



Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC)

PIMS 6397:

Enhancing jaguar corridors and strongholds through improved management and threat reduction

9th June 2021

Summary Slide



- **Project title:** Enhancing jaguar corridors and strongholds through improved management and threat reduction
- **Implementing Partner (GEF Executing Entity):** Forest Department, Ministry of Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment and Sustainable Development
- **Execution Modality:** National Implementation Modality (NIM)
- **UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Category:** Moderate
- **UNDP Gender Marker:** 2
- **Total Budget administered by UNDP:** 1,264,404 (GEF Trust Fund grant USD 1,234,404; UNDP TRAC resources USD 30,000)

AGENDA



Update on Project Approval

Presentation of Approved Project Log Frame and Budget

Review of Project Design Quality Assurance

Review of The Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP)

Presentation of Management Framework/ Roles and Responsibilities

Project Objective:



To secure jaguar corridors and strengthen the management of jaguar conservation units through the reduction of current and emerging threats, development of sustainable wildlife economy and enhanced regional cooperation.

Project Components



- 1. Conserve wildlife and habitats** - This component aims to improve the conservation of c. 200,000 Hectares (ha) of the Sibun River watershed landscape for jaguar protection through enhanced monitoring and management. It will implement a national-level data collection and data management system (based on extended camera trap deployment) to support and enhance conservation management.
- 2. Promote a more wildlife-friendly economy** - This component aims to strengthen the systems for responding to jaguar/livestock conflict and encourage sustainable ecotourism, with targeted application in Belize's Northeast forest landscape (area totalling 180,000 ha.).
- 3. Combat wildlife crime and unsustainable hunting** - This component aims to enhance the knowledge of the current status of the jaguar/prey/game species and hunting activities in the Maya Golden Landscape informing regulations for threat reduction and sustainable population management (49,500 ha).
- 4. Coordinating and enhancing knowledge** - This component aims to enhance the national / transboundary / jaguar range collaboration, knowledge management and communication.

Components one (1) - three (3) will be piloted in separate project areas. There are three (3) project areas: 1) the Central Biological Corridor, 2) the Northeastern Biological Corridor and 3) Southern Biological Corridor.

Implementation Leads:

Component 1: FD/ Panthera

Component 2: FD/ CSFI

Component 3: FD/ Ya' axche

Conservation Trust

Component 4: FD/ Panthera



PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Project Logframe



This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): *SDG*

This project will contribute to the following country outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD):

ATIONAL PRIORITY: Horizon 2030: Belizeans have a deep appreciation and love for Belize's natural resources and work collectively to protect the natural heritage and the economic value of these natural resources is quantified and officially recognized.

SDS CSF3: Sustained or improved health of environmental, historical, and cultural assets

N MSDF Outcome 8: Inclusive and sustainable solutions adopted for the conservation, restoration and use of ecosystems and natural resources.

NDP CPD Outcome 2: *Inclusive and sustainable solutions adopted for the conservation, restoration and use of ecosystems and natural resources.*

	Objective and Outcome Indicators (no more than a total of 21 indicators)	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target
Project Objective: To secure jaguar corridors and strengthen the management of jaguar conservation units through reduction of current and emerging threats, development of sustainable wildlife economy and enhanced regional cooperation	Mandatory Indicator #1: # direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual people)	N A	Male – 3,500 Female – 3,500	Male – 7,720 Female – 7,393
	Mandatory Indicator #2: Terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)		90,000	188,229 ¹
	Mandatory Indicator #3: Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)		75,000	157,563 ²

Project Component 1 (USD461,913)



Project component 1	Conserving wildlife and habitats			
Project Outcome 1: Information and data management systems contribute to improved conservation of jaguar and other wildlife at country level, with targeted application in 177,914 ha of Sibun River watershed landscape.	<u>Indicator #4a:</u> Camera trap coverage of national jaguar habitat (Hectares) <u>Indicator #4b:</u> Percentage of camera trap data (existing and new) incorporated into the national database	380,000 hectares currently covered by camera traps No national database	500,000 hectares Database design parameters set and data sharing agreements in place	730,000 hectares At least 80% of existing and new data sets inputted into the national database
	<u>Indicator #5:</u> Level of management effectiveness at three forest reserves	<u>Baseline METT scores</u> Sibun – 37 Sittee - 37 Manatee - 37	NA	<u>End of project METT scores</u> Sibun - 43 Sittee - 43 Manatee - 43
	<u>Indicator #6:</u> Change in the capacity of CSFI, BAS, Pfb, FCD, YCT and FD to participate in data capture and management	<u>Baseline score of UNDP Capacity Development Scorecard (out of possible 54)</u> CSFI – 34, BAS – 19, Pfb - 13, FCD - 40, YCT -36, FD - 21.	NA	<u>Target score by project end</u> CSFI – 41, BAS – 30 , Pfb - 17, FCD - 42, YCT - 40, FD -35.

