

REDD-plus results-based payments Annual Performance Report for the Use of Proceeds (REDD+ RBP APR)

*Reference Number (FP110): Ecuador REDD+ RBP for results period 2014
UNDP*

*Annual Reporting Period Covered in this Report:
(From 01-01-2021 to 12-31-2021)*

Sections in this report:

- Section 1: General Information
- Section 2: Implementation Progress Report
- Section 3: Financial Information¹ ([Excel worksheet hyperlinked](#)).
- Section 4: Report on Environmental and Social Safeguards & Gender
- Section 5: Annexes
- Section 6: Attachments

Please submit the REDD+ RBP APR to opm@gcfund.org

SUBMITTED BY	
<i>Ms. Noelia Jover – Climate and Forests Regional Technical Advisor Name and title</i>	<i>Date of submission to GCF: 1st March 2022</i>
<i>Please indicate if this report has been shared with the relevant NDA(s) for this Funded Activity: Yes</i>	<i>Date of submission to NDA: 1st March 2022</i>

¹ Please refer to excel worksheet hyperlinked “APR Section 3 (Financial Information)”.

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION	
This section provides general information on the funded activity.	
1. Funded activity title:	<i>Ecuador REDD-plus RBP for results period 2014</i>
2. Funding proposal number:	<i>(FP110)</i>
3. Date of Board approval - Board meeting number:	<i>7/8/2019 B.23</i>
4. Accredited Entity:	<i>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</i>
5. Focal point of the accredited entity for this Project:	<i>Ms. Noelia Jover noelia.jover@undp.org Tel.: +507 3024749</i>
6. Executing Entity(ies):	<i>Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATE).</i>
7. Implementation period:	<i>From: 2/26/2020 To: 2/26/2026</i>
8. Current year of implementation:	<i>Year 2</i>
9. Date of submission of the report:	<i>3/1/2022</i>
10. Annual reporting period covered in this report:	<i>From: 1/1/2021 To: 12/31/2021</i>
11. Total project budget ² :	<i>USD 18,571,766</i>
12. Total amount of REDD+ results-based payments approved:	<i>USD 18,571,766</i>

² Total project budget including co-financing as reflected in the relevant Funded Activity Agreement.

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

2.1 OVERALL (SUMMARY) PROJECT PROGRESS (*less than one (1) page*³).

2021

Progress achieved since project start

In 2020, the project started its implementation right at the beginning of the pandemic, which directly impacted organizing and conducting the Inception Workshop and the development of preparatory actions. These delays affected the Project's financial performance; however, the Project reacted quickly and developed a COVID-19 safety plan and a strategy to face the pandemic, including using virtual tools to keep the engagement of key actors in the program activities remotely. These adaptive management measures allowed the Project to move forward and show progress in the activities undertaken so far.

Progress achieved in this reporting period

In 2021 the project was able to advance with key planning activities with the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATE), the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Amazon Confederation (CONFENIAE), and other stakeholders, as well as the development of methodologies, reports, and mechanisms for the implementation of activities in the field, which will start in 2022. The main achievements in 2021 for each Output are described below.

Output 1: Activities related to the implementation of conservation actions in local governments and protected areas and forests have been progressing as follows:

- Progress on developing the Performance-based Payment Agreement, an innovative financial instrument between UNDP and the Sustainable Environmental Investment Fund to incentivize GADs to implement REDD+ actions. Two Decentralized Autonomous Governments (GAD, for its acronym in Spanish) and one group of municipalities of the North Pacific were selected and approved by the MAATE to participate in this Performance-Based Payment Agreement. The GADs selected are the Metropolitan District of Quito and the Zapotillo, and the group of municipalities of the North Pacific encompasses Pedernales and Jama cantons.
- The methodology and indicators for the Performance-based Payment Agreement is under review by the US company SCS Global Services. The company was hired as an external Independent Assessor (IA) who will evaluate the performance of the GADs and the group of municipalities of the North Pacific on an annual basis. The results sought to be achieved through this agreement are:
 - 1,200 hectares under restoration.
 - 110,000 hectares of natural cover conserved.
 - Approximately 200,000 hectares maintained as conservation and sustainable use areas (ACUS).
- A methodology was developed to establish a baseline within six protected areas and eight protective forests to improve land rights management.

