y
1.3	Does the Project involve changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	N
1.4	Would Project activities pose risks to endangered species?	N
1.5	Would the Project pose a risk of introducing invasive alien species?	N
1.6	Does the Project involve harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	N
1.7	Does the Project involve the production and/or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	N
1.8	Does the Project involve significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? *For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction*	N
1.9	Does the Project involve utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)	N
1.10	Would the Project generate potential adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	N
1.11	Would the Project result in secondary or consequential development activities which could lead to adverse social and environmental effects, or would it generate cumulative impacts with other known existing or planned activities in the area? *For example, a new road through forested lands will generate direct environmental and social impacts (e.g. felling of trees, earthworks, potential relocation of inhabitants). The new road may also facilitate encroachment on lands by illegal settlers or generate unplanned commercial development along the route, potentially in sensitive areas. These are indirect, secondary, or induced impacts that need to be considered. Also, if similar developments in the same forested area are planned, then cumulative impacts of multiple activities (even if not part of the same Project) need to be considered.*	N
Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation		
2.1	Will the proposed Project result in significant[23] greenhouse gas emissions or may exacerbate climate change?	N
2.2	Would the potential outcomes of the Project be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change?	Y
2.3	Is the proposed Project likely to directly or indirectly increase social and environmental vulnerability to climate change now or in the future (also known as maladaptive practices)? *For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding*	N
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions		
3.1	Would elements of Project construction, operation, or decommissioning pose potential safety risks to local communities?	N
3.2	Would the Project pose potential risks to community health and safety due to the transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	N
3.3	Does the Project involve large-scale infrastructure development (e.g. dams, roads, buildings)?	N

[23] In regards to CO_2, 'significant emissions' corresponds generally to more than 25,000 tons per year (from both direct and indirect sources). [The Guidance Note on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation provides additional information on GHG emissions.]

3.4	Would failure of structural elements of the Project pose risks to communities? (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)	N
3.5	Would the proposed Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme climatic conditions?	N
3.6	Would the Project result in potential increased health risks (e.g. from water-borne or other vector-borne diseases or communicable infections such as HIV/AIDS)?	N
3.7	Does the Project pose potential risks and vulnerabilities related to occupational health and safety due to physical, chemical, biological, and radiological hazards during Project construction, operation, or decommissioning?	N
3.8	Does the Project involve support for employment or livelihoods that may fail to comply with national and international labor standards (i.e. principles and standards of ILO fundamental conventions)?	N
3.9	Does the Project engage security personnel that may pose a potential risk to health and safety of communities and/or individuals (e.g. due to a lack of adequate training or accountability)?	N
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage		
4.1	Will the proposed Project result in interventions that would potentially adversely impact sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: Projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	N
4.2	Does the Project propose utilizing tangible and/or intangible forms of cultural heritage for commercial or other purposes?	N
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement		
5.1	Would the Project potentially involve temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement?	N
5.2	Would the Project possibly result in economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	N
5.3	Is there a risk that the Project would lead to forced evictions?[24]	N
5.4	Would the proposed Project possibly affect land tenure arrangements and/or community based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	N
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples		
6.1	Are indigenous peoples present in the Project area (including Project area of influence)?	N
6.2	Is it likely that the Project or portions of the Project will be located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	N
6.3	Would the proposed Project potentially affect the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the Project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)? *If the answer to the screening question 6.3 is "yes" the potential risk impacts are considered potentially severe and/or critical and the Project would be categorized as either Moderate or High Risk.*	N

[24] Forced evictions include acts and/or omissions involving the coerced or involuntary displacement of individuals, groups, or communities from homes and/or lands and common property resources that were occupied or depended upon, thus eliminating the ability of an individual, group, or community to reside or work in a particular dwelling, residence, or location without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protections.

6.4	Has there been an absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	N
6.5	Does the proposed Project involve the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	N
6.6	Is there a potential for forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources?	N
6.7	Would the Project adversely affect the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	N
6.8	Would the Project potentially affect the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	N
6.9	Would the Project potentially affect the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices?	N
Standard 7: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
7.1	Would the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	N
7.2	Would the proposed Project potentially result in the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	N
7.3	Will the proposed Project potentially involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous chemicals and/or materials? Does the Project propose use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? *For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Stockholm Conventions on Persistent Organic Pollutants or the Montreal Protocol*	N
7.4	Will the proposed Project involve the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	N
7.5	Does the Project include activities that require significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	N

ANNEX G: UNDP PROJECT QUALITY ASSURANCE REPORT

STRATEGIC

1. Does the project's Theory of Change specify how it will contribute to higher level change? (Select the option from 1-3 that best reflects the project):

☐ 3: The project has a theory of change with explicit assumptions on how the project will contribute to higher level change as specified in the programme's theory of change, backed by credible evidence of what works effectively in this context. The project document clearly describes why the project's strategy is the best approach at this point in time.

☐ 2: The project has a theory of change related to the programme's theory of change. It has explicit assumptions that explain how the project intends to contribute to higher level change and why the project strategy is the best approach at this point in time, but is backed by limited evidence.

☐ 1: The project does not have a theory of change, but the project document may describe in generic terms how the project will contribute to development results, without specifying the key assumptions. It does not make an explicit link to the programme's theory of change. The project document does not clearly specify why the project's strategy is the best approach at this point in time.

Evidence:

ProDoc, Section IV: Strategy

2. Is the project aligned with the thematic focus of the UNDP Strategic Plan? (select the option that best reflects the project)

☐ 3: The project responds to one of the three areas of development work as specified in the Strategic Plan; it addresses at least one of the proposed new and emerging areas; an issues-based analysis has been incorporated into the project design; and the project's RRF includes all the relevant SP output indicators. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 2: The project responds to one of the three areas of development work1 as specified in the Strategic Plan. The project's RRF includes at least one SP output indicator, if relevant. (both must be true to select this option)

☉ 1: While the project may respond to one of the three areas of development work1 as specified in the Strategic Plan, it is based on a sectoral approach without addressing the complexity of the development issue. None of the relevant SP indicators are included in the RRF. This answer is also selected if the project does not respond to any of the three areas of development work in the Strategic Plan.

Evidence:

The project aligned with Sphere of Work 1: Sustainable development pathways (Reforms of national development planning and policies for transforming production capacities), and with Sphere of work 3: Increasing Resilience

RELEVANCE

3. Does the project have strategies to effectively identify, engage and ensure the meaningful participation of targeted groups/geographic areas with a priority focus on the excluded and marginalized? (select the option that best reflects this project)

☐ 3: The target groups/geographic areas are appropriately specified, prioritising the excluded and/or marginalised. The project has an explicit strategy to identify, engage and ensure the meaningful participation of specified target groups/geographic areas throughout the project. Beneficiaries will be identified through a rigorous process based on evidence (if applicable.) The project plans to solicit feedback from targeted groups regularly through project monitoring. Representatives of the targeted group/geographic areas will contribute to project decision-making, such as being included in the project's governance mechanism (i.e., project board.) (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 2: The target groups/geographic areas are appropriately specified, prioritising the excluded and/or marginalised, and are engaged in project design. The project document states clearly how beneficiaries will be identified, engaged and how meaningful participation will be ensured throughout the project. Collecting feedback from targeted groups has been incorporated into the project's RRF/monitoring system, but representatives of the target group(s) may not be directly involved in the project's decision making. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 1: The target groups/geographic areas do not prioritize excluded and/or marginalised populations, or they may not be specified. The project does not have a written strategy to identify or engage or ensure the meaningful participation of the target groups/geographic areas throughout the project.

Evidence:

The project includes a Gender Action Plan (Annex K of ProDoc) and interventions in ACLA-P with producers and in the MAIBC with poor populations.

4. Have knowledge, good practices, and past lessons learned of UNDP and others informed the project design? (select the option that best reflects this project)

☐ 3: Knowledge and lessons learned (gained e.g. through peer assist sessions) backed by credible evidence from evaluation, analysis and monitoring have been explicitly used, with appropriate referencing, to develop the project's theory of change and justify the approach used by the project over alternatives.

☐ 2: The project design mentions knowledge and lessons learned backed by evidence/sources, which inform the project's theory of change but have not been used/are not sufficient to justify the approach selected over alternatives.

☐ 1: There is only scant or no mention of knowledge and lessons learned informing the project design. Any references that are made are not backed by evidence.

Evidence:

The MOCUPP, which will be consolidated through this project, was initially constructed through a process of dialogue and south-south exchanges. More information available at: www.pnp.cr/plataforma

5. Does the project use gender analysis in the project design and does the project respond to this gender analysis with concrete measures to address gender inequities and empower women? (select the option that best reflects this project)

☐ 3: A participatory gender analysis on the project has been conducted. This analysis reflects on the different needs, roles and access to/control over resources of women and men, and it is fully integrated into the project document. The project establishes concrete priorities to address gender inequalities in its strategy. The results framework includes outputs and activities that specifically respond to this gender analysis, with indicators that measure and monitor results contributing to gender equality. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 2: A gender analysis on the project has been conducted. This analysis reflects on the different needs, roles and access to/control over resources of women and men. Gender concerns are integrated in the development challenge and strategy sections of the project document. The results framework includes outputs and activities that specifically respond to this gender analysis, with indicators that measure and monitor results contributing to gender equality. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 1: The project design may or may not mention information and/or data on the differential impact of the project's development situation on gender relations, women and men, but the constraints have not been clearly identified and interventions have not been considered.

Evidence:

The gender mainstreaming strategy for the project was developed through two orientation workshops (the Gender Action Plan is included in Annex K of ProDoc); the project's results framework was developed jointly with project counterparts.

6. Does UNDP have a clear advantage to engage in the role envisioned by the project vis-à-vis national partners, other development partners, and other actors? (select the option that best reflects this project)

☐ 3: An analysis has been conducted on the role of other partners in the area where the project intends to work, and credible evidence supports the proposed engagement of UNDP and partners through the project. It is clear how results achieved by relevant partners will contribute to outcome level change complementing the project's intended results. If relevant, options for south-south and triangular cooperation have been considered, as appropriate. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 2: Some analysis has been conducted on the role of other partners where the project intends to work, and relatively limited evidence supports the proposed engagement of and division of labour between UNDP and partners through the project. Options for south-south and triangular cooperation may not have not been fully developed during project design, even if relevant opportunities have been identified.

☐ 1: No clear analysis has been conducted on the role of other partners in the area that the project intends to work, and relatively limited evidence supports the proposed engagement of UNDP and partners through the project. There is risk that the project overlaps and/or does not coordinate with partners' interventions in this area. Options for south-south and triangular cooperation have not been considered, despite its potential relevance.

Evidence:

Annex L presents Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Plan which clearly identifies the basic roles and responsibilities of the main stakeholders in the project, enables the full knowledge of the stakeholders of progress and obstacles of the development of the project and makes use of their experience and skills to improve project actions and identifies the key moments within the project lifecycle when their participation will occur.

The MOCUPP technical document describes the role of UNDP in facilitation the process and institutional roles of key project partners. UNDP is well positioned to facilitate inter-institutional action to develop this project (www.mocupp.org).

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS

7. Does the project seek to further the realization of human rights using a human rights based approach? (select the option that best reflects this project)

☐ 3: Credible evidence that the project aims to further the realization of human rights, specifically upholding the relevant international and national laws and standards in the area of the project. Any potential adverse impacts on enjoyment of human rights were rigorously assessed and identified with appropriate mitigation and management measures incorporated into project design and budget. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 2: Some evidence that the project aims to further the realization of human rights. Potential adverse impacts on enjoyment of human rights were assessed and identified and appropriate mitigation and management measures incorporated into the project design and budget.

☐ 1: No evidence that the project aims to further the realization of human rights. Limited or no evidence that potential adverse impacts on enjoyment of human rights were considered.

Evidence:

The project will develop a tool that eliminates loss of forest cover of productive chains; this will further the realization of human rights by ensuing a mores healthy environment, without negatively impacting the right to work.

8. Did the project consider potential environmental opportunities and adverse impacts, applying a precautionary approach? (select from option that best reflects this project)

☐ 3: Credible evidence that opportunities to enhance environmental sustainability and integrate poverty-environment linkages were fully considered and integrated in project strategy and design. Credible evidence that potential adverse environmental impacts have been identified and rigorously assessed with appropriate management and mitigation measures incorporated into project design and budget. (all must be true to select this option).

☐ 2: No evidence that opportunities to strengthen environmental sustainability and poverty-environment linkages were considered. Credible evidence that potential adverse environmental impacts have been assessed, if relevant, and appropriate management and mitigation measures incorporated into project design and budget.

☐ 1: No evidence that opportunities to strengthen environmental sustainability and poverty-environment linkages were considered. Limited or no evidence that potential adverse environmental impacts were adequately considered.

Evidence:

Project will develop a cost-effective way for differentiating production units free of loss of forest cover, generating more market opportunities in rural areas. It also generates opportunities for promoting economic activity and environmental protection in inter-urban biological corridors to benefit poor and vulnerable sectors.