Project Component 1



Outputs to achieve Outcome 1

1. A standardized and integrated national database for wildlife and human presence monitoring, with emphasis on underpinning conservation of jaguars and associated (prey) species.
2. Approximately 700-900 camera traps installed, complementing, improving and extending existing installations, with an additional effective coverage of 350,000 ha.
3. A model of population dynamics and movement ecology of jaguars and wide-ranging prey species based on enhanced monitoring data
4. Three new management protocols and regulatory measures, including a National Jaguar and Prey Policy, Strategy and Management Plan
5. Enhanced data and information systems applied to design and initiate implementation of, a landscape management plan within the c. 178,000 ha target area

Indicative Activities:



- 1.1.2 Conclude an MoU governing data sharing amongst all camera trap partners, including agreement on design of new camera trap studies
- 1.1.3 Introduce cloud-based camera trap data management platform universally and ensure adoption by all partners
- 1.1.4 Train users of data management system, including central hub managers
- 1.1.5 Equip satellite input agencies with hardware adequate to support regulated dataflow from field to database at fixed intervals, thereby assuring timely entry of data into the system
- 1.1.6 Support platform management capacities within the Forest Department

Indicative Activities:



- 1.2.1 Establish a well-trained camera trapping field team, under guidance of the forest department
- 1.2.2 Scout out and assess appropriate locations for deploying camera traps across the target landscape
- 1.2.3 Procure, deploy and maintain camera grid throughout the target landscape

Indicative Activities:



- 1.3.1 Develop the analytical tools needed to continuously assess variation across the landscape in: jaguar density, distribution, dispersal distances, survival, habitat use with emphasis on fresh water availability, enhancing knowledge on climate change within the upper regions of the jaguar range
- 1.3.2 Develop the analytical tools needed to continuously assess variation across the landscape in: prey density, and distribution, habitat use with emphasis on freshwater availability

Indicative Activities:



- 1.4.1 Develop National Jaguar Action Plan to improve national structures and systems of collaboration for the maintenance of Belizean jaguar populations
- 1.4.2 Develop National Guidelines for prey species management, with a focus on white-lipped peccary
- 1.4.3 Develop national protocols for assessing major game species in Belize

Indicative Activities:



- 1.5.1 Identify high priority conservation areas for jaguar / wildlife conservation corridors within existing forest reserves with recommendations for reclassification for enhanced protection
- 1.5.2 Develop a landscape management plan for the 178,000 ha. target area, including, inter alia, road barrier management, in support of the national jaguar corridor system

Project Component 2 (USD342,213)



Project component 2	Promoting a more wildlife-friendly economy			
Outcome 2: Strengthened systems for responding to jaguar–livestock conflict and for encouraging sustainable ecotourism, with targeted application in Belize’s Northeast forest landscape totaling 125,000 ha.	<u>Indicator #7:</u> Percentage of referred jaguar - cattle conflict incidents in which the reporter is satisfied with the response delivered	Less than 20%	Improved system for recording feedback in place	At least 70% of incidents in years 2 and 3 of project
	<u>Indicator #8:</u> # of tour guides and landowners contributing to national camera trap network	0	Agreements in place with 10 tour guides or landowners	At least 25 by project end

Project Component 2



Outputs to achieve Outcome 2

2.1 Enhanced rapid response protocol and capacities for responding to jaguar-livestock conflict developed and applied in the target landscape

2.2 Training and outreach program for wildlife-friendly economic activities

Indicative Activities:



- 2.1.1 Work with CSFI to build a national jaguar conservation / capture team.
- 2.1.2 Provide intensive training in ecological assessments of jaguars in human-dominated landscapes, allowing accurate threat assessments
- 2.1.3 Conduct field work / learning-by-doing to capture 20 jaguars in human-dominated landscapes and follow their subsequent movements through GPS telemetry
- 2.1.4 Engage local communities and management entities in the development of early warning and wildlife conflict incident reporting protocols.