Output 2: Activities for this Output will start in 2023 to provide continuity to the actions of the FP019 Project (please refer to section 2.2 for more details).

Output 3:

Activities related to sustainable forest management, conservation, and reforestation have been progressing as follows:

- The project supported the development of a national bioeconomy stakeholders map, an analysis of the legal and institutional framework related to the bioeconomy and the use of biodiversity, and a qualitative analysis of market trends related to bio trade. The Amazon Innovates Challenge was held, which resulted in 267 bio entrepreneurship applications from the Amazon region with potential for scale-up and replication. A technical committee selected 30 bio entrepreneurship. In addition, 16 men and 21 women within these 30 bio entrepreneurship received an innovation

³ Please remove text below to fit report to one page. Additional reports can be provided as other attachment to the APR.

training program by the Quito Chamber of Commerce. Furthermore, the five most innovative bio entrepreneurship won a commercialization acceleration program valued at USD 3,000 each. The five winners were two organizations and three individuals (two men and one woman). This commercialization program includes advice and accompaniment on how to start a business with industries and distributors in the main cities of the country, and product improvements.

- The priority areas report for the restoration of 2,000 hectares was prepared and approved in coordination with the technical team of the MAATE's National Reforestation Program, the Undersecretariat of Climate Change and PROAmazonía. The restoration of 1000 hectares in the province of Zamora Chinchipe will start in 2022.

Output 4: Activities related to the management of the REDD+ Action Plan have been progressing as follows:

- Consolidation of three fundamental roundtables for REDD+ and the implementation of the project: MAATE's Safeguards Roundtable; the Coastal Region Roundtable, and the Indigenous Nationalities Roundtable.
- By the end of 2021, the National REDD+ Grievance Mechanism was approved by the MAATE, and it is under implementation with the support of the project team. The Project has not yet registered any grievances.
- The Project team has been strengthened by incorporating four professionals to reinforce environmental and social safeguards (1 person), gender (2 persons) and the grievance mechanism (1 person).
- Definition of the implementation mechanism for the CONFENIAE's REDD+ Implementation Plan (PdI, for its acronym in Spanish), The NGO Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) will be responsible for the implementation of the COFENIAE's plan based on their previous experience developing CONFENIE's REDD+ plan.

Risks and mitigation measures

Management: Regarding the risks identified in the Funding Proposal (FP), the challenge of implementing this project as part of the PROAmazonía Program which encompasses three projects in total, has been properly managed by an adequate distribution of responsibilities among the personnel and the incorporation of new professionals to accelerate the implementation of the RBP project.

Staff turnover: Another risk identified in the FP is the high staff turnover (authorities and technical personnel) of implementing partners and key institutions that could delay project implementation. However, in May 2021, Ecuador elected a new President, who in turn appointed new Ministers for the MAATE and MAG. In the case of the MAATE, the same Minister has remained in office since June 2021. The MAATE's Undersecretary of Climate Change, who is the National Director of this project, has remained in office since March 2021. This stability has been positive for the project since it has allowed an adequate management and coordination of the project and made it possible to advance with key strategies such as the Performance-Based Payment Agreement, the Amazon Innovates Challenge, and the definition of the implementation mechanism for the CONFENIAE's REDD+ Implementation Plan. The Project plays an important role in the historical memory of the REDD+ processes and their continuity beyond the changes of government. Thanks to an effective coordination at technical and political level, the risk of staff turnover has been successfully managed by the Project.

COVID-19: The risk of Covid-19 was moderate during 2021 since it was better controlled thanks to the vaccination campaign and the safety measures taken by the project personnel and key stakeholders. Although many field activities could not be carried out with the beneficiaries, work methodologies have been developed to start activities in 2022.

