***PROYECTO***

 ***“Conservando la biodiversidad a través de la gestión sostenible en los paisajes de producción en Costa Rica”***

# **Reunión de revisión del PIR 2020**

**Fecha:** 26 de agosto del 2020

**Objetivo:** Revisar con el RTA el reporte PIR presentado por el proyecto ante el GEF.

**Participantes:**

* Santiago Carrizosa, Regional Technical Advisor-PNUD
* Kifah Sasa, Oficial de Programas-PNUD
* José Daniel Estrada, Monitoreo y Evaluación-PNUD
* Miriam Miranda, Coordinadora Proyecto Paisajes Productivos-PNUD

**Sitio de la reunión:** virtual (vía Skype)

Desarrollo de la reunión:

Se presenta lo reportado por cada indicador a Santiago y se comenta el abordaje que se le dio:

**Indicator 1 (UNDP): Number of people benefiting directly from solutions for managing natural resources and ecosystem services, ensuring gender equality**

Avance:

Direct: 7337

ACLA-P: 1120 (280 farms)

- 680 men

- 452 women

MAIBC: 6217

- 3167 women

- 3050 men

Until June 2019, a total of 7337 people benefiting in both areas ACLA-P and MAIBC.

In ACLA-P 1120 people (considering a family group of 4 in 280 farms) are benefit directly with a grant to apply different agroforestry initiatives to promote managing natural resources. Within this total 452 are women who work in productive ideas which contribute to self-reliance and women empowerment through sustainable land management.

In the case of MAIBC 6217 people (3167 women and 3050 men) have been benefit directly in different environmental education and sensibilization activities such as reforestation campaigns, clean-up days in the María Aguilar River and others. This number considering the direct beneficiaries with establishment of 2 nurseries in San José canton which will produce at least 15,000 native species to reforestation process in MAIBC.

**Indicator 2: Area (ha) of avoided loss in forest cover in production landscapes by project end**

Avance: For this report have been determined that baseline is 0 for both areas. By the project end, target is:

- ACLA-P: 1327 ha (ha of annual loss in forest cover)

- MAIBC: 148,94 ha (ha of annual loss in forest cover)

- Total project: 1475,94 ha (ha of annual loss in forest cover)

To determinate it, the project calculated the number of hectares where land management tools has been applied in ACLA-P through grants. Despite of evidences of some forest loss in ACLA-P related to pineapple production (26,63 ha of forest has been lost between 2016-2017). So, for this reason, the project will work in a double verification to ensure that at least these 1327 ha will be part of the total area of avoided loss in forest cover in ACLA-P.

To achieve that, have been established agreements with local groups (through grants) to protect these 1327 ha of forest where farmers work in different LMT initiatives. Second, applying a verification system through MOCUPP where show it how many of these hectares have maintain protected.

In terms of MAIBC was considered the number of hectares what in this moment has MAIBC in riparian forest (natural protection area).

**Indicator 3: Interinstitutional agreement formalizes the National Monitoring System for Land Use Change in Production Landscapes (MOCUPP)**

Avance: A draft decree to formalize National System to Monitoring Forest Cover and Use (SIMOCUTE) operated by MINAE is being reviewed by institutional counterparts.

Is on negotiation if MOCUPP will be integrate of SIMOCUTE or what would be the best way to include it as a complement.

To achieve it, is necessary to have a common understanding about MOCUPP and how it works for activities of their institutions, in both the public and private sectors. For this reason, the project has been developed multiple activities which 240 people (62 women and 78 men) participated.

There have been meetings with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG) and Ministry of Environment (MINAE) with the purpose of achieving conditions of political-institutional support for the implementation and use of the information generated in the monitoring of new crops.

Parallelly, the project has worked with productive sector as livestock, pineapple and oil palm to established participatory spaces where under co-creation methodology different productive sectors could interchange opportunities about MOCUPP use.

**Indicator 4: 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.**

Avance: 7 drafts of institutional agreements to consolidate the SNIT/MOCUPP with land ownership data and available satellite imagery viewer is on track with following institutions:

1. CONAGEBIO (National Commission to manage biodiversity).

2. Chamber of cattlemen south zone.

3. Chamber of Perez Zeledon cattlemen.

4. FONAFIFO (National Forestry Financing Fund).

5. Environmental Administrative Tribunal

6. Municipality of San Jose

7. Municipality of Curridabat

As a result, and after institutional validation, following information will be available in SNIT:

- Biodiversity information by Costa Rican region.

- Protection area of María Aguilar River validated by INVU.

- Land use maps in MAIBC.

- Land use in each productive initiative in ACLA-P to demonstrate avoided forest loss and increase of connectivity through LMT.

- Baseline pastureland for cattle grazing in ACLA-P.

Besides, the results for loss and gain of forest cover in relation to pineapple 2017-2018 was uploaded and are available in SNIT viewer.

**Indicator 5: Number of agreements established with international buyers for the acquisition of products verified as free of loss of forest cover**

Avance: No progress yet.

The project has worked in two areas: first to definite the national verifications system to certify products free of loss of forest cover (based on information generated by MOCUPP), because in this moment Costa Rica doesn´t have a system with this characteristic. Second, working with national agencies (PROCOMER and COMEX) who deal with international buyers to define this process and what would be the best way to achieve it.

Also, the project participated in Good Growth Conference in Lima where could interchange with some international buyers to explore possibilities on this initiative.

**Indicator 6: Area (ha) of landscape management tools that contribute to improving ecosystem connectivity and biodiversity conservation established at the end of the project**

Avance:

- Micro-corridors: 345 ha

- Sylvopastoral systems: 982 ha

The connectivity ecosystem has improved thanks to establishment of 345 ha of Micro-corridors in ACLA-P, where through an agreement, each farm beneficies with grant must contribute with at least one hectare of connectivity.