Indicative Activities:



- 2.2.1 Engage the Belize Tourism Board to develop a specialized tourism product and certification linked to jaguars, including camera trapping activities, honey and other products and services to be developed under Activity 2.2.3
- 2.2.2 Provide technical support to participating guides and landowners enabling them to contribute to the national camera trap network.
- 2.2.3 Support selected livelihoods alternatives within buffer communities of the northern "Jaguar Corridor", e.g. buffer zone honey, while conducting necessary risk screening procedures.

Project Component 3 (USD177,213)



Project component 3	Combatting wildlife crime and unsustainable hunting			
<p>Outcome 3: Enhanced knowledge of the current status of the jaguar / prey / game species and hunting activities in 49,475 ha of the Maya Golden Landscape informs regulations for threat reduction and sustainable population management.</p>	<p>Indicator #9: Level of understanding of the dynamics of hunter-prey systems</p>	<p>No system</p>	<p>Survey data to support process collected from Maya Golden landscape</p>	<p>Level of understanding increased through a model and baseline of hunter-prey dynamics for informed policy and decision making</p>
	<p>Indicator #10: Drafting notes informing amendment of Wildlife Protection Act (WPA)</p>	<p>Current WPA is outdated in terms of open and closed seasons, bag limits (none), sustainable offtake quotas (with or without taking into account natural predation by larger predators like jaguars)</p>	<p>Survey data to support process collected from Maya Golden landscape</p>	<p>Draft notes for updating WPA</p>

Project Component 3



Outputs to achieve Outcome 3

3.1 Model, based on community-level assessments, estimating sustainable game species offtake, including jaguar prey offtake by viable predator populations

3.2 A strategy and action plan for the monitoring, sustainable management and use of game species, including a pilot sustainable hunting quota system, developed and implemented in 6 communities

Indicative Activities:



- 3.1.1 Recruit community members to participate in camera trap surveys on community lands to assess game species abundance and jaguar presence.
- 3.1.2 Design and administer social surveys in six communities as a means of estimating current hunting levels and local subsistence use (consumption), as well as degree of commercialization of game
- 3.1.3 Estimate the economic value of the wildlife resource to local communities and the potential economic loss if it were to collapse through unsustainable offtake

Indicative Activities:



- 3.2.1 Based on enhanced data and understanding emerging from Output 3.1, develop community resource use management plans
- 3.2.2 Seek community support in the mainstreaming of wildlife / game species monitoring in community governance systems
- 3.2.3 Build capacities of local communities to monitor wildlife levels with cameras, in collaboration with Forest Department and managing NGOs
- 3.2.4 Develop recommendations for broader national-level application / uptake, i.e. how lessons learned can be implemented nationwide, e.g. creation of other “hunting community” structures.
- 3.2.5 Develop technical guidance/ drafting notes on sustainable hunting levels, per game species, to inform amendment of Wildlife Protection Act.

Project Component 4 (USD 142,426)



Project component 4	Coordinating and enhancing knowledge			
Outcome 4: Enhanced national / transboundary / jaguar range collaboration, knowledge management and communication	<u>Indicator #11:</u> # of lessons shared on jaguar conservation	Limited sharing / exchange / uptake of lessons learned in jaguar conservation	Identification of case study topics and data gathering; analysis procedures agreed for developing each	At least 5 case studies documented on lessons learnt and best practices captured and shared nationally and with experts in Mexico, Guatemala and other jaguar range countries.

Project Component 4



Outputs to achieve Outcome 4

- 4.1 Knowledge capture and sharing
- 4.2 Reinforced national multi-stakeholder mechanism for sustained jaguar communication and coordination
- 4.3 Project monitored and evaluated

Indicative Activities:



- 4.1.1 Lessons learned / case studies from the three target landscapes are captured and disseminated
- 4.1.2 Transboundary cooperation and knowledge sharing strengthened via bilateral and/or trilateral exchanges (Belize, Mexico, Guatemala) with a focus on key transboundary landscapes
- 4.1.3 In cooperation with the GEF Global Wildlife Programme, a forum of experts organized to exchange lessons learned regarding key topics such as landscape management of jaguars and wildlife crime / trafficking
- 4.1.4 Ensure that knowledge gained through association with the Global Wildlife Program (GWP) is shared widely within Belize

Indicative Activities:



- 4.2.1 Support the functioning of the National Jaguar Working Group

TOTAL BUDGET AND WORKPLAN



PAGES 41 TO 45 OF THE PRODOC

Project Budget – Component 1



Total Budget and Work Plan

Atlas Award ID:	00122762	Atlas Output Project ID:	00118244
Atlas Proposal or Award Title:	Enhancing jaguar corridors and strongholds		
Atlas Business Unit	BLZ10		
Atlas Primary Output Project Title	Enhancing jaguar corridors		
UNDP-GEF PIMS No.	6397		
Implementing Partner	Forest Department, Ministry of Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment and Sustainable Development (MFESD)		

Atlas Activity (GEF Component)	Atlas Implementing Agent (Responsible Party/ , IP, or UNDP)	Atlas Fund ID	Donor Name	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Account Description	Amount Year 2021 (USD)	Amount Year 2022 (USD)	Amount Year 2023 (USD)	Total (USD)	Se
COMPONENT 1 Conserve wildlife and habitats	MFESD	62000	GEF Trustee	71200	International Consultants	82,000	25,000	32,000	139,000	1
				71300	Local Consultants	44,500	12,000	11,700	68,200	2
				71600	Travel	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000	3
				71800	Contractual services – Imp. partner	0	22,500	22,500	45,000	4
				72100	Contractual services - Companies	20,000	70,000	5,000	95,000	5
				72200	Equipment and furniture	64,000	30,000	10,000	104,000	6
				75700	Training, Workshops and Conference	1,500	1,500	1,713	4,713	7
								Total Outcome 1	214,000	163,000

Project Budget – Component 2



COMPONENT 2: Wildlife-friendly economy	MFESD		GEF Trustee	71200	International Consultants	35,000	35,000	0	70,000	8
				71300	Local Consultants	27,500	2,500	2,500	32,500	9
				71600	Travel	2,000	2,000	1,500	5,500	10
				71800	Contractual services – Imp. partner	0	28,000	18,000	46,000	11
				72100	Contractual services - Companies	22,500	35,000	20,000	77,500	12
				72400	Communic & Audio Equip	30,000	0	0	30,000	13
				72600	Grants	0	50,000	25,000	75,000	14
				75700	Training, Workshops and Conference	2,500	1,500	1,713	5,713	15
					Total Outcome 2	119,500	154,000	68,713	342,213	

Project Budget- Component 3

COMPONENT 3: Combatting wildlife crime and unsustainable hunting	MFFESD	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	31,000	0	18,000	49,000	16
				71300	Local Consultants	14,250	30,000	7,500	51,750	17
				71600	Travel	2,000	2,000	750	4,750	18
				71800	Contractual services – Imp. partner	9,000	9,000	0	18,000	19
				72100	Contractual services - Companies	19,500	23,500	0	43,000	20
				75700	Training, Workshops and Conference	7,500	1,500	1,713	10,713	21
					Total Outcome 3	83,250	66,000	27,963	177,213	

Project Budget -Component 4

COMPONENT 4: Coordinating and enhancing knowledge, and M&E	MFESD	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	0	10,000	35,000	45,000	22
				71300	Local Consultants	0	6,250	6,250	12,500	24
				71800	Contractual services – Imp. partner	5,000	5,000	15,000	25,000	23
				72100	Contractual services - Companies	12,000	12,000	17,000	41,000	25
				75700	Training, Workshops and Conference	7,500	3,000	8,426	18,926	26
					Total Outcome 4	24,500	36,250	81,676	142,426	

Project Management



PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT	MFFESD	62000	GEF Trustee	71400	Contractual Services – Individ.	25,000	25,000	25,000	75,000	27
				71600	Travel	5,000	4,500	5,500	15,000	28
				72400	Communic. & Audio Equip	1,500	1,500	0	3,000	29
				74100	Professional Services	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000	30
				74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	1,000	800	839	2,639	31
					sub-total GEF	37,500	36,800	36,339	110,639	
		04000	UNDP TRAC	71800	Contractual services – Imp. partner	10,500	10,500	9,000	30,000	32
					Total Management	48,000	47,300	45,339	140,639	
					TOTAL GEF GRANT	478,750	456,050	299,604	1,234,404	
					PROJECT TOTAL	489,250	466,550	308,604	1,264,404	

QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA)



Overall Rating:	Exemplary
Decision:	Approve: The project is of sufficient quality to continue as planned. Any management actions must be addressed in a timely manner.
Portfolio/Project Number:	00122762
Portfolio/Project Title:	Enhancing jaguar corridors and strongholds
Portfolio/Project Date:	2020-06-01 / 2023-06-30

QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA)