2.2 PROJECT OUTPUTS IMPLEMENTATION STATUS			
Project Output	Project Activity	Status ⁴	Implementation progress (%)
Output 1 Policies and institutional management for REDD-plus	Activity 1.1 Implementing land use plans at the local level	<i>Activity Started - progress on track</i>	<i>(10%)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MAATE with the support of the project invited 41 GADs and grouping of municipalities of the Highlands and Coast of Ecuador, located in priority areas of the REDD+ Action Plan, to submit their applications to consider their Areas of Conservation and Sustainable Use (ACUS, for its acronym in Spanish) for the Performance-Based Payment Agreement, which aims to encourage the GADs to implement REDD+ actions and monitor their progress to control and reduce deforestation. The MAATE approved the selection of the (i) the group of municipalities of the North Pacific (Jama and Pedernales GADs in Manabí), (ii) GAD of the Metropolitan District of Quito and (iii) Cantonal GAD of Zapotillo for the Performance-Based Payment Agreement. After the official notification sent by the MAATE to the authorities of the selected GADs, socialization workshops were held with the GADs and MAATE’s focal points in these provinces. The GADs and the Commonwealth were selected based on the following technical criteria: (i) contribution to the conservation of key forest ecosystems; (ii) local risk of deforestation in their ACUS; (iii) internal connectivity of protected ecosystems; (iv) ACUS extension; and (v) GAD experience in ACUS management. Through an international tender the company SCS Global Services of California was hired as an Independent Assessor (IA) for the validation of the evaluation methodology of the Performance-Based Payment Agreement. This company will also evaluate the performance of the GADs annually based on three indicators: number of hectares of natural cover conserved, number of hectares restored, and percentage of budget execution for the ACUS management. The validation methodology is currently under review by the IA. The Performance-Based Payment Agreement between UNDP and the Sustainable Environmental Investment Plan (FIAS for its acronym in Spanish), and the agreements between FIAS and the GADs are expected to be signed early 2022. 		
	Activity 1.2 Improving the management of land rights within Protective Forests and the National Protected Areas	<i>Activity Started - progress on track</i>	<i>(10%)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The technical standard for the adjudication of lands in protected areas and protective forests is currently under review by the MAATE's Undersecretariat of Natural Heritage. The project reviewed the draft version of the standard prepared by the Undersecretariat and made contributions to improve several legal terms and conditions. Additionally, an internal socialization process is being carried out within the MAATE, and an external socialization process of this standard is planned with public institutions and civil society. 		