982 ha silvopastoral system are being implemented in ACLA-P with livestock producers benefits with grants as a contribution to improve ecosystem connectivity and biodiversity conservation with this economic activity.

Projects are being implemented by organized group using different land management tools (reforestation of river bank, agroforestry, micro biological corridor).

**Indicator 7: Increase in biomass reserves (tCO2eq) derived from landscape management tools**

Avance: This indicator is on track.

The project validated Small Grant Program (SGP) methodology to calculate the increase in biomass reserves for each project benefit by grants. The National University of Costa Rica was contracted to calculate under SGP methodology increase in biomass reserves in each project benefit by grants in ACLA-P.

The expected increase in biomass reserves will be (approx.) 6930 tCOeq.

**Indicator 8: Reduction in CO2e emissions in project farms**

Avance: This indicator is on track.

To calculate this reduction, the project has worked with each productive initiative financed by grants. For this, each initiative has been mapped land use in each farm to determinate CO2 baseline. Base on that, would be possible calculate reduction CO2 emissions for each farm which implement LMT (agroforestry and silvopastoral system, reforestation activities and soil improvement).

The expected reduction in CO2 emissions by project financing with grants will be (approx.): 6930 tCO2e/year.

Could be possible that when all grants will be assigned the reductions in CO emissions will increase.

**Indicator 9: Presence of key bird species in the ACLA-P remains stable**

Avance: For monitoring biodiversity on productive landscape, a training program was initiated at a community level. It uses digital tools and platforms. Up to his moment there are 19 workshops with participation of 184 people (74 men and 110 women) from 13 communities in the ACLAP trained.

Currently, we are in the process of conforming participatory monitoring brigades to develop a base line for biodiversity in productive landscapes.

Monitoring brigades are being trained for the use of digital platforms: E-Bird, Merlin and naturalist

Methodology and protocol to carry out the participatory monitoring are in the revision process.

Note: the indicator was updated to add additional mammals. The progress against presence of mammals will be monitored over the next year and reported in the 2020 PIR.

**Indicator 10: Number of farms verified as free of loss of forest cover**

The information of 280 farms and their productive practices have considered as baseline to this indicator.

For the next year, will be incorporated a verification data about how many of these farms have achieved a production with free of loss of forest cover.

This verification will be realized with information provided by MOCUPP.

**Indicator 11: Change in annual income per initiative and disaggregated by gender with verified increase in forest cover**

Avance: A socioeconomic baseline assessment has been produced with each of beneficiaries of productive initiatives. With this information the project could know income level of every project at start or before grant. When all grants will be assigned the baseline will be determinate.

Baseline and targets will be determined in 2020.

**Indicator 12: 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: 153,44 ha

- Protection zones: 148,94 ha

- Urban green areas: 122, 87 ha

The area (ha) of landscape management tools (micro-corridors, protection zones, urban green areas) that contributes to improving ecosystem connectivity and biodiversity conservation in MAIBC have been determinate as a part environmental assessment worked since start project.

To increase these hectares the project will work with local authorities and communities in MAIBC to determinate potential places where can be improve landscape management tools.

**Indicator 13: Increase in biomass reserves (tCO2eq)**

Avance: This indicator is on track.

The project validated Small Grant Program (SGP) methodology to calculate the increase in biomass reserves for each project benefit by grants. The National University of Costa Rica was contracted to calculate under SGP methodology increase in biomass reserves with reforestation process in MAIBC.

The expected increase in biomass reserves will be (approx.) 3016 tCOeq.

**Indicator 14: Presence of migratory bird species in the MAIBC remains stable**

Avance: The presence of Summer tanager and Baltimore oriole was verified in the framework of inventory of flora and fauna in the MAIBC (report prepared by project in 2018) where was found 308 species distributed in 40 families of birds.

As a part to confirm presence of these migratory birds species in MAIBC,the project The project will implement, annually, the migratory bird counting technique.

**Indicator 15: 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.**

Avance: Some 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 has been systematized, especially in the establishment of forest nursery and women in productive initiative.

Also, in the MAIBC some experiences have been systematized, for example the project participates as observer member (together with Ombudsman Office) in the case of Río Ocloro with objective to collect lessons learned and generate good practices and intervention protocols in cases of encroachment to natural protection areas.

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

1. Corredor Biológico Interurbano María Aguilar: Una mirada multidimensional

2. Inventory of flora and fauna

3. A study on Río María Aguilar water quality

4. Methodology for the demarcation of the María Aguilar river's protection areas.

5. Three publications of the Toño Pizote series for the ACLAP.

**Indicator 16: 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**

Avance: Two qualitative studies which contain a characterization of knowledges, attitudes and practices in ACLA-P and MAIBC have been concluded.

As a part of this, the project works in a quantitative approach to determinate an index applies to both areas.

**Comentarios generales:**

Kifah indica que el cataloga el proyecto el avance del proyecto como “satisfactory” de acuerdo con la escala establecida por el GEF y que se encuentra complacido por la implementación del proyecto a pesar de tener únicamente 9 meses de ejecución.

Por su parte, Santiago indica que él también califica al proyecto con un “Satisfactory” y coincide con Kifah en que los avances son muy relevantes para el tiempo de ejecución que se tiene. Sugiere además ir sistematizando la información para presentar el proyecto en la COP de Biodiversidad en el 2020.

Miriam Miranda, como coordinadora del proyecto, se muestra satisfecha por los resultados que presenta el proyecto y se compromete en avanzar en aquellos indicadores donde no se reporta un avance más sustantivo.