9. If the project is worth $500,000 or more, has the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) been conducted to identify potential social and environmental impacts and risks? Select N/A only if the project is worth less than $500,000. [if yes, upload the completed checklist]

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ N/A

Evidence:

Annex F of ProDoc

MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

10. Does the project have a strong results framework? (select from options 1-3 that best reflects this project)

☐ 3: The project's selection of outputs and activities are at an appropriate level and relate in a clear way to the project's theory of change. Outputs are accompanied by SMART, results-oriented indicators that measure all of the key expected changes identified in the theory of change, each with credible data sources, and populated baselines and targets, including gender sensitive, sex-disaggregated indicators where appropriate. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 2: The project's selection of outputs and activities are at an appropriate level, but may not cover all aspects of the project's theory of change. Outputs are accompanied by SMART, results-oriented indicators, but baselines, targets and data sources may not yet be fully specified. Some use of gender sensitive, sex-disaggregated indicators, as appropriate. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 1: The results framework does not meet all of the conditions specified in selection "2" above. This includes: the project's selection of outputs and activities are not at an appropriate level and do not relate in a clear way to the project's theory of change; outputs are not accompanied by SMART, results-oriented indicators that measure the expected change, and have not been populated with baselines and targets; data sources are not specified, and/or no gender sensitive, sex-disaggregation of indicators.

Evidence:

Project Results Framework, Section VII of ProDoc

11. Is there a comprehensive and costed M&E plan with specified data collection sources and methods to support evidence-based management, monitoring and evaluation of the project?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Evidence:

ProDoc, Section VIII: Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan

12. Is the project's governance mechanism clearly defined in the project document, including planned composition of the project board? (select from options 1-3 that best reflects this project)

☐ 3: The project's governance mechanism is fully defined in the project composition. Individuals have been specified for each position in the governance mechanism (especially all members of the project board.) Project Board members have agreed on their roles and responsibilities as specified in the terms of reference. The ToR of the project board has been attached to the project document. (all must be true to select this option).

☐ 2: The project's governance mechanism is defined in the project document; specific institutions are noted as holding key governance roles, but individuals may not have been specified yet. The prodoc lists the most important responsibilities of the project board, project director/manager and quality assurance roles. (all must be true to select this option)

☐ 1: The project's governance mechanism is loosely defined in the project document, only mentioning key roles that will need to be filled at a later date. No information on the responsibilities of key positions in the governance mechanism is provided.

Evidence:

ProDoc, Section IX: Governance and Management Arrangements

13. Have the project risks been identified with clear plans stated to manage and mitigate each risks? (select from options 1-3 that best reflects this project)

☐ 3: Project risks fully described in the project risk log, based on comprehensive analysis which references key assumptions made in the project's theory of change. Clear and complete plan in place to manage and mitigate each risk. (both must be true to select this option)

☐ 2: Project risks identified in the initial project risk log with mitigation measures identified for each risk.

☐ 1: Some risks may be identified in the initial project risk log, but no clear risk mitigation measures identified. This option is also selected if risks are not clearly identified and no initial risk log is included with the project document.

Evidence:

Risks have been identified and registered in Atlas; ProDoc Annex H: UNDP Risk Log

EFFICIENT

14. Have specific measures for ensuring cost-efficient use of resources been explicitly mentioned as part of the project design? This can include: i) using the theory of change analysis to explore different options of achieving the maximum results with the resources available; ii) using a portfolio management approach to improve cost effectiveness through synergies with other interventions; iii) through joint operations (e.g., monitoring or procurement) with other partners.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Evidence:

ProDoc, Section VI: Feasibility, (i) Cost efficiency and effectiveness

15. Are explicit plans in place to ensure the project links up with other relevant on-going projects and initiatives, whether led by UNDP, national or other partners, to achieve more efficient results (including, for example, through sharing resources or coordinating delivery?)

☐ Yes

☐ No

Evidence:

ProDoc, Section V: Results and Partnerships

16. Is the budget justified and supported with valid estimates?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Evidence:

ProDoc, Section XI: Total Budget and Work Plan

17. Is the Country Office fully recovering its costs involved with project implementation?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Evidence:

DIM implementation

EFFECTIVE

18. Is the chosen implementation modality most appropriate? (select from options 1-3 that best reflects this project)

☐ 3: The required implementing partner assessments (capacity assessment, HACT micro assessment) have been conducted, and there is evidence that options for implementation modalities have been thoroughly considered. There is a strong justification for choosing the selected modality, based on the development context. (both must be true to select this option)

☐ 2: The required implementing partner assessments (capacity assessment, HACT micro assessment) have been conducted and the implementation modality chosen is consistent with the results of the assessments.

☐ 1: The required assessments have not been conducted, but there may be evidence that options for implementation modalities have been considered.

Evidence:

DIM implementation (annexed letter)

19. Have targeted groups, prioritizing marginalized and excluded populations that will be affected by the project, been engaged in the design of the project in a way that addresses any underlying causes of exclusion and discrimination?

☐ 3: Credible evidence that all targeted groups, prioritising marginalized and excluded populations that will be involved in or affected by the project, have been actively engaged in the design of the project. Their views, rights and any constraints have been analysed and incorporated into the root cause analysis of the theory of change which seeks to address any underlying causes of exclusion and discrimination and the selection of project interventions.

☐ 2: Some evidence that key targeted groups, prioritising marginalized and excluded populations that will be involved in the project, have been engaged in the design of the project. Some evidence that their views, rights and any constraints have been analysed and incorporated into the root cause analysis of the theory of change and the selection of project interventions.

☐ 1: No evidence of engagement with marginalized and excluded populations that will be involved in the project during project design. No evidence that the views, rights and constraints of populations have been incorporated into the project.

Evidence:

Two formal workshops and multiple bilateral meetings for project formulation. A special consultation meeting was held with SINAC.

20. Does the project have explicit plans for evaluation or other lesson learning (e.g. through After Action Reviews or Lessons Learned Workshops), timed to inform course corrections if needed during project implementation?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Evidence:

ProDoc Component 3: Knowledge management and M&E

21. The gender marker for all project outputs are scored at GEN2 or GEN3, indicating that gender has been fully mainstreamed into all project outputs at a minimum.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Evidence:

ProDoc, Annex K: Gender Action Plan

22. Is there a realistic multi-year work plan and budget to ensure outputs are delivered on time and within allotted resources? (select from options 1-3 that best reflects this project)

☐ 3: The project has a realistic work plan & budget covering the duration of the project at the activity level to ensure outputs are delivered on time and within the allotted resources.

☐ 2: The project has a work plan & budget covering the duration of the project at the output level.

☐ 1: The project does not yet have a work plan & budget covering the duration of the project.

Evidence:

ProDoc, Section XI: Total Budget and Work Plan

SUSTAINABILITY AND NATIONAL APPROPRIATION

23. Have national partners led, or proactively engaged in, the design of the project?

☐ 3: National partners have full ownership of the project and led the process of the development of the project jointly with UNDP.

☐ 2: The project has been developed by UNDP in close consultation with national partners.

☐ 1: The project has been developed by UNDP with limited or no engagement with national partners.

Evidence:

Two inter-institutional committees have been created specifically to engage partners in two intervention areas

24. Are key institutions and systems identified, and is there a strategy for strengthening specific/ comprehensive capacities based on capacity assessments conducted? (select from options 0-4 that best reflects this project):

☐ 3: The project has a comprehensive strategy for strengthening specific capacities of national institutions based on a systematic and detailed capacity assessment that has been completed. This strategy includes an approach to regularly monitor national capacities using clear indicators and rigorous methods of data collection, and adjust the strategy to strengthen national capacities accordingly.

☐ 2.5: A capacity assessment has been completed. The project document has identified activities that will be undertaken to strengthen capacity of national institutions, but these activities are not part of a comprehensive strategy to monitor and strengthen national capacities.

☐ 2: A capacity assessment is planned after the start of the project. There are plans to develop a strategy to strengthen specific capacities of national institutions based on the results of the capacity assessment.

☐ 1.5: There is mention in the project document of capacities of national institutions to be strengthened through the project, but no capacity assessments or specific strategy development are planned.

☐ 1: Capacity assessments have not been carried out and are not foreseen. There is no strategy for strengthening specific capacities of national institutions.

Evidence:

Project includes specific Outputs (ProDoc, Section V: Results and Partnerships) to strengthen specific capacities of national institutions

25. Is there is a clear strategy embedded in the project specifying how the project will use national systems (i.e., procurement, monitoring, evaluations, etc.,) to the extent possible?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Evidence:

ProDoc, Section V: Results and Partnerships

26. Is there a clear transition arrangement/ phase-out plan developed with key stakeholders in order to sustain or scale up results (including resource mobilisation strategy)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Evidence:

ANNEX H: UNDP RISK LOG

Project Risks					
Description	**Type**	**Impact and Probability**	**Mitigation Measures**	**Owner**	**Status**
A new political administration (to start in May 2018) may not be supportive of a system that monitors gain and loss of forest within private land.	Political	P = 2 I = 2	The project will invest in wide scale multi-sectoral and inter-institutional dialogue to ensure and share the benefits of the system for biodiversity, and for generating economic incentives for producers. This will aim to reduce potential opposition for a system that simply makes more effective government enforcement of existing regulations. Costa Rica has a small population and it is relatively easy to identify opinion makers from particular political spectrums. UNDP, the project unit and MINAE will make sure all potential political sectors and leaders understand the benefits of the MOCUPP for all governmental administrations.	UNDP	No change
The financial sustainability of new components of MOCUPP is not guaranteed at the end of the project.	Financial	P = 2 I = 3	The project incorporates a Financial Sustainability Strategy as an output (1.3). Thus, it will invest in convening all potential domestic funding options to ensure the long term financing of the components to be developed by CeNAT-PRIAS. The risk is low because, once operational, the system will generate savings to many institutions that require this kind of information for tax purposes, land planning, among other roles.	UNDP, MINAE	No change
Opposition from GIS and information technology (IT) departments of institutions to follow the SINIA mandate or to publish GIS maps through SNIT	Strategic / Institutional	P = 1 I = 2	The project will actively involve GIS and IT departments of relevant institutions to ensure that all parties understand the advantages of linking land tenancy records to environmental GIS information generated by these entities. The emphasis will be to explain that MOCUPP and SINIA do not replace the GIS work of different institutions with clearly defined mandates, but that it makes their work more effective for enforcing legislation.	UNDP, MINAE	No change
Opposition from vocal producers to have a free of loss in forest cover certification	Social/Financial	P = 2 I = 2	To gain support from producers, consultations were conducted during the PPG, and instead of a certification scheme the project will make use of a verification scheme, which is more in line with producers' needs and expectations. Dialogue and consultations with producers will continue during and benefits of a verification scheme will be further explained. The verification scheme will be design in a participatory	UNDP, MINAE	Reduced

			manner and will incorporate lessons learned from similar efforts in the country including the Green Commodities National Pineapple Platform, the UNREDD programs, and Essential Costa Rica Programme by the Foreign Trade Promotion Office which aims to differentiate products internationally.		
The project's outcomes may be sensitive and vulnerable to climate change	Environmental	P = 1 I = 3	The project will increase connectivity and strengthen ecosystem services in the prioritized landscapes in ACLA-P and MAIBC through the use of tools that promote sustainable production and land use, biodiversity conservation, enhanced carbon stocks, and reduce carbon emissions (avoided loss in forest cover) thereby reducing the vulnerability of the project's outcomes to climate change. With a goal of enhancing climate change resilience, the project will strengthen the capacity of public and private stakeholders at the local and subnational levels to develop improved response measures through planning tools (e.g., LMT), knowledge and information (e.g., MOCUPP), monitoring, and interinstitutional coordination and management.	UNDP, MINAE	No change
The Project activities proposed are within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park) and areas proposed for protection	Environmental	I = 1 P = 5	The work in environmentally sensitive areas entails choosing a project unit team with significant previous training on sustainable practices and also natural resource conflict management. In Costa Rica the communities living adjacent to projected areas have, in some places, tense relations with the Ministry of Environment staff, mostly because of their role enforcing biodiversity and forestry laws. The project team will make sure project interventions within ACLA-P and MAIBC are done in compliance with SESA standards and requirements. The specific provision to minimize risk will be to ensure that the Terms of Reference of these staff incorporate these competences and to keep the Project Board informed about of any potential conflicts.	UNDP, MINAE	No change

ANNEX I: RESULTS OF THE CAPACITY ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTING PARTNER AND HACT MICRO ASSESSMENT

The project will be implemented under DIM; thus, a capacity assessment of the project implementing partner is not required.

REPÚBLICA DE COSTA RICA
Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía
Despacho del Ministro

San José, 13 de Julio 2015
DM-618-2016

Señora
Alice H. Shackelford
Representante residente PNUD
Costa Rica
S.O.

14 JUL '16 PM 3:00

Estimada señora

Tengo el gusto de dirigirme a su representada para solicitar que el proyecto **"*Conservación de la biodiversidad a través de la gestión sostenible en los paisajes productivos en Costa Rica*"** sea implementado por PNUD por medio de una implementación directa (DIM).