⁴ Activity Not Yet Due; Activity Started -ahead of schedule; Activity started – progress on track; Activity started but progress delayed; Activity start is delayed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project has a methodology for the collection of information and development of a baseline for 6 protected areas and 8 protective forests, which has been developed and socialized with the focal points of the Head Office of the MAATE'S, its Zonal Directorates and Technical Offices in a workshop held on October 9, 2021. Through the methodology described above, the project requested information on land tenure in protected areas and protective forests within the National System of Protected Areas (SNAP, for its acronym in Spanish to the MAATE, MAG and the GADs. Currently, baseline information has been collected in the provinces of Pichincha, Napo, Orellana, Imbabura, and Carchi. 		
<p><i>Output 2 Implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy (ENREDD+)</i></p>	<p>Activity 2.1 Establishing a private-public mechanism for marketing deforestation-free commodities from the Amazon</p>	<p>Activity Started - progress delayed</p>	<p>(2%)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the year 2021, a new strategy to implement Component 2 has been developed and approved by the national director of the Project. The activities planned for 2022 have been postponed to 2023, thus giving continuity to the work already carried out by the FP019 project, which has been extended by 18 months. The activities related to the sustainable production of the FP019 project will be implemented until December 2022, and this project will build from those activities fostering the optimization of resources. The new strategy under this activity will give continuity to the results obtained from the Farmers Field Schools that promote sustainable and deforestation-free production with producers and associations in the Amazon. In practice, although the activity of this project is starting later, it is not considered a delay but rather a rescheduling to promote the synergies and sustainability of the actions started with the Project FP019. Currently, the strategy has the validation of the MAATE's technical team. In the first quarter of 2022, it is expected to have the approval of the project National Director (MAATE). This new strategy under component 2 is fully aligned with the Funding Proposal. 		
<p><i>Output 3 Sustainable forest management; Conservation and Restoration</i></p>	<p>Activity 3.1 Supporting the business case for forests: supporting small and medium enterprises</p>	<p>Activity Started - progress on track</p>	<p>(10%)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amazon Innovates Challenge: Out of 267 participating bioentrepreneurships, 30 of them (16 men and 21 women) were selected as beneficiaries of the innovation and business development training program provided by the Quito Chamber of Commerce. The selected bioentrepreneurships improved their skills on product design, merchandising, communication, and marketing. Out of these 30, five bioentrepreneurships with the greatest business and commercial maturity, as well as scale-up and replication potential, were selected by a high-level jury. These five winners, two organizations and three individuals (two men and one woman), were awarded a commercialization plan that includes accompaniment and advice to initiate businesses with industries and distributors in the main cities of the country, as well as improvements in products, presentation, or commercialization conditions. The Project will support the strengthening of two value chains with commercial potential, sustainability, and conservation criteria. The MAATE decided that one of the value chains will be from the Amazon and the other one from the Coast Region. Regarding the Amazonian value chain, the selection process will be based on data gathered by the Innovation Challenge (267 bioentrepreneurs) and from data generated by other projects led by the MAATE and/or supported by other donors. In the Coast Region, the MAATE will choose the value chain with the information provided from other projects and cooperation entities working on the bioeconomy. In both cases, the final decision will come from the MAATE 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several specialized organizations that have worked previously with the MAATE were identified to participate in selecting a strategic partner to support the strengthening of forest product chains. In the first quarter of 2022, this competitive process will take place. 		
	<p>Activity 3.2 Research and development on industrial uses of Non-Timber Forest Products and other deforestation-free products.</p>	<p>Activity Started - progress on track</p>	<p>(15%)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A National Biodiversity Use and Trade Plan has been designed. This includes a bioeconomy stakeholders map, an institutional framework analysis on bioeconomy and biodiversity, and a qualitative analysis of biotrade market trends. The National Biodiversity Use and Trade Plan is expected to be delivered by January 2022. 		
	<p>Activity 3.3 Increasing Forest restoration efforts in the southwest region of Ecuador.</p>	<p>Activity Started - progress on track</p>	<p>(10%)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MAATE approved a report of prioritized areas in REDD+ zones for forest restoration in October 2021. The areas were selected based on their restoration opportunity index in the following Amazonian parishes: Zamora Chinchipe (23 parishes), Napo (16 parishes), Orellana (8 parishes), Morona Santiago (11 parishes), Sucumbíos (4 parishes), and Pastaza (2 parishes). This prioritization coincides with the prioritized areas in the MAATE's National Restoration Plan 2019-2030 and excludes areas being restored with other projects led by the MAATE. All the selected areas are among the priority areas identified and established in the prioritization report annexed to the PRODOC. Field validation in the parishes of the Zamora Chinchipe province and delivery of the respective technical report. The MAATE's National Restoration Program led this activity with the support of the Project's team, and the field report was the basis for defining the prioritized areas in the province. The bidding and tendering process for restoring 1,000-hectares in the province of Zamora Chinchipe was published on UNDP's platform. Proposals are expected to be received during January 2022. Technical specifications were developed to select an external verifier for the first 1,000-hectare restoration project in Zamora Chinchipe. The document is under review by the MAATE's National Reforestation Program. A proposal for creating a Restoration Roundtable in the province of Zamora Chinchipe to socialize the project was developed. Now, potential organizations that could participate in this Roundtable have been identified. 		
<p>Output 4 Operational Management of the National REDD-plus</p>	<p>Activity 4.1 Strengthening of the institutional capacities of the Ministry of Environment and Water (MAAE) to manage the implementation of the REDD-plus Action Plan</p>	<p>Activity Started - progress on track</p>	<p>(10%)</p>