- Strategic Quality Rating: Exemplary
- Relevant Quality Rating: Exemplary
- Principled Quality Rating: Exemplary
- Management & Monitoring Quality Rating: Exemplary
- Efficient Quality Rating: Highly Satisfactory
- Effective Quality Rating: Exemplary
- Sustainability & National Ownership Quality Rating: Exemplary

Social and Environmental Screening Procedures (SESP)



Screens Projects against 3 Principles

Principles 1: Human Rights

Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability

7 Standards

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Standard 1 | Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management |
| Standard 2 | Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation |
| Standard 3 | Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions |
| Standard 4 : | Cultural Heritage |
| Standard 5 | Displacement and Resettlement |
| Standard 6 | Indigenous Peoples |
| Standard 7 | Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency |

The background of the slide is a faded, high-angle photograph of a leopard resting on the ground in a natural habitat. The leopard's distinctive spotted pattern is clearly visible, though the image is semi-transparent to allow the text to be read.

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK / ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Implementing Partner: The Implementing Partner for this project is the Belize Forest Department of the Ministry of Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment and Sustainable Development (MFFESD).
- The Implementing Partner is the entity to which the UNDP Administrator has entrusted the implementation of UNDP assistance specified in this signed project document along with the assumption of full responsibility and accountability for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in this document.
- The project will be implemented using National Implementation Modality (NIM).

The Implementing Partner is responsible for executing this project. Specific tasks include:

- i. Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. This includes
- ii. Providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based
- iii. Project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. 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 and generated by the project supports national systems.
- iv. Risk management as outlined in this Project Document;
- v. Procurement of goods and services, including human resources;
- vi. Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets;
- vii. Approving and signing the multiyear workplan;
- viii. Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year; and,
- ix. Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.

The Forest Department will be supported in its implementation by the following entities:

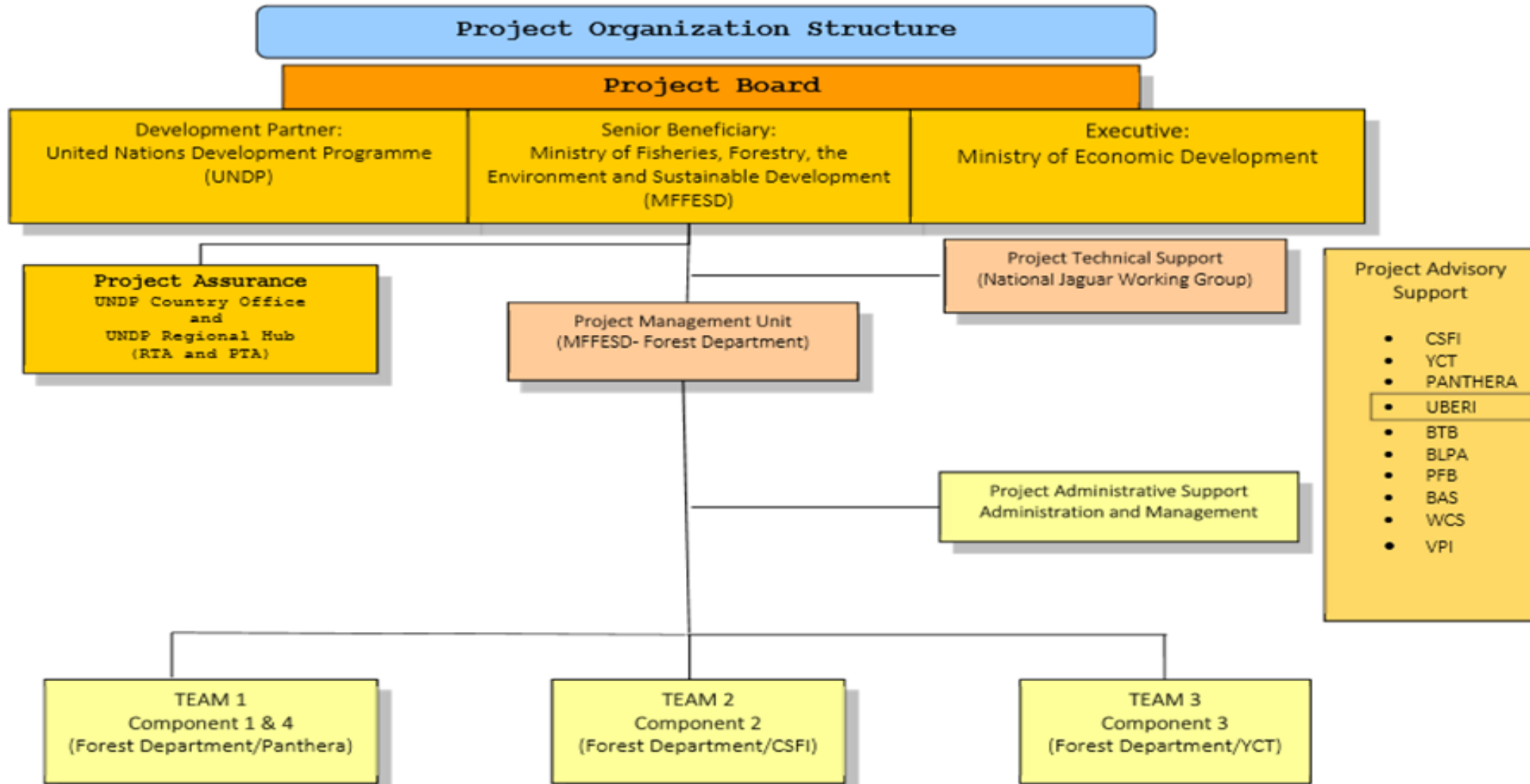
Panthera: Panthera is an international, non-governmental organization focused on the global preservation and management of wild cat species. Panthera's work in Belize is focused primarily on the jaguar, maintaining healthy prey populations and jaguar range connectivity, primarily through reducing jaguar conflict with livestock growers.