Este proyecto es de alto interés para el Gobierno de la República. Específicamente, en el Plan nacional de Desarrollo se cita como objetivo principal del eje estratégico de trabajo sobre Ambiente, Energía y Mares y Ordenamiento Territorial: ***Fortalecer la conservación y el uso sostenible del patrimonio genético, natural y cultural, á partir de un ordenamiento territorial y marino basado en una participación concertada, que asegure el respeto, ejercicio y goce de los derechos humanos***. Para lograr este objetivo será fundamental la oportuna implementación de un proyecto que dote de herramientas y capacidad al Sistema Nacional de Información Ambiental (SINIA), especialmente en lo que respecta al monitoreo de cambio de uso de la tierra en paisajes productivos y el trabajo con las comunidades y organizaciones interurbanas que son el grupo meta del proyecto.

Asimismo, la Estrategia Nacional de Biodiversidad recientemente aprobada por el CONAC y la CONAGEBIO, identifica, bajo el tema estratégico 4, a los *Paisajes Sostenibles Inclusivos* como una prioridad intervención para integrar la biodiversidad en los sectores productivos y potenciar los servicios eco-sistémicos.

Por esta razón es de especial interés del MINAE que este proyecto sea ejecutado de la manera más efectiva posible. Nos parece que conformándose un comité de seguimiento con participación del MINAE y PNUD, y de instancias como IGN, SINAC, Corredor Biológico Interurbano del María Aguilar (CBIMA) y otras dependencias técnicas del Estado que manejan información ambiental, se podría garantizar que la visión del país oriente la implementación del proyecto.

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Si bien el MINAE cuenta con mucha experiencia en la implementación nacional de Proyectos GEF, consideramos que, para este caso específico, es mejor que se implemente mediante modalidad directa (DIM) por las siguientes razones:

1. Para lograr sus objetivos, el proyecto amerita de mucha coordinación inter-institucional ya que aborda temas no son rectoría exclusiva del MINAE. Por ejemplo: temas de publicación de información geo-ambiental a través del visor cartográfico de Sistema Nacional de Información Territorial (SNIT), que es una dependencia del Instituto Geográfica; el CBIMA que es representación público /privado. Por esta razón vemos más viable que PNUD, en su condición de agencia de cooperación y un rol neutral el país, sea la responsable de implementación para que esto facilite interacción de otras instituciones en el marco del proyecto.
2. El Centro Nacional de Información Geoambiental (CENIGA), la unidad de trabajo en el MINAE más afín al proyecto, está sobrecargada de trabajo y en proceso de fortalecimiento (uno de los objetivos del referido proyecto). Por lo anterior, es mejor que los funcionarios de esta unidad tengan un rol de supervisión estratégica y política del proyecto, y se ahorre la participación de nuestros funcionarios en la gestión administrativa diaria con procedimientos de PNUD, que son ajenos a los de contratación administrativa a los que estamos más acostumbrados.
3. El esquema propuesto de implementación directa por PNUD, pero con una estrecha coordinación con MINAE y otras instancias, es otra forma de fortalecer capacidades nacionales. Los funcionarios del MINAE asignados al proyecto podrán mejorar sus destrezas y conocimiento sobre administración de proyectos complejos y de cooperación internacional al ir conociendo sobre los procedimientos de implementación seguidos por los funcionarios de PNUD en el marco de esta cooperación.

Por todo lo anterior, aprovechando que el referido proyecto aún se encuentra en fase de formulación, solicitamos sea implementado bajo modalidad de Implementación Directa por PNUD (DIM) y bajo el liderazgo de un comité integrado para este propósito por el PNUD y MINAE.

Atentamente,

Dr. Edgar E. Gutiérrez Espeleta
MINISTRO

MINISTERIO DEL AMBIENTE Y ENERGIA * COSTA RICA *

CC: Sr. Rubén Muñoz, Punto Focal Operacional GEF Costa Rica, Director de Cooperación Internacional-MINAE

ANNEX K: GENDER ANALYSIS AND PROJECT GENDER MAINSTREAMING PLAN

Women play an essential role in the world and in the rural economy; their participation in the agricultural sector is vital, as they contribute to the eradication of poverty and hunger and the promotion of sustainable development. However, this contribution is limited by discrimination and inequality that affect women's lives and the agricultural sector, preventing equal control and access to resources and production services.

In Costa Rica, women are not valued equally and do not obtain fair economic or development benefits. Gender gaps for rural and peri-urban women are significant due to their limited access to markets, the disregard for domestic, community, and fieldwork, and the absence of fair opportunities for social and economic development and access to services and active participation in decision making.

Nevertheless, the UNDP, as an agency of the United Nations with the mandate of strengthening the institutionality of the Costa Rican State, and in compliance with the 2014-2017 Gender Equality Strategy – The Future We Want: rights and empowerment – to promote a vision of equality and inclusion in all areas of women's lives, will contribute to achieving this mandate through the project "Conservation of biodiversity through sustainable management in productive landscapes in Costa Rica," in which the existing gender gap for rural and periurban women will be reduced, taking into account the different factors that increase their vulnerability and exclusion from opportunity, and to encourage their empowerment in the Maria Aguilar Inter-Urban Biological Corridor (MAIBC) and the La Amistad Pacific Conservation Area (ACLA-P).

The project is aligned with the 2030 World Agenda for Sustainable Development as it recognizes the importance of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment to reach sustainable, inclusive, and resilient development: *"the achievement of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment will make a decisive contribution to progress with respect to all the objectives and goals. It is not possible to realize the entire human potential and to reach sustainable development if half the humankind keeps being denied the full enjoyment of their human rights and opportunities. (…) The systematic incorporation of a gender perspective in the implementation of the Agenda is crucial".*

As such, the project will contribute to women's empowerment by mainstreaming gender in activities in the MAIBC and the ACLA-P. To this end, the project design includes outputs and indicators that will ensure mainstreaming gender, promoting women's equality and their empowerment.

1. Gender equality and women's empowerment in Costa Rica: A permanent challenge

Costa Rica is one of the leading countries in Latin America in the implementation of legal (regulatory) and social (public policies) mechanisms for the advancement of the rights of women and girls; the Human Development Index (HDI) for women is 0.776 in Costa Rica, which ranks it 66th among the 188 nations assessed (World Report on Human Development, 2016). Countries are rated in five groups according to the degree of inequality; Costa Rica is placed in Group No. 2: *Average to high equality* in HDI achievements among women and men[25]. Nevertheless, formal or *de jure* equality has not yet reached real or *de facto* equality, which entails two complex issues. First, greater legal and social affirmative actions must be created, or special temporary measures that will close the gender gaps that affect women particularly in groups with vulnerability and exclusion. Second, transformation of the sociocultural, political, and economic conditions that continue to hinder equality for women in all scopes is imperative, with an important focus on the response of Costa Rican public institutions.

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), in its latest report for Costa Rica (2017/C/CRI/CO/7), establishes the main obstacles and challenges that remain in hindering women's equality. These include: 1) adopting special, temporary steps at the local level to approach forms of discrimination suffered by women in rural areas; 2) increasing the effective participation of rural women in the distribution of benefits from rural development projects and continuing to strengthen their participation in decision-making bodies that define land governance, particularly the steering committees of the Land Council for Rural Development; 3) strengthening measures to eliminate stereotyped gender roles and domestic inequality that affect rural women,

[25] World Report on Human Development, UNDP (2016)

and extending the "Rural women, rights and expressions of the land" Program, as well as skill-generating activities for rural women and ensuring rural women's access to appropriate agricultural technologies and mobile networks.

Although Costa Rica is a country with a high level of human development, women do not obtain the same economic benefits from national development. The gross national income (GNI) per capita is estimated at almost twice as much for men than for women ($18,000 USD versus $9,9000 USD). The Gender Inequality Index (GII-D) 26 for Costa Rica is 0.308, ranking the country 63rd among the 159 countries analyzed. Women's participation in the Costa Rican labor market is 46.8%, compared to 76.6% men's participation. According to the Global Gender Gap Index Report (2016), participatory and economic opportunities and the political empowerment of women in the main aspects of development, are the biggest challenges the country is facing:

Table 1. Global Gender Gap Index Report for Costa Rica

Description	Score	Ranking
Economic participation and opportunities	0.606	37
Educational achievement	1	High
Health and livelihood	0.975	High
Political empowerment	0.365	105
Gender Gap Index 2016	0.736	32

Source: http://www.camscat.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Resultados-CR_Indice-Brecha-Genero-2016-.pdf

For the municipalities of the ACLA-P (El Guarco, Paraíso, Jiménez, Pérez Zeledón, Buenos Aires, and Coto Brus) and the MAIBC (Alajuelita, San José, Curridabat, La Unión, and San Pedro), the Costa Rica County Atlas of Human Development (UNDP, 2016) indicates that gender inequality remains high. Women's material wealth and economic empowerment prevents quality human development, especially in the municipalities of the ACLA-P and the MAIBC. Factors such as income level, access to education and permanence in the educational system, especially at the middle school level, and access to employment affect women from the counties of Pérez Zeledón, Jiménez, Buenos Aires, Alajuelita, and Coto Brus, as shown in the following table:

Table 2. Costa Rica 2014 Gender Development Index (GDI)

	GDI 2014		
Municipality (MAIBC)	**2014**	**Municipality (ACLA-P)**	**2014**
San José	0.730	El Guarco	0.780
Alajuelita	0.651	Paraíso	0.749
Curridabat	0.754	Jiménez	0.681
La Unión	0.796	Pérez Zeledón	0.705
San Pedro	0.747	Buenos Aires	0.675
		Coto Brus	0.642

Adapted from the Costa Rica County Atlas of Human Development (UNDP, 2016)

2. **Production and land ownership of rural and peri-urban women: the highest inequality**

In Costa Rica, the possibilities of women being producers are low[27]. The municipalities with the highest number of women producers in the country are Talamanca (32.5%), Naranjo (27.3%), and San José (25.6%). Only 8.1% of individually held productive lands belong to women. In the municipalities of the ACLA-P, the percentages of women producers are low: El Guarco (10.0%), Paraíso (8.9%), Jiménez (13.2%), Pérez Zeledón (14.3%), Buenos Aires (13.0%), and Coto Brus (14.8%). In the municipalities of the MAIBC, except for San José which is high, as

[26] Reflects the disadvantages according to gender in three areas: reproductive health, empowerment, and the labor market. The index shows the loss in human development due to inequality comparing the achievements of women and men in those areas.

[27] VI National Agricultural and Livestock Census, INEC (2015)

indicated before, the percentage of women producers is also low: Alajuelita (17.9%), La Unión (15.4%), San Pedro (17.4%), and, Curridabat (0%; the percentage of men producers is 9%[28]).

It is important to bear in mind that statistics do not actually reflect the production and reproduction activities of women working the land, as mentioned previously. The data and analyses primarily correspond to domestic work and caring for the family and community. The actual work on the land and off the premises is not considered in the surveys conducted in Costa Rica since the inclusion of information about gender gaps in the agricultural sector is almost absent. Also, the production activities of women in the rural and peri-urban areas are usually not taken into account since agricultural production is an activity where it is believed that only men should participate.

Gaps are also observed in payment distribution. At the national level, women receive three times less the monetary compensation for their work than men. In the project's municipalities, the situation of women is more critical; for example, in the counties of El Guarco, Paraíso, La Unión, Alajuelita, Peréz Zeledón, Buenos Aires, and Coto Brus, the percentage distribution is approximately 80% men to 20% women who receive permanent payment for farm work. With regard to temporary work, only 15% of women are paid. In addition, 99.8% of the women who work without temporary remuneration at a farm are also responsible for domestic work:

Table 3. Additional work for unpaid temporary workers disaggregated by sex for 2014

	Work outside the farm		**Housework**	
County	**Men**	**Women**	**Men**	**Women**
San José	15	16	1	19
Alajuelita	36	22	2	41
Curridabat	7	4	-	3
La Unión	21	17	2	24
San Pedro	7	5	-	7
El Guarco	148	98	11	363
Paraíso	223	148	4	629
Jiménez	112	53	3	259
Pérez Zeledón	1,202	651	62	4,553
Buenos Aires	300	141	33	1,619
Coto Brus	339	334	29	1,719

Adapted from the VI National Agricultural and Livestock Census, INEC (2015)

Gender inequality is also observed in relation to land tenure in Costa Rica. In the project's municipalities, women are landholders in only approximately 10% of the cases, as shown in the following table:

Table 4. Landholding disaggregated by sex for 2014

	Total land	
County	**Men**	**Women**
San José	29	10
Alajuelita	67	17
Curridabat	9	-
La Unión	44	9
San Pedro	19	4
El Guarco	406	45
Paraíso	972	95
Jiménez	507	77

[28] Idem.