<p><i>Action Plan</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Undersecretary of Climate Change team has increased their capacities on REDD+ (12 people, 5 men and 7 women) through training provided in 2021. The objective of these courses was to strengthen REDD+ knowledge, skills, and abilities to have an effective and adequate implementation of REDD+ at the national and local levels. This training process helped provide stability in a year of political change with the incoming administration, thus giving continuity to the implementation of REDD+. The Project supported the development of the Governance Model for REDD+ that proposes the creation of a REDD+ unit within the structure of the Undersecretary of Climate Change, to give stability, support, and continuity to the REDD+ Action Plan (AP). In addition, this ensures the institutionalization of the REDD+ approach within the MAATE and other institutions at different levels. The Governance Model will be ready in the first quarter of 2022. In 2021 the Project was involved and actively participating in several meetings with the Undersecretary of Climate Change to start planning the evaluation of the REDD+ AP. This is a critical process to guide the development of the new REDD+ AP, the second Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), and other climate change public policies. The challenge to move forward with this evaluation is the lack of information about deforestation data for the year 2020. This data is key to measuring the impact of the actions implemented by current REDD+ projects and programs in the country. Therefore, it is planned to evaluate the REDD+ AP in 2022. 		
	<p>Activity 4.2 Improving the National Forest Monitoring System capacity to monitor forest degradation</p>	<p>Activity Started - progress on track</p>	<p>(6%)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the year 2021, lessons learned were gathered on forest degradation issues from other countries in the region to have methodological inputs to develop a proposal for measuring forest degradation in Ecuador according to the reality and dynamics of the country. Degradation data is a significant gap preventing the country from accessing future sources of climate finance. The forest monitoring team of the MAATE's Forestry Directorate and the project team are working on a roadmap to overcome this gap and move forward with this process. The MAATE team is fine-tuning the roadmap based on the suggestions and technical assistance from donors such as UN-REDD and EURO-CLIMATE+. 		
	<p>Activity 4.3 Implementation of Stakeholder Consultation Plan and the Environmental and Social Management Plan for the use of proceeds</p>	<p>Activity Started - progress on track</p>	<p>(10%)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project's environmental and social plans (Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Indigenous Peoples Plan, Gender Action Plan, Livelihoods Plan, Environment and Climate Change Plan, Capacity Building Plan) began their implementation in the first quarter of 2021. Several training sessions were held for project personnel to familiarize them with the content of the plans and how they can contribute to their fulfillment (33 people, 19 men, and 14 women). Furthermore, indicators of the environmental and social plans were included in each component's technical plans to facilitate the monitoring and compliance of these indicators. More detailed information is included in sections 4.1 and 4.2. 		
	<p>Activity 4.4 Strengthening REDD-plus Implementation in Indigenous Territories</p>	<p>Activity Started - progress</p>	<p>(8%)</p>

		on track	
<p>During 2021, dialogue, participation, and decision-making processes involving the technical focal points of MAATE, CONFENIAE, UNDP, and the Project took place. Some examples are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers were received from organizations interested in participating as Responsible Parties to implement the COFENIAE's REDD+ Implementation Plan (PdI in Spanish). As a result, an evaluation panel composed of the CONFENIAE, MAATE, and the project was formed to assess interested NGOs' technical and economic proposals based on the Terms of Reference prepared in a participatory manner for this process. • The NGO selected was WWF. • Several meetings have been held to establish the governance mechanism of the Responsible Party Agreement with the participating institutions (WWF, MAATE, UNDP). The budget allocated to this agreement has been reviewed in detail to ensure the optimal use of resources. • The Responsible Parties Agreement between UNDP and WWF is expected to be signed in January 2022. 			

2.5 IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED⁵

Describe implementation challenges faced during the last reporting period, including measures adopted and lessons learned. In case of challenges that may result in a change of the scope of the Project, please provide a description of such elements and considerations on the implementation period and final targets.

Challenge encountered		Measures adopted		Lessons learned and Other
<p>The use of UNDP's novel financial instrument, the Performance-based Payment Agreement. The project has opted for the use of this instrument given its great potential to channel future climate funds, while ensuring that results are achieved. However, the fact of being one of the first countries to use it has implied an important learning curve that has taken time.</p>	Implementation	<p>Project specialists from Component 3 and staff from the MAATE were consulted to improve the methodology to measure and assess restoration activities and its associated performance indicator, which considers the National Restoration Strategy of the MAATE. Meetings with the GADs were held to identify possible targets and milestones for performance based on their capacities, and several meetings were also held with the FIAS to clarify roles and responsibilities of each party within the agreement.</p>	Moderate	<p>Socializing the methodology with the GADs was crucial to learn how they manage their conservation areas and be able to adjust the performance indicators and their milestones considering the realities of each territory.</p>

⁵ If applicable (only to be filled if there were challenges faced during implementation).