Panthera is based in Mayflower Bocawina National Park, Belize. Panthera will play a key role, working with the Forestry Department, in the provision of technical guidance in the implementation of component 1 for development of the Belize wildlife monitoring network and application in the central corridor.

Corozal Sustainable Future Initiative (CSFI): CSFI is the Government's primary partner in managing the Northern Biological Corridor, which is in the process of being reshaped as a protected area. In partnership with the Forestry Department, CSFI will spearhead work to establish a response team for wildlife – jaguar conflict. It will also support the project's efforts to engage with local communities in the development of wildlife-friendly economic activities. CSFI will both provide technical backstopping for the implementation of Component 2 and will be directly responsible for the implementation of USD 244,213.

Ya'axche Conservation Trust (YCT): YCT will play a central role, in association with the Forestry Department, as responsible party under Component 3. YCT has a consistent, long-term presence in the southern corridor where activities related to sustainable hunting will take place. It has experience implementing similar projects in this area and strong relationships with the area's indigenous communities. Its Board of Directors includes representatives of the indigenous communities. Ya'axche will both provide technical backstopping for the implementation of Component 3 and will be directly responsible for the implementation of USD 155,213.

UNDP: UNDP is accountable to the GEF for the implementation and financial oversight of this project. This includes oversight of project execution to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with agreed standards and provisions. UNDP is responsible for delivering GEF project cycle management services comprising project approval and start-up, project supervision and oversight, and project completion and evaluation. UNDP is also responsible for the Project Assurance role of the Project Board/Steering Committee.



The Project Board (also called Project Steering Committee) is responsible for taking corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. The current board is a tripartite board; however, the possibility of expanding membership will be made following project start up. In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, Project Board 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 consensus cannot be reached within the Board, the UNDP Resident Representative (or their designate) will mediate to find consensus and, if this cannot be found, will take the final decision to ensure project implementation is not unduly delayed.

The composition of the Project Board must include the following roles:

Project Executive: Is an individual who represents ownership of the project and chairs the Project Board. The Executive is normally the national counterpart for nationally implemented projects. The Project Executive will be the representative of the Ministry of Economic Development.

Beneficiary Representative(s): Individuals or groups representing the interests of those who will ultimately benefit from the project. Their primary function within the board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries. Often civil society representative(s) can fulfil this role. The Beneficiary representative (s) is/are: Ministry of Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment and Sustainable Development (MFFESD)

Development Partner(s): Individuals or groups representing the interests of the parties concerned that provide funding and/or technical expertise to the project. The Development Partner(s) is UNDP.

Project Assurance: UNDP performs the quality assurance and supports the Project Board and Project Management Unit by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. This role ensures appropriate project management milestones are managed and completed, and conflict of interest issues are monitored and addressed. The Project Board cannot delegate any of its quality assurance responsibilities to the Project Manager. UNDP provides a three – tiered oversight services involving the UNDP Country Offices and UNDP at regional and headquarters levels. Project assurance is totally independent of project execution