Pérez Zeledón	6.457	1.077
Buenos Aires	2.686	404
Coto Brus	2.676	466

Adapted from VI Censo Nacional Agropecuario, INEC (2015)

This unequal distribution of the land limits women's role in making agricultural decisions and creates institutional, social, and cultural obstacles that limit their rights to ownership and land use and control. Although there is legal recognition that men and women are entitled to own land, often women are not recognized as producers but only as helpers with secondary roles in rural production. This contrasts with the view of the Executive President of the National Institute for Women (INAMU) who indicates, "*women produce between 60 and 80% of the food in developing countries and constitute 43% of their agricultural labor; however, women's access to landholding in Costa Rica does not even reach a fifth of the total of farms owned by natural persons, and the participation of men as producers is around 5 times larger than that of women. Statistics that make visible and recognize the real contribution of women to the rural development of our country are needed*" [29].

However, rural and peri-urban women in Costa Rica have the following recognized rights for their use, control, and transfer of the land and their work as producers: a) Right to use: the right to use the land for recognized production activities, such as farming, herding, or harvesting, as well as to live on the land and to develop daily activities; b) Right to control: the right to make decisions about how the land is to be used, to obtain economic benefits, and to make decisions about its use; c) Right to transfer: the right to transfer the land and to assign the rights to use and to control.

3. Sexual division of labor: women's current conditions

In 2016 the wage difference between men and women in Costa Rica reached 59%, which means that if a man earns 100, a woman only earns 59 for the same work, and, in the majority of cases, the woman will have to work more hours. In 2008 the wage difference was 58.3% and in 2013 the difference was 59.9%. In addition, the percentage of women entrepreneurs (2%) is almost one-third smaller than that of men (5.2%) and paid economic activities are 76.6% male participation, compared with female participation at 46.8%.

Women's unemployment rate in Costa Rica as measured by the Unemployment Gender Gap (UGG) index of the Continuous Employment Poll of the National Institute of Statistics and Census shows that for the first quarter of 2017 women's unemployment rate was 39.9% higher than men's unemployment rate. Women's unemployment rate was higher in the Brunca region of the country (which includes the counties of Perez Zeledón, Coto Brus, and Buenos Aires) where the percentage reached 15.7% over men's unemployment in 2015[30].

Women's lower labor participation rate is a consequence of the fact that they have the largest share of reproductive, family responsibilities, and unpaid domestic work. 46.3% of employed women have an informal job, compared to 43.8% of the men[31], a situation that makes it harder for them to secure employment and to guarantee their labor rights; this is more often evident in peri-urban and rural women of the country due to the lack of job opportunities.

In addition, the characteristics of households reveal significant differences between those living in situations of poverty. In the country's households, female heads of household correspond to 43.3%. For households in situations of poverty disaggregated by gender, 20.4% is headed by men, while 25.7% is headed by women[32]. The percentage of female-headed households increased in almost all regions of the country during the period of 2010-2015, especially in the project's municipalities.

[29] Source: http://www.inamu.go.cr/mujeres-rurales-sica.
[30] Costa Rica: Regional Statistics 2010-2015, MIDEPLAN (2017).
[31] Continuous Employment Poll, INEC (2016-IV).
[32] Social Summary, State of the Nation Program (2016)

Table 6. Female-headed households (2010 and 2015)

Region/Municipality	2010	2015
Central *(San José, Alajuelita, Curridabat, La Unión, San Pedro, El Guarco, Paraíso, Jiménez)*	36.5%	37.7%
Brunca *(Pérez Zeledón, Buenos Aires, Coto Brus)*	32.0%	32.7%

Adapted from Costa Rica: 2010-2015 Regional Statistics, MIDEPLAN (2017)

4. Women and education

During the last decades, the women's educational levels have increased. Educational opportunities show an interesting evolution, since although there is a gender gap in completing secondary education, this gap favors women; 62% of women finish high school, compared with 54% of men. Women in Costa Rica have equal or higher levels of education from primary school up to higher levels with post-graduate studies compared to men, even in the municipalities of the ACLA-P and the MAIBC.

Greater access to education has increased the economic participation of women in the labor market. However, the net female participation rate in Costa Rica does not reach 50%, while the average for the Latin America and the Caribbean region is 66%.[33] In addition, women find informal, low-quality jobs, as explained in Section 3, since women are in charge of domestic work (e.g., washing, cleaning, and cooking) and are responsible for taking care of other people throughout their lives. This hinders their insertion into and sustained presence in the labor market. Jobs among men and women according to academic level is always higher for men than for women; only in the case of academic and scientific professions, which constitute one of the least employable sectors in the country, there is a similar number for women and men—however, there is still a lower percentage of women (49%).

According to the latest study performed by the Labor Condition of the Persons Graduated from Costa Rican Universities (2015), it is evident that in the different areas there is distribution per sex, with education (77.7%), health sciences (72%), and social sciences (69.2%) as the areas with a majority of women. In contrast, the areas of engineering (73.4%) and basic sciences (70%) show a majority of men. Only 3 of every 10 persons graduating in engineering and basic sciences are women.

5. Women's participation in politics

In Costa Rica, women have participated more actively as voters during the last two decades. This progress allowed the Supreme Court of Elections (TSE, according to its initials in Spanish) in 2009 to prepare an integral reform of the Electoral Code that incorporates the principles of equality, non-discrimination, and parity (50% women and 50% men) in party structures and in the roster for the positions of popular election (the latter with gender alternation), as well as definitions for the use of financial resources designated for training. [34]

According to TSE data, a higher percentage of women were registered to vote during the presidential elections of 2002, 2006, and 2010. For example, in 2010, 72.4% women voted compared to 65.8% men. With regard to women's participation in positions of political power, there was a significant increase in women appointed as ministers. During the last elections in 2014, the percentage of women who occupy these positions went from 22.2% during 2002-2006 period to 45% during the 2010-2014 period; however the percentage decreased to 38% during the 2014-2018 period. One reason why it was not possible to reach 40% is because the first place in the rosters for most parties that were able to position delegates were led by men and followed by women. Because

[33] Regional Human Development Report for Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP (2016)

[34] La Política de Paridad y Alternancia en la Ley Electoral de Costa Rica. Un avance en la garantía de la autonomía en la toma de decisiones de las mujeres, [Advance in safeguarding autonomy in women's decision making.] CEPAL (2012)

the multi-party system has affected the fragmentation of power, the number of parties that only reached one position per province increased, and hence women had lower probabilities of being elected.

Costa Rica was the first country of the region to promote affirmative action in municipal elections, starting with the application of gender equality in the 2010 municipal elections. Nevertheless, political participation in local governments still has serious gaps that must be overcome. It is common that men mostly occupy the position of mayor while women tend to be elected deputy mayors; for example, in 2010 71 male mayors were elected (87.7%) and only 10 female mayors (12.3%)[35] were elected. During the same period, the ratio of deputy mayors per sex were reverted because of the Law of Parity that was approved in 2009, where 87% of women occupied these positions. With regard to positions on municipal councils, 39% of these positions were occupied by women and 61% by men[36]. For the elections of 2016, only 11 women were appointed as mayors, which corresponds to 13.5% of all municipalities in the country. This number barely exceeds the one reached in 2010, where women occupied only 12.3% of the mayoral positions, compared to 87.7% by men.

Although advances in political representation of women are significant, in local governments, particularly for the municipalities of the ACLA-P and of the majority of the MAICB (except for San Pedro), women continue to be relegated to secondary positions for political and decision-making participation.

6. Gender Regulatory Framework

Costa Rica is a leading country in the adoption of the international regulatory framework on the rights that affect the position and life conditions of women and girls. This has entailed the creation of special measures to eliminate gender gaps and discrimination against girls and women, among them are the following: Law of Social Promotion of Women's Equality, Law for the Creation of the National Institute for Women, Law Against Domestic Violence, Law on Penalization of Violence Against Women, Law on Alimony, Reform of the Law Against Sexual Harassment in the workplace and in teaching environments, the general Law of Protection of Adolescent Mothers and its regulation, Law against sexual exploitation of minors, Law on Care of Women in Conditions of Poverty and its regulation, Law on Improper Relations with Persons under 18 years of age, National Plan for Management and Prevention of Family Violence (PLANOVI), and the National Policy of Gender Equality and Equity 2007-2017 (PIEG), which is considered to be the primary benchmark to ensuring progress for women as regards social policy.

It should be mentioned that the 2010-2021 State Policy for the Agriculture and Food Sector and Rural Costa Rican Development establishes in its guiding framework the principle of inclusion with equity, which refers to the wide access of persons and social groups to resources and services without distinction of ethnicity, gender, or creed that will be implemented by said policy. This is fundamental, since affirmative measures are beginning to be established in order to guarantee the development of rural and peri-urban women in the country.

Likewise, the signing of the National Agreement for the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals acknowledges the importance of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment to reach a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient development: "*the attainment of equality between genders and women's and girls' empowerment will be a decisive contribution to progress with regard to all the objectives and goals. It is not possible to realize the entire human potential and to reach sustainable development if half of humankind keeps being denied the full enjoyment of their human rights and opportunities.* (…) *The systematical incorporation of a gender perspective in the implementation of the Agenda is crucial*". Thus, the achievement of the 17 goals is only possible with the actual incorporation of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment, which becomes a challenge for the country.

Finally, for rural and peri-urban women of Costa Rica the following challenges remain: a) elimination of discrimination against women in the rural zones; b) development of statistics of the problems faced by women and workers in the agricultural sector; c) participation in the design and implementation of development plans at all levels; d) access to credit and financing for production activities related to the agricultural and food sector; e) access to production and commercialization support services; and f) participation in all community activities.

[35] Second State of Women's Rights, INAMU (2015)
[36] Source: http://www.inamu.go.cr/campana-participacion-politica

7. Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan

Component	Activities	Indicators	Period of implementation
Component 1: Favorable enabling conditions (policies, technologies, markets and finance) for delivering multiple global environmental benefits in managed production landscapes and interurban biological corridors	Strengthening the mainstreaming of gender in all the stages of the project.	– An integral baseline study on the situation of periurban and rural women in the MAIBC and the ACLA-P, which includes: educational level, income, landholding and access to lands (with emphasis on production units free of loss of forest cover), decision-making positions, head-of-household role, active participation in productive and environmental conservation activities, and participation in the markets and distribution of the benefits. – Defined gender criteria in the annual assessment of results to certify the equal participation of women and gender mainstreaming in the project. – A strategy of permanent monitoring to guarantee mainstreaming of gender in all the stages of the project. – Selection of technical personnel that will take part in the project respecting the criteria of parity in the hiring process.	2018-2023
	Strengthening institutional capacities in the institutions that constitute the National System of Use Change Monitoring in Productive Landscapes (MOCUPP).	– Technical training on gender perspective in sustainable development oriented to strategic personnel in the institutions that make up the MOCUPP. – Information about landholding distributed by sex in all the systems of National information of Territorial Information (SNIT). – A training module on gender equality, women's empowerment, and groups in situations of vulnerability and exclusion in sustainable development for government personnel (MINAE, Ministry of Health, CENIGA, and INVU), authorities of 5 municipalities in the ACLA-P and authorities of 5 municipalities of the MAIBC, judicial officials, and men and women of the private sector, as part of the SNIT/MOCUPP training.	2018-2020

	Strengthening the effective participation of women and groups in situations of vulnerability in all aspects of decision-making.	– At least 40% of peri-urban and rural women, women's organizations, and community organizations directed by women will actively take part in biodiversity conservation activities and sustainable land and forest management in sustainable productive landscapes and interurban biological corridors. – At least 50 % of the agricultural production units, pineapple, and grasslands verified as free of loss of forest cover belong to women and groups in situations of vulnerability.	2018-2023
Component 2: Multiple global environmental benefits (biodiversity conservation, reduced carbon emissions and increased carbon storage) are delivered in production landscapes in the ACLA-P buffer zone forest zone (Region 1) and in the MAIBC (Region 2)	<u>Region 1: ACLA-P</u> Developing mechanisms to promote the reduction of social and economic gaps of women and groups in situations of vulnerability through their participation and empowerment.	– At least 50% of local conservation committees (COL-ACLA-P) led by women. – A module on gender and environmental education in the environmental education program directed by SINAC for economic and social stakeholders associated with biodiversity and the conservation of forests in the production landscapes. – A committee of trainers in the participatory environmental monitoring projects, so that at least 50% of the women will be in charge of managing and implementing monitoring and control actions. – At least 50% of the 60 sustainable social-productive community initiatives executed in the ACLA-P will include women, contributing to their economic empowerment. – Technical training for participating women and men for the implementation of socio-productive community initiatives with a gender perspective for environmental sustainability and equal distribution of economic benefits. – Technical training on gender perspective for the people managing the nurseries that promote the empowerment of the women who are a part of them. – A training program on gender perspective in sustainable development for the people who would benefit from activities in the ACLA-P.	2018-2023

	Region 2: MAIBC Developing mechanisms to promote the reduction of social and economic gaps of women and groups in situations of vulnerability through their participation and empowerment.	– Technical training on gender perspective for nursery staff, which will promote the empowerment of the women who are a part of them. – Active participation of women in the development of protocols for interinstitutional coordination to address issues related to discharges, elimination of solid wastes, and illegal constructions on the banks of the María Aguilar River. – 50% of the eight nurseries established to support the LMTs are operated by women. – Active participation of women in the planting of 16,000 individuals of endemic and native species of trees and shrubs in the MAIBC. – An awareness-raising strategy of gender as part of environmental education activities directed to multiple segments of the population in the five counties of the MAIBC. – A training program on gender perspective in sustainable development for the people who would benefit from activities in the MAIBC.	2018-2020
Component 3: Knowledge Management and Monitoring and Evaluation	Strengthening knowledge and best practices for mainstreaming gender in project activities.	– A document with the systematization of the experiences and lessons learned about gender equality and women's empowerment in the areas of ACLA-P and MAIBC.	2018-2023

ANNEX L: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

The formulation of the stakeholder participation plan has the following objectives: a) to clearly identify the basic roles and responsibilities of the main participants in this Project; b) to ensure full knowledge of those involved concerning the progress and obstacles in project development and to take advantage of the experience and skills of the participants to enhance project activities; and c) to identify key instances in the project cycle where stakeholder involvement will occur. The ultimate purpose of the stakeholder participation plan will be the long-term sustainability of the project achievements, based on transparency and the effective participation of the key stakeholders.

Participation mechanisms:

Information dissemination, consultation, and similar activities that took place during the PPG

During the PPG phase of the project, key stakeholders participated in planning and project design workshops and multiple smaller focus group sessions and meetings. These participatory forums include: a) PPG phase inception workshop; b) project Results Framework Workshop; and c) multiple individual meetings and consultations with key national and local stakeholders held by the project team, UNDP Country Office in Costa Rica, and staff from the MINAE.

The Results Framework Workshop was held on September 27, 2016 in in San José de Costa Rica, Costa Rica. The objectives of this workshop were to: a) define the Results Framework, including the revised project outputs, indicators, baseline information, goals, verification mechanisms, and assumptions; and to update the PPG phase Work Plan.

Throughout project development, close contact was maintained with the national and local stakeholders. National institutions and key donor agencies were directly involved in the development of the project. Numerous consultations occurred with multiple stakeholders to discuss the various aspects of project design, and consultations with co-financing institutions were conducted to ensure a complete package of signed cofinancing letters that will contribute to conserving biodiversity through sustainable management in production landscapes in Costa Rica.

Approach to stakeholder participation

The project's approach for stakeholder involvement and participation is based on the principles outlined in the following table.

Principle	**Stakeholder participation will:**
Adding Value	Be an essential means of adding value to the project.
Inclusivity	Include all relevant stakeholders.
Accessibility and Access	Be accessible and promote access to the process.
Transparency	Be based on transparency and fair access to information.
Fairness	Ensure that all stakeholders are treated in a fair and unbiased way.
Accountability	Be based on a commitment to accountability by all stakeholders.
Constructive	Seek to manage conflict and promote the public interest.
Redressing	Seek to redress inequity and injustice.
Capacitating	Seek to develop the capacity of all stakeholders.
Needs-Based	Be based on the needs of all stakeholders.
Flexible	Be designed and implemented in a flexible manner.
Rational and Coordinated	Be rationally planned and coordinated, rather than ad hoc.
Excellence	Be subject to ongoing reflection and improvement.

Stakeholder involvement plan

The project's design incorporates several features to ensure ongoing and effective stakeholder participation in its implementation. The mechanisms to facilitate the involvement and active participation of different stakeholders in project implementation will comprise a number of different elements:

a) Project inception workshop to enable stakeholder awareness of the start of project implementation

The project will be launched by a multi-stakeholder workshop. This workshop will provide an opportunity to provide all stakeholders with the most updated information on the project and the project work plan. It will also establish a basis for further consultation as the project's implementation begins.

b) Formation of Project Steering Committee to ensure representation of stakeholder interests in project

A Project Committee will be formed to ensure broad representation of all key interests throughout the project's implementation. The representation and broad terms of reference of the Project Board are further described in Section IX (Governance and Management Arrangements) of this Project Document.

c) Establishment of a PCU to oversee stakeholder engagement processes during project

The PCU will take direct operational and administrative responsibility for facilitating stakeholder involvement and ensuring increased local ownership of the project and its results. The PCU will be located in the UNDP Country Office in San José de Costa Rica, Costa Rica and led by a Project Manager who will ensure stakeholder engagement at the local level, including the participation of municipal authorities, CSOs, private landowners, small and medium producers, and women's organizations and individuals.

d) Project communications to facilitate ongoing awareness of the project

A Communications Expert will provide project support to ensure that all stakeholders aware of the project and its management. This will include dialogue and communication at the local level to promote the reduction of forest cover loss in ACLA-P and of pollution, illegal construction, and changes in land use in the MAIBC, and building awareness about transparency in project management.

Component 3 will allow the gathering and sharing of lessons learned in a systematic and efficient manner, with special emphasis on the development and dissemination of knowledge, facilitating communication for ongoing awareness of the project.

e) Direct involvement of stakeholders in project implementation

The direct involvement of the national, subnational, and local stakeholders in project implementation, including capacity-building is described below.

Stakeholder	Role and Participation Mechanism	Component
Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE), Office of the Minister and Vice Ministers	MINAE is the GEF Focal Point and ruling institution for natural resources in Costa Rica, with the exception of forestry issues, wildlife, and PAs (responsibility of SINAC). MINAE will have direct interaction with the National Director of the Project to ensure the implementation of the project. The Chief of the International Cooperation Office will convene on behalf of the MINAE for close coordination and to inform the Minister and Vice Ministers of the process to convene different mechanisms to provide information through the SNIT. This will make the response from institutions more effective.	C1, C2
National Center for Geo-environmental Information (CENIGA)	CENIGA is coordinates the SINIA it will chair the Technical Committee No. 1 of the project and will be directly responsible for the supervision and implementation of he MOCUPP following the guidelines of the SIMOCUTE. Will play a key role in the implementation of planning activities at the subnational level as well as in the field, in particular regarding the activities related to the SINIA and information management (SNIT).	C1
Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG)	MAG is the lead institution of the agricultural sector; it will guide the development of an institutional framework to ensure sustainable production in agriculture and livestock. The MAG will appoint a focal point within the Technical Committee No. 2 and will provide assistance regarding with	C2

	compliance with the Livestock NAMA Program by producers who will benefit from socio-productive community initiatives.	
Livestock Corporation (CORFOGA)	Aa non-state public entity, created by Law No. 7837, which aims to promote cattle ranching in Costa Rica. Will contribute to the implementation for socio-productive community initiatives/LMTs related to sustainable livestock issues in ACLA-P. CORFOGA will be a member of the Technical Committee No. 2 of the project.	C2
National High Technology Center – Airborne Research and Remote-sensing Program (CeNAT-PRIAS)	CeNAT is the scientific program of the Council of State Universities (CENARE), which hosts the PRIAS Laboratory. The PRIAS Laboratory is dedicated to the acquisition, processing, storage, analysis, representation and dissemination of spation information; it promotes scientific research through dissemination of geospatial data and academic exchange among universities and other specialized institutions at the international level. CeNAT-PRIAS will serve as implementing partner and deliver project services in the form of baseline studies and annual maps for gains and losses of forest cover within production landscapes and urban biological corridors. PRIAS will have a seat in the Technical Committee No. 1 of the project.	C1, C2
National Geographic Institute (IGN)	IGN has the mandate to administer the SINIA. It will be responsible for the continuous updating of the SNIT web-tool/map viewer and will provide support for the development of communication strategy to inform stakeholders about the services being provided related top the MOCUPP. The IGN will form part of the Project Technical Committee.	C1, C2
National Registry (DRI)	DRI has the mandate to administer SIRI; it will play a key role in updating land tenancy registries in ACLA-P and MAIBC, and as such is a direct beneficiary of project implementation. DRI will name a focal point for the Technical Committee No. 1 of the project.	C1, C2
National Forestry Financing Fund (FONAFIFO)	FONAFIFO executes the country's Payment for Environmental Services Program. FONAFIFO has provided investments to develop the baseline of the project, such as the baseline study of total cover area of pineapple production in 2015. FONAFIFO will participate in the development of verification standards considering the Forestry Law. FONAFIFO will include the monitoring of gain and loss of forest cover within production landscapes into the National REDD strategy. Therefore, participation of FONAFIFO in the Technical Committee No. 2 of the project will add value to previous investments in the project and will avoid duplication with other investments related to incentives for sustainable production.	C1, C2
National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC)	SINAC is a fully decentralized government institution of MINAE charged with the administration of all public protected areas in the country and with the management of forestry and wildlife both within and outside of protected areas. SINAC, among others, is responsible for the fulfillment of the Forestry Law; in order to guarantee the protection of the forests and offer economic incentives to avoid the loss of forest cover. For this project, SINAC will name a focal point in the Technical Committee No. 2 (ACLA-P) and Technical Committee No. 3 (MAIBC) of the project. In addition, it will be a member of the Project Board. This will entail its direct participation in evaluation committees and regular meetings pertaining the different project outcomes.	C1, C2
Agricultural production sector	Industry members, including women, will be the beneficiaries of innovative sustainable practices aimed at increasing their eco-competitiveness. In particular, the project will liaise with chambers of agricultural and livestock commodities producers, such as the government-led Sustainable Pineapple Initiative, CANAPEP (pineapple exporters), and CORFOGA (livestock producers). Farmers will be beneficiaries of free of loss in forest cover	C2

	recognition by MINAE and will receive technical support for the establishment of agreements and/or contracts with international buyers for the purchase of verified products.	
Local Committee of the MAIBC	This committee will form part of the Technical Committee No. 1 of the project and will be a member to the Project Board (i.e., MAIBC Institutional Coordinator); this committee is composed of representatives of national government institutions that will coordinate actions for the MAIBC. The MAIBC Institutional Coordinator will to support reforestation and restoration actions, among others, will also establish strategic partnerships and platforms for coordination with other institutions.	C2
CSOs, including women's groups, and NGOs	Within the ACLA-P area of intervention, the beneficiaries will be farmer's organizations (especially pineapple, cattle, and palm oil producers who will be engaged, informed, trained, and consulted on issues concerning the prevention and control of vegetation/forest loss); small and medium producers identified for innovative sustainable management practices, including the implementation of LMT. Within the MAIBC, will participate in environmental assessments and delimitation of protection zones, the implementation of LMT, and reforestation and rehabilitation activities on riverbanks and other ecologically sensitive areas.	C2
National Directorate of Water Resources, MINAE	The National Directorate of Water Resources is charged with managing the National Information System for Integrated Water Management (SINGIRH). This is an information system that collects and shares databases of institutions generating water-related information (wells, catchment area protection sites, aqueducts, etc.). In this capacity the Directorate will provide co-financing resources and form part of the Technical Committee.	C1, C2
National Institute of Housing and Urban Development (INVU)	Public agency responsible for executing the policies and plans in terms of land management and territorial development at the national level, including favoring the growth and urban development of the Costa Rican territories with criteria of environmental sustainability and social responsibility. It will contribute to the delimitation of protection zones in MAIBC in compliance with Article 33 of the Forestry Law; promote interinstitutional to address issues related to discharges, elimination of solid wastes, illegal construction, and changes in land use on the banks of the María Aguilar River; and will benefit from project training activities. Will form part of the Technical Committee No. 3 of the project.	C2
Institute of Aqueducts and Sewers of Costa Rica (AyA)	AyA is the national public institution in charge of providing technical and financial assistance towards improving water management in rural and urban areas. It will provide information about rural aqueducts and water catchment protection zones to the SNIT as part of its role within SINIGIRH; promote interinstitutional to address issues related to discharges, elimination of solid wastes, illegal construction, and changes in land use on the banks of the María Aguilar River; and will benefit from project training activities. Will form part of the Technical Committee No. 3 of the project.	C2
National Institute of Women (INAMU)	INAMU is the lead institution that promotes gender equality as a cross-cutting issue in national and subregional planning, policies, and strategies. It will be approached to provide technical support and build capacities of ACLA-P and MAIBC stakeholders for mainstreaming gender issues in sustainable landscape management measures and decision-making.	C2

UNDP Green Commodities Programme	UNDP launched the Green Commodities Programme in 2009. The Programme manages a global portfolio of national-level commodity- focused programmes and platforms, in key commodity producing countries, that remove barriers and institutionalize systemic approaches and resources for scaling up the production of sustainable commodities This programme will provide international corporate engagement services, under supervision of the Project Committee, to help position agricultural production from free of loss of forest cover production units in the ACLA-P.	C1
UNDP	UNDP will serve as the GEF Implementing Agency. It will provide technical and administrative support, management tools, and practical and theoretical knowledge to the implementing agencies so that the project is implemented effectively and within the foreseen timeframe.	C1, C2, C3

ANNEX M: SUMMARY OF CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTUAL SERVICES FINANCED BY THE PROJECT FOR THE FIRST TWO YEARS

Type of Consultant	Position / Titles	$/Person month	Estimated Person months	Tasks, Deliverables and Qualifications
National Consultant	Gender Expert	$10,000/year	Years 1 and 2	**Tasks:** Support and monitoring of gender mainstreaming (Gender Mainstreaming Plan) **Key Deliverables:** Periodic documents with gender mainstreaming and assessment of indicators as established in the Gender Mainstreaming Plan **Expertise & Qualifications:** An academic degree in social or environmental studies with emphasis in gender issues; At least 3 years of working experience in environmental issues
National Consultant	Communications Expert	$20,000/year	Year 2	**Tasks:** Document, systematize, and disseminate lessons learned and project best practices **Key Deliverables:** Periodic documents with lessons learned and project best practices **Expertise & Qualifications:** An academic degree in communications or related fields; At least 3 years of working experience in environmental issues
Contractual Services	Project Coordinator	$5,200/ month	24 months	**Tasks:** Lead the PCU and will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project activities and the delivery of its outputs. Support the Project Committee and coordinate the activities of all partners, staff, and consultants as they relate to the implementation of the project. **Key Deliverables:** Prepare detailed work plan and budget; ToR and action plan of the staff and monitoring reports; quarterly reports and financial reports on the consultant's activities, all stakeholders' work, and progress; Prepare yearly PIRs/APRs; Adaptive management of project **Expertise & Qualifications:** A graduate academic degree in areas relevant to the project (e.g., SFM, SLM, and biodiversity conservation); Minimum 5 years of experience in environmental project management
Contractual Services	Monitoring and evaluation specialist	$4,500/ month	24 months	**Tasks:** Project M&E (including monitoring of indicators in the PRF), and knowledge management **Key Deliverables:** Periodic documents with Project M&E results; knowledge management reports **Expertise & Qualifications:** An academic degree in areas relevant to the project (e.g., SFM, SLM, and biodiversity conservation); At least 3 years of working experience in project M&E including assessing indicators of project impact
Contractual Services	Finance Assistant	$2,300/ month	24 months	**Tasks:** Responsible for the financial and administrative management of the project activities and assists in the preparation of quarterly and annual work plans and progress reports for review and monitoring by UNDP **Key Deliverables:** Planning, preparation, revisions, and budget execution documents; Contracts of national / local consultants and all project staff, in accordance with the instructions of the UNDP Contract Office; Quarterly and yearly project progress reports concerning financial issues **Expertise & Qualifications:** An academic degree in finance, business sciences, or related fields; at least 3 years of

				working experience in the financial management of development projects

ANNEX N: TARGET LANDSCAPE PROFILE

Biological importance of the ACLA-P and the MAIBC

The wide variety of habitats, altitude, climates, and soil types in the ACLA-P and the MAIBC give rise to rich biodiversity of the areas. These areas are considered important sites of regional biodiversity. Although there are few inventories or studies monitoring the biological diversity, the analyses carried out during the PPG indicate that there are at least 126 species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and plants (trees and bushes) that are important due to their endemism, vulnerability, and their ecological, tourism, or commercial value. Among these, 35 species are considered threatened—including felines (*Panthera onca*, *Puma concolor*, *Puma yagouaroundi*, *Leopardus pardalis*, *Leopardus wiedii*, and *Leopardus tigrina*), the tapir (*Tapirus bairdii*), primates (*Ateles geoffroyi*, *Alouatta palliata*, and *Cebus capucinus*), the great tinamu (*Tinamus major*), the crested guan (*Penelope purpurascens*), the great curassow (*Crax rubra*), the black guan (*Chamaepetes unicolor*), the musurana snake (*Clelia clelia*), the Talamanca rocket frog (*Allobates talamancae*), the grass pine (*Podocarpus macrostachyus*), the "ron ron" (*Astronium graveolens*), oak trees (*Quercus* spp.), laurel trees (*Cordia spp*.), and the sweet cedar (*Cedrela tonduzzi*).

There are 108 species identified in the MAIBC as endemic, threatened, and of ecological, touristic, or commercial value. Six of these species are threatened: Hoffmann's two-toed sloth (*Choloepus hoffmanii*), Finsch's parakeet (*Aratinga finschi*), orange-chinned parakeet (*Brotogeris jugularis*), the boa (*Boa constrictor*), the oak (*Quercus costaricensis*), and the bitter cedar (*Cedrela odorata*).

La Amistad Pacífico Conservation Area (ACLA-P)

Social and demographic characteristics

The region of the project covers 5,391.3 square kilometers (km^2) and has a population of 260,024, which equates to a population density of 95 inhabitants per km^2. The population is distributed into four political/administrative units (or cantons) (see Table 1).

Table 1. Cantons, area, population, and population density.

Canton	Area (km^2)	Population	Density
Pérez Zeledón	1,905.5	134,534	71
El Guarco	167.7	41,793	249
Buenos Aires	2,384.2	45,244	19
Coto Brus	933.9	38,.453	41
Total	**5,391.3**	**260,024**	**95.0**

Source: National Institute of Statistics and Censuses. 2011. 10th National Census and Population and Sixth Housing Survey.

96.4% of the study area's population is literate, and the average number of years attending school is 7. 50.7% of the region's population is considered rural and 49.2% is urban. Social development, as measured by the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy's Social Development Index (SDI), indicates that the project region has an SDI of 39.2, which indicates that the study area has a very low level of relative development; the distribution of the SDI per canton is presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Social development index (SDI) by canton.

Canton	SDI	Ranking	Level of Relative Development
Pérez Zeledón	50,6	47	Low
El Guarco	61	30	Medium
Buenos Aires	16,1	79	Very Low
Coto Brus	29.3	68	Very Low
Total	**39.25**	**56.0**	**Very Low**

Source: Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy. 2013. Social Development Index.

Social and economic characteristics

The region's population distribution by economic activity is as follows (according to the definition by the Department of National Accounts of the Costa Rica Central Bank; see Table 3):

1) Sector I corresponds to the "economic sector comprising activities related to the transformation of raw materials into primary products. The principal activities of Sector I are agriculture, mining, cattle ranching, silviculture, beekeeping, aquaculture, hunting, and fishing," with 33.7%.
2) Sector II comprises the "economic sector that transforms raw materials extracted or produced in Sector I to create consumer goods and equipment. It comprises the following activities: artisanal, industrial/manufacturing, goods and production industry, and consumer goods," with 14.8% of the population.
3) Sector III corresponds to the "economic sector that is not dedicated to producing goods, but rather is charged with providing services to satisfy the needs of the population," with 51.5% of the total.

Table 3. Percentage of population per economic sector.

Canton	Sector I	Sector II	Sector III
Pérez Zeledón	26.5	13.3	60.2
El Guarco	12.1	28.7	59.1
Buenos Aires	54.4	8.3	37.3
Coto Brus	41.9	8.9	49.2
Average	**33.7**	**14.8**	**51.5**

Source: State of the Nation and ICEN. 2012. Canton indicators. National Population and Housing Census, 2000 and 2011.

The most predominant economic activities in ACLA-P are cattle ranching and agriculture; there are 15,295 farms covering a total area of 279,461 hectares (Figure 1). The land use types of ACLA-P are characterized by a high percentage of grasslands and a significant percentage of forests, followed by large-scale permanent areas of cultivation and areas of small-scale cultivation (Table 4 and Figure 1).

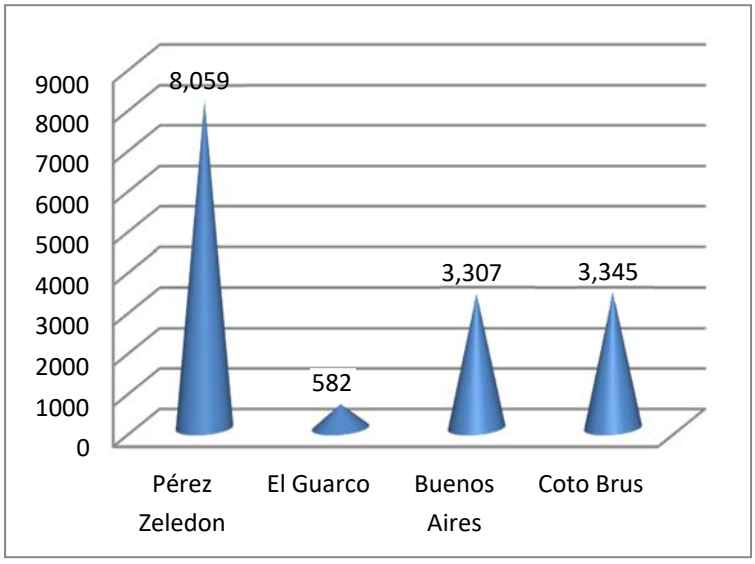

Figure 1. Distribution of farms per canton.

Table 4. Land use types per canton.

	Pérez Zeledón	El Guarco	Buenos Aires	Coto Brus	Total	%
Grasslands	38,396	1,374.6	58,469.2	20,199.5	118,439.3	43
Forests	32,654.6	883	40,319.6	19,661.8	93,519	33

Large-scale cultivated land	19,600.1	606.7	1,0599.9	8,877.5	39,684.2	14
Small-scale cultivated land	4,463.8	566.2	15,055.7	2,508.5	22,594.2	8
Others	2,159.6	55.6	2,149.8	857.4	5,222.4	2
Total	**97,274.1**	**3,486.1**	**126,594.2**	**52,104.7**	**279,459.1**	**100**

Source: ICEN (2014). VI National Agricultural Census.

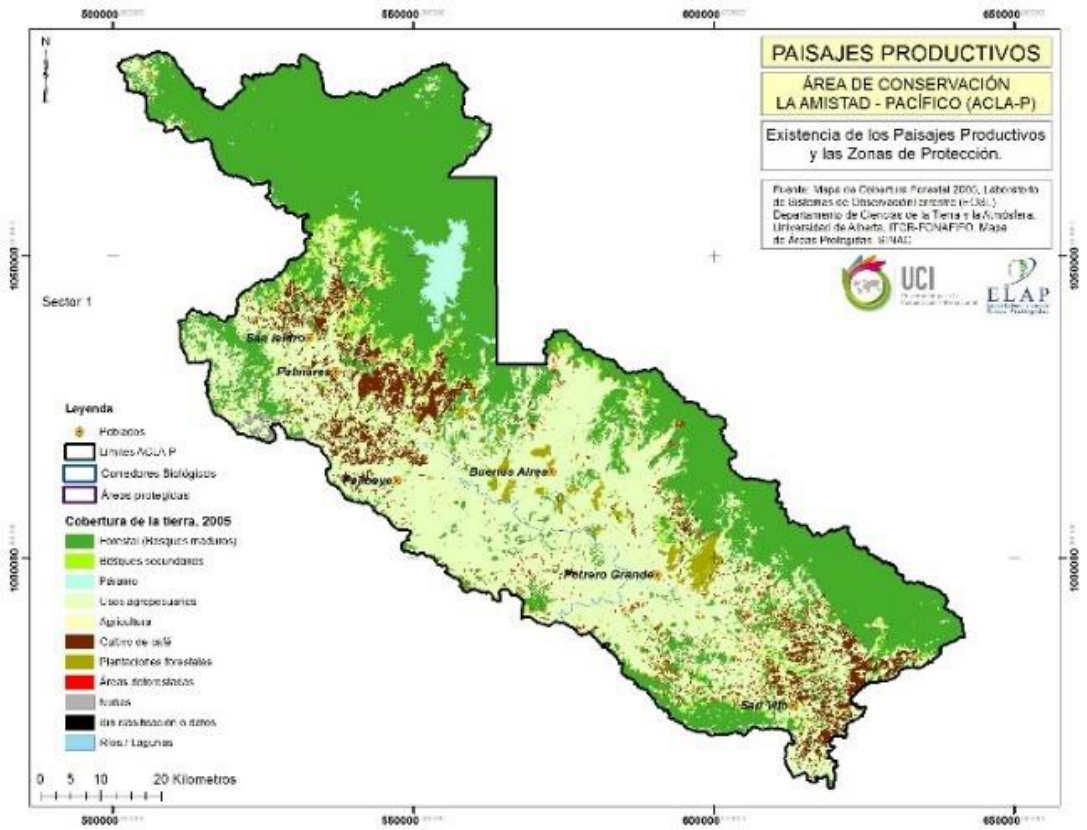

Figure 1 - Land use types of ACLA-P.

The majority of the population in the ACLA-P comprises small- and medium-scale producers whose income depends primarily on their agricultural activities. A total of 14,217 of these producers have been identified in the region, 86.5% of whom are men and 13.5% are women (Table 5).

Table 5. Agricultural producers (%) disaggregated according to sex.

Canton	Men	Women
Pérez Zeledón	85	15
El Guarco	90	10
Buenos Aires	86	14
Coto Brus	85	15
Total	**86.5**	**13.5**

María Aguilar River Interurban Biological Corridor (MAIBC)

Social and demographic characteristics

The MAIBC covers a total area of 141.7 km2 and has a population of 579,394; the population density is 3,933.6 per

km². The population of the MAIBC is distributed over three political-administrative units or cantons (Table 6).

Table 6. Cantons, area, population, and population density.

Canton	Area (km^2)	Population	Density
La Unión	44.8	99,399	2,217
Curridabat	15.9	65,206	4,088
Montes de Oca	15.2	49,132	3,241
San José	44.6	288,054	6,456
Alajuelita	21.2	77,603	3,666

Source: National Institute of Statistics and Censuses. 2011. 10th National Census and Population and Sixth Housing Survey.

The population distribution according to sex is 47.2% men and 52.8% women. The population of the MAIBC is 98.9% literate, with an average of 10.1 years of formal schooling; 99.2% of the population is urban, with just 0.8% rural. The level of social development as measured by the SDI shows that the MAIBC has an average SDI value of 76.4, which places the study area at a relatively high level of development (the range of this level is between 72.5 and 100). The SDI values distributed per cantons are shown in Table 7.

Table 7. Social development index (SDI) per canton.

Canton	SDI	Position	Relative Level of Development
Montes de Oca	96.5	3	High
Curridabat	81.8	9	High
San José	75.5	15	High
La Unión	68.6	22	Medium
Alajuelita	59.4	35	Low
Montes de Oca	96.5	3	High

Source: Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy. 2013. Social Development Index.

Social and economic characteristics

The region's population distribution by economic activity is as follows:

1. Sector I corresponds to the "economic sector comprising activities related to the transformation of raw materials into primary products. The principal activities of Sector I are agriculture, mining, cattle ranching, silviculture, beekeeping, aquaculture, hunting, and fishing," with 1%.
2. Sector II comprises the "economic sector that transforms raw materials extracted or produced in Sector I to create consumer goods and equipment. It comprises the following activities: artisanal, industrial/manufacturing, goods and production industry, and consumer goods," with 18% of the population.
3. Sector III corresponds to the "economic sector that is not dedicated to producing goods, but rather is charged with providing services to satisfy the needs of the population," with 81% of the total.

The distribution of the canton populations across sectors is shown in the following table.

Table 8. Canton populations per economic sector.

Canton	Sector I	Sector II	Sector III
La Unión	1.8	20.1	78.1
Curridabat	1.3	17.5	81.2
Montes de Oca	1.2	12.4	86.5

San José	0.6	18.9	80.4
Alajuelita	0.7	22.6	76.6

Source: State of the Nation and ICEN. 2012. Canton indicators. National Population and Housing Census, 2000 and 2011. San José and Cartago.

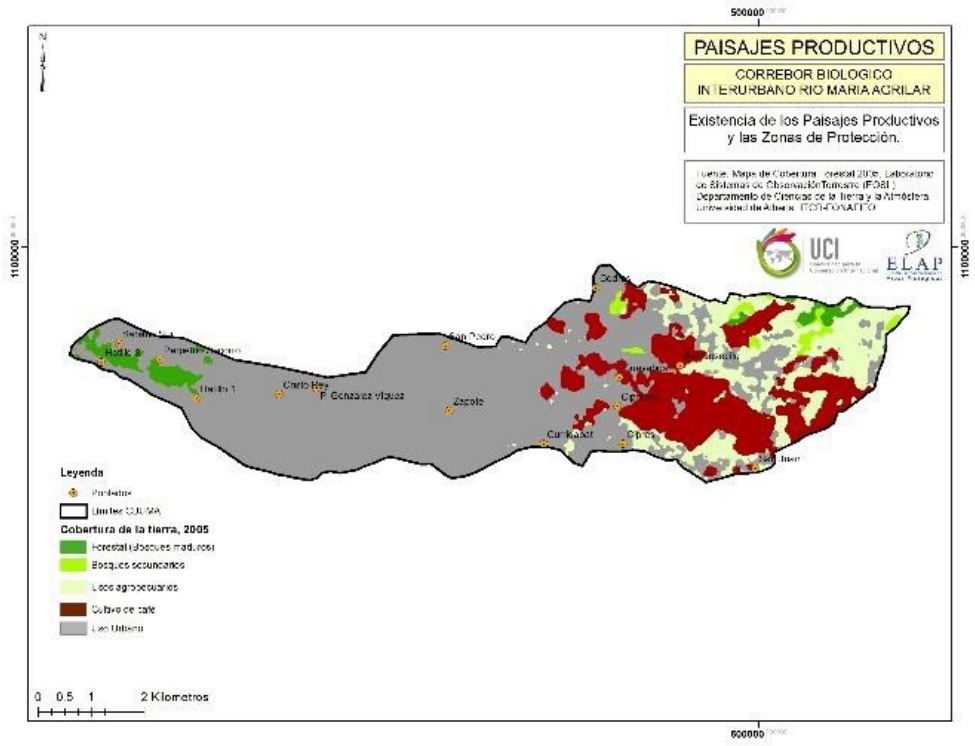

Figure 2 - Land use types of MAIBC.

Analysis of the supply and demand of ecosystem

An analysis of the supply and demand of ecosystem services in the two prioritized landscapes was completed using a spatial multi-criteria approach, following the Locatelli, B. et al. paper "Synergies and Trade-offs Between Ecosystem Services in Costa Rica". *Environmental Conservation* (2013) suggested by STAP, which considered five variables: a) spatial distribution of the prioritized landscapes; b) land cover data (forest, forest plantations, agricultural lands) combined with potential suitability for forestry use; c) protected areas and forest cover; d) threats to ecosystems; and e) potential areas for payment for ecosystem services. This resulted in the identification of areas based on the demand for ecosystems resources for the ACLA-P and MAIBC.

The results of the analysis are useful for monitoring purposes and are summarized below.

ACLA-P:

Pressure over ecosystems	Number of forest patches per class	Total area (ha)
High	5,832	294,960.1
Medium - high	8,019	179,398.1
Medium-low	2,211	359,83.6

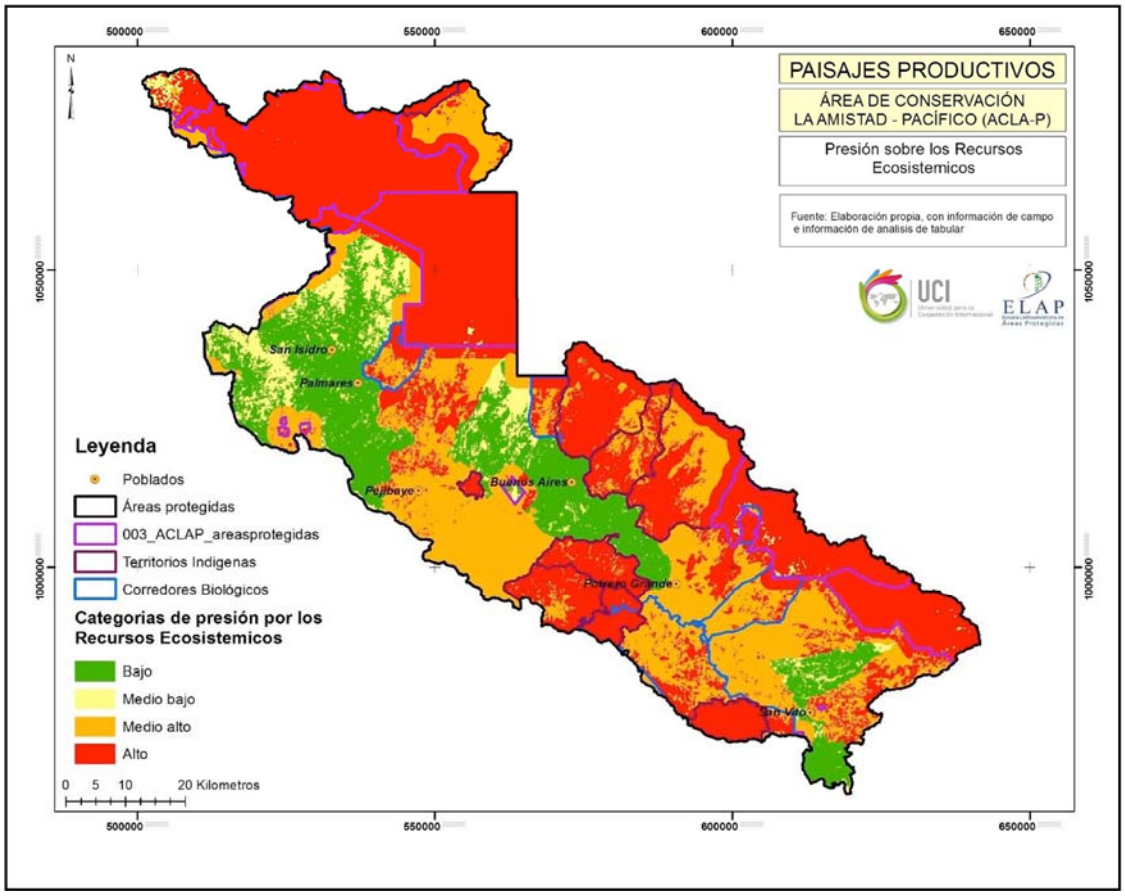

Figure 3 – Spatial distribution of the pressure over ecosystems in ACLA-P.

MAIBC:

Pressure over ecosystems	Number of forest patches per class	Total area (ha)
High	109	395.0
Medium - high	168	996.7
Medium-low	341	1671.8

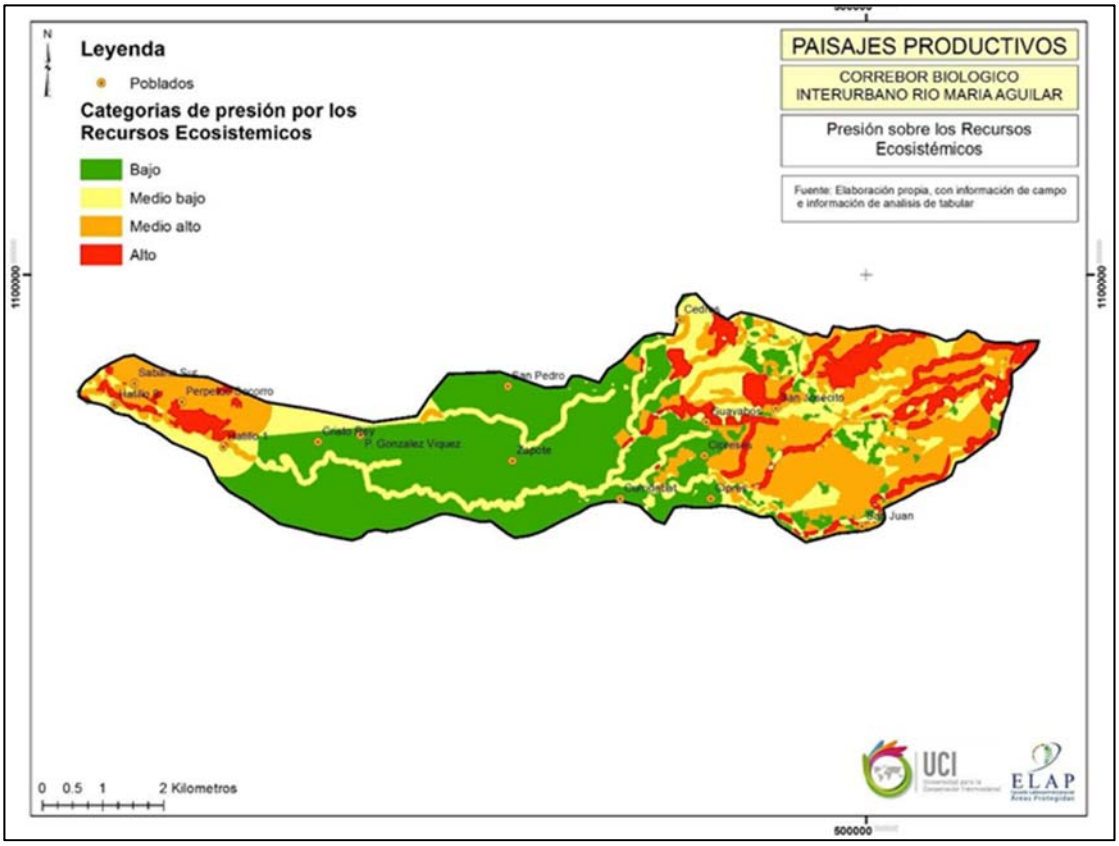

Figure 4 – Spatial distribution of the pressure over ecosystems in ACLA-P

The Costa Rican Constitution (Article 50) guarantees the right to a healthy and ecologically balanced environment, which includes the right to effectively access environmental information, to be informed, and to disseminate that information freely. In addition, it mandates state transparency, publicness, and accountability (Article 11), and establishes the right to participation and to request and access information of public interest (Articles 9, 27 and 30, respectively).

The General Environmental Law (Law 7554 of 1995) expands on the right to a healthy and ecologically balanced environment that is recognized by Article 50 of the Constitution. It states that the environment is common patrimony and the State and individuals should participate in its conservation and sustainable use (Article 2). The Law created a new set of national and decentralized environmental institutions that were complemented by the National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC), established three years later by the Biodiversity Law.

The Biodiversity Law (No. 7788, 1998) is the national legal instrument that comprehensively considers biodiversity management and implements the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at the national level and its respective regulations. Its objective is the conservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of resources, and the equitable distribution of benefits and derived costs (Article 1). This objective is expanded on by Article 10 to expressly include promoting the adoption of incentives and rewards for environmental services for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Article 28 gave the Ministry of Environment (MINAE) the power to create a new set of territorial units within Costa Rica for the purpose of environmental management. MINAE has divided the country into 11 Conservation Areas, which are defined as territorial units with an interplay of private and State stakeholders and which seek joint solutions guided by conservation and sustainable natural resource development. Article 22 created SINAC to manage the Conservation Areas by merging the National Park Service, the Forestry Department, and the Wildlife Service. According to Article 22, SINAC is a decentralized, participatory, management and coordination institution. Its roles are in forestry, wildlife, and protected areas, and its aim is to establish policies and plans and implement processes to achieve sustainable natural resource management.

The National Biodiversity Policy 2015-2030 for Costa Rica highlights the need to improve biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity; increasing the benefits of biodiversity and ecosystem services for the population; integrating biodiversity in productive seascapes and landscapes; and reducing the urban environmental footprint and improving implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management, and capacity building.

The National Biological Corridor Program (PNCB) is an institutional program of SINAC originally linked to the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor Project, section Costa Rica. This program provides the guidelines for the consolidation of a national system of conservation in an interconnected manner. The PNCB was formalized in 2006 through Executive Decree No. 33106-MINAE. The program is made operational through Local Councils operating in Biological Corridors in the Conservation Areas of the country. This is where social coalitions develop local efforts to conserve biodiversity and to encourage the production of goods and services and improve their socioeconomic conditions. Therefore, biological corridors are considered areas of sustainable development.

The 1996 Forest Law established the legal and institutional framework for forest management in Costa Rica, including the protection, conservation, and management of forested areas. The Forest Law states that the government is in charge of regulating and supervising the use and exploitation of forest resources in a sustainable manner. In addition, the government should seek to improve living conditions for rural communities. The Forest Law forbids land cover changes in forests and calls for moderate use of natural resources; forests within national reserves or on State property are patrimony of the State (Article 13) and harvesting there is prohibited (Article. 1). Converting forests on private land to other uses is also prohibited (with certain limited exceptions via permit as stated in Article 19). The Forest Law provides the basis for the Payment for Ecosystem Services Programme (PPSA) and establishes the National Forest Financing Fund (FONAFIFO) to finance the activities of small and medium producers related to forestation and reforestation, restoration of degraded land, technological changes, and sustainable use of forest resources. FONAFIFO raises funds for the payment of environmental services that contribute to the development of the natural resources sector.

Under the Internal Control Law (No. 8292/2002), State institutions must have information systems enabling the active administration to have institutional documentary management. In conformance with the above, Article 2 of the Organic Law on Environment stipulates that the State must create information systems with environmental indicators to measure evolution and correlation with economic and social indicators, while Articles 28 to 31 require that the environmental variable be integrated into land use planning.

The obligation to control, watch over, and systematically monitor environmental goods located in State natural patrimony and private lands, whether water resources, wetlands, soil, forest, wild flora and fauna or biological diversity, as well as waste management, derives from the Organic Environmental Act (Articles 41, 48, 50, 52 and 53), the Forest Law (Articles 1, 18, 19, 33, 34, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62 and 63), Water Law (Articles 1, 3, 148, 149 and 150), Law on Land Use, Management and Conservation (Articles 1, 2, 3, 51 and 52), Biodiversity Law (Articles 6, 8, 89 and 90), Law on Wildlife Conservation 20 (Articles 3, 90, 98, and 100) and Law on Comprehensive Waste Management (Articles 5, 17 and 18). Similarly, the National Land Use Plan (2014-2020) orders consolidation of the National Land Information System (SNIT) and guarantees universal access to land management information, while the National Climate Change Strategy and its Action Plan, in addition to preventing land use change in forest ecosystems, mandates effective control and inspection of forest cover through national inventories.

With respect to private land, constitutional jurisprudence fully supports the prohibition of change in use of forest land and the establishment of protected areas for water resources, which are considered typical limitations of social interest on private property and are backed by Article 45 of the Constitution. Land control, inspection, and surveillance, along with dissemination of information related to its state of conservation, therefore constitutes a State obligation.

Costa Rica now has several information systems in operation for environment, land use planning and health, particularly SINIA, the National Land Registry, and SNIT. According to the executive decree that created SNIT, its general objectives are 1) to promote the generation of products, services, and georeferenced geographical information about national, regional, and local land cover; 2) to publish in integrated and georeferenced form land information produced by public agencies and bodies as well as private individuals or corporate entities; and 3) to harmonize standardized geospatial information in the frame of a common data infrastructure.

At the international level, Costa Rica is a State Party to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which was ratified in August 1994. Similarly, Costa Rica is a State Party to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), which was ratified in May 1998.

ANNEX P: CALCULATION OF THE CLIMATE BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT

1. Avoided emissions from deforestation

For the estimation of emissions from deforestation, land use change data was obtained from the 2001-2013 assessment conducted by PRIAS-CENAT that was included as part of the country's official REDD+ reference level to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), following decision 13/CP.19. During this period, forest plantations were lost at a rate of 110.1 hectares/year. The annual emissions associated to the loss of these plantations are estimated based on the emission factor of 258.7 tCO_2 equivalent per hectare. This emission factor was estimated based on the following parameters:

Id	Parameter	Value	Units	Source
A	Above-ground biomass	150	Tons of dry matter per hectare	IPCC, 2003, 2006
B	Carbon fraction	0.47	Tons of carbon / tons of dry matter	IPCC, 2006
C	Molecular weight of carbon	3.67	Dimensionless	IPCC, 2006
D	Emission factor	258.7	Tons of CO_2-equivalent per hectare	A*B*C

Notes: IPCC 2003 refer to the LULUCF Good Practice Guidance. IPCC 2006 refers to the guidelines for the compilation of GHG inventories. The value for A is the IPCC default for broadleaf plantations in America.[37] The emission factor above includes CO_2 only. Non-CO_2 gases from biomass burning during the conversion of plantations is assumed to be zero, as plantations are usually converted after timber harvesting rather than forest fires.

This yields a total of 28,487 t CO_2 equivalent of emissions per year from the conversion of forest plantations, following the multiplication of the area of plantation conversion (110.1 ha per year) by the emission factor (258.7 t CO_2 equivalent per year). During the implementation of the project (5 years), total emission reductions from avoided deforestation are **142,434 tons of CO_2 equivalent.**

2. Carbon sequestration

The estimation of CO_2 absorptions through carbon sequestration was conducted for microcorridors and silvopastoral systems in ACLA-P, and micro-corridors, green urban areas, and protection areas in MAIBC. The following parameters were employed:

2.1. Microcorridors in ACLA-P

Id	Parameter	Value	Units	Source
A	Biomass stocks	11.0	Tons of dry matter per hectare	IPCC, 2003, 2006
B	Carbon fraction	0.47	Tons of carbon / tons of dry matter	IPCC, 2006
C	Molecular weight of carbon	3.67	Dimensionless	IPCC, 2006
D	Absorption factor	19.0	Tons of CO_2-equivalent per hectare	A*B*C
E	Mid-term project goal	300	Hectares	
F	Absorptions per year	5,700	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	D*E
G	5-yr absorption in areas E	**28,500**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	F*5
H	Project goal	700	Hectares	
I	Additional area	400	Hectares	H-E
J	Absorptions per year	7,600	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	I*D
K	2.5-yr absorptions in areas I	**19,000**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	J*2.5

[37] Table 4.8, Chapter 4, Volume 4 of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines. Available at: http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/4_Volume4/V4_04_Ch4_Forest_Land.pdf

L	Total	**47,500**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	G+K

Notes: The value for A is the IPCC default for South American forests less than 20 years of age.[38] This estimation is conducted for 5 years for the areas established at the beginning of the project and for 2.5 years for the areas established after mid-term.

2.2. Silvopastoral systems in ACLA-P

Id	Parameter	Value	Units	Source
A	Biomass stocks	16.1	Tons of dry matter per hectare	IPCC, 2003, 2006
B	Carbon fraction	0.47	Tons of carbon / tons of dry matter	IPCC, 2006
C	Molecular weight of carbon	3.67	Dimensionless	IPCC, 2006
D	Absorption factor	27.8	Tons of CO_2-equivalent per hectare	A*B*C
E	Mid-term project goal	800	Hectares	
F	Absorptions in areas E (5 years)	**22,240**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	D*E
G	Project goal	2,000	Hectares	
H	Additional area	1,200	Hectares	G-E
I	Absorptions in areas H (2.5 years)	**33,360**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	H*D
J	Total	**55,600**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	F+I

Notes: The value for A is the IPCC default for Tropical Wet–Moist default biomass C stocks present on grasslands, after conversion from other land use.[39] This estimation is conducted for 5 years for the areas established at the beginning of the project and for 2.5 years for the areas established after mid-term.

2.3. Microcorridors in MAIBC

Id	Parameter	Value	Units	Source
A	Biomass stocks	11.0	Tons of dry matter per hectare	IPCC, 2003, 2006
B	Carbon fraction	0.47	Tons of carbon / tons of dry matter	IPCC, 2006
C	Molecular weight of carbon	3.67	Dimensionless	IPCC, 2006
D	Absorption factor	19.0	Tons of CO_2-equivalent per hectare	A*B*C
E	Mid-term project goal	500	Hectares	
F	Absorptions per year	9,500	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	D*E
G	5-yr absorption in areas E	**47,500**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	F*5
H	Project goal	1,000	Hectares	
I	Additional area	500	Hectares	H-E
J	Absorptions per year	9,500	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	I*D
K	2.5-yr absorptions in areas I	**23,750**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	J*2.5
L	Total	**71,250**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	G+K

Notes: The value for A is the IPCC default for South American forests less than 20 years of age.[40] This estimation is

[38] Table 4.9, Chapter 4, Volume 4 of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.
Available at: http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/4_Volume4/V4_04_Ch4_Forest_Land.pdf
[39] Table 6.4, Chapter 6, Volume 4 of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.
Available at: http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/4_Volume4/V4_06_Ch6_Grassland.pdf
[40] Table 4.9, Chapter 4, Volume 4 of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.

conducted for 5 years for the areas established at the beginning of the project and for 2.5 years for the areas established after mid-term.

2.4. Green Urban Areas in MAIBC

Id	Parameter	Value	Units	Source
A	Biomass stocks increment	3.00	Tons of dry matter per hectare per year	IPCC, 2003
B	Carbon fraction	0.47	Tons of carbon / tons of dry matter	IPCC, 2006
C	Molecular weight of carbon	3.67	Dimensionless	IPCC, 2006
D	Absorption factor	5.17	Tons of CO_2-equivalent per hectare	A*B*C
E	Mid-term project goal	500	Hectares	
F	Absorptions per year	2,585	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	D*E
G	5-yr absorption in areas E	**12,925**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	F*5
H	Project goal	1,000	Hectares	
I	Additional area	500	Hectares	H-E
J	Absorptions per year	2,585	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	I*D
K	2.5-yr absorptions in areas I	**6,463**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	J*2.5
L	Total	**19,388**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	G+K

Notes: The value for A is 15% the IPCC default for other broadleaf for the Americas.[41] A 90% discount is applied to this value to considering that urban green areas cover only a small portion of the land area. This estimation is conducted for 5 years for the areas established at the beginning of the project and for 2.5 years for the areas established after mid-term.

2.5. Protection areas in MAIBC

Id	Parameter	Value	Units	Source
A	Biomass stocks	11.0	Tons of dry matter per hectare	IPCC, 2003, 2006
B	Carbon fraction	0.47	Tons of carbon / tons of dry matter	IPCC, 2006
C	Molecular weight of carbon	3.67	Dimensionless	IPCC, 2006
D	Absorption factor	19.0	Tons of CO_2-equivalent per hectare	A*B*C
E	Mid-term project goal	25	Hectares	
F	Absorptions per year	475	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	D*E
G	5-yr absorption in areas E	**2,375**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	F*5
H	Project goal	50	Hectares	
I	Additional area	25	Hectares	H-E
J	Absorptions per year	475	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	I*D
K	2.5-yr absorptions in areas I	**1,188**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	J*2.5
L	Total	**3,563**	Tons of CO_2-equivalent	G+K

Notes: The value for A is the IPCC default for South American forests less than 20 years of age.[42] This estimation is conducted for 5 years for the areas established at the beginning of the project and for 2.5 years for the areas established after mid-term.

[41] Table 4.10, Chapter 4, Volume 4 of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.

[42] Table 4.9, Chapter 4, Volume 4 of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.

3. Total emission reductions and absorptions

The results from the estimations above are presented in the following summary table:

Activity	**Emission reductions or absorptions (tCO_2-eq)**
Avoided deforestation	**142,434**
Microcorridors in ACLA-P	47,500
Silvopastoral systems in ACLA-P	55,600
Microcorridors in MAIBC	71,250
Green urban areas in MAIBC	19,388
Protection areas in MAIBC	3,563
Carbon sequestration	**197,301**
Total	**339,735**