<p><i>The approval of the prioritized areas for restoration took a long time (1 year approximately) due to multiple revisions at different levels (technical and political). This caused a delay in launching the call for proposals and implementation of the restoration project</i></p>	<p><i>Implementation</i></p>	<p><i>Ongoing work meetings were held with MAATE's technical team, as well as with the authorities of the Ministry and the Project to review in detail all the prioritization criteria and ensure that the definition of the areas for restoration is the most appropriate, thus facilitating the final approval process.</i></p>	<p><i>Moderate</i></p>	<p><i>Approval schedule for project implementation strategies must be improved through coordinated and direct work with the MAATE technicians and authorities to comply with the planned timeline.</i></p>
<p><i>Strengthen MAATE's National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) in terms of forest degradation monitoring. This is a challenge because the monitoring of degradation has not been done before in the country at a regional or national scale. Technical capacities need to be strengthened within the ministry as well as the use of better-quality satellite images, the development of a methodology to measure degradation, and the implementation of efficient traceability and complaint mechanisms.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, it should be noted that forest monitoring actions are the responsibility of the Under-Secretariat for Natural Heritage, while the REDD+ Action Plan is the responsibility of the Under-Secretariat for Climate Change,</i></p>	<p><i>Implementation</i></p>	<p><i>The Project is working with the Undersecretariat of Climate Change and the Undersecretariat of Natural Heritage to develop a methodology for measuring forest degradation, and for this information to be part of the NFMS system.</i></p>	<p><i>Moderate</i></p>	<p><i>All adjustments made to the NFMS must consider the input of the MAATE's technical areas involved. This type of process is time consuming and it should be considered when developing a work timeline.</i></p>

<i>which makes decision making more complex.</i>				
<i>During the year 2021 some face-to-face activities began to be carried out in the provinces, however some mobility restrictions persisted in some places, although little by little this situation improved thanks to the nationwide vaccination program.</i>	<i>Implementation</i>	<i>The Project has kept working remotely for many processes and activities, optimizing time and resources. Some in-person activities following adequate safety measures to reduce the risk of covid-19 transmission took place during 2021 with the MAATE and other stakeholders. The latter has allowed the project to moved forward with the planned activities.</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>2021 has been a time to adapt to the new reality caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition, this year, Ecuador welcomed a new president with new appointed authorities in the MAATE. Nonetheless, the project was able to continue with its planning, although the time required for some activities took longer than expected. The project was able to prioritize activities, adapt them to the new circumstances and maintain ongoing coordination with the focal points from the MAATE.</i>

2.6 REPORT ON CHANGES DURING IMPLEMENTATION

- In May 2021, the national government changed, and a new MAATE Minister was appointed and therefore all the authorities of MAATE also changed. Despite this change in the Ministry's highest authority, the Project team has been able to work in coordination with the Undersecretariat of Climate Change, which is the National Director of this Project, and progress has been made in all activities.

SECTION 3: FINANCIAL PROGRESS DETAILS					
OUTPUT ⁶	PROJECT ACTIVITY ⁷	CUMULATIVE BUDGET THROUGH TO THE END OF THIS REPORTING PERIOD (USD) suma presupuesto 2020 + 2021	CUMULATIVE EXPENDITURE THROUGH TO THE END OF THIS REPORTING PERIOD (USD) gasto 2020 + 2021	EXPENDITURE FOR THIS REPORTING PERIOD (USD) gasto 2021	COMMITMENTS ⁸ 2021
Output 1 <i>Policies and institutional management for REDD-plus.</i>	Activity 1.1 Implementing land use plans at the local level.	117,232.76	59,369.01	31,198.69	14,700.00
	Activity 1.2 Improving the management of land rights within Protective Forests and the National Protected Areas.	515,935.90	429,940.46	329,340.97	-

⁶ Edit or adjust Output/Project Activity rows in line with the approved Funded Activity Agreement (FAA).

⁷ Edit or adjust Output/Project Activity rows in line with the approved Funded Activity Agreement (FAA).

⁸ Refers only to the items as of the reporting date where the AE has signed binding contracts and the relevant expenses are not included under the expenditure's column.

	Output 1 Total	633,168.67	489,309.47	360,539.66	14,700.00
Output 2 Implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy (ENREDD+).	Activity 2.1 Establishing a private-public mechanism for marketing deforestation-free commodities from the Amazon.	69,565.09	48,278.47	41,257.47	-
	Output 2 Total	69,565.09	48,278.47	41,257.47	-
Output 3 Sustainable forest management; Conservation and Restoration.	Activity 3.1 Supporting the business case for forests: supporting small and medium enterprises.	22,216.54	8,318.69	8,318.69	-
	Activity 3.2 Research and development on industrial uses of Non-Timber Forest Products and other deforestation-free products.	118,047.45	99,180.48	84,926.23	-
	Activity 3.3 Increasing Forest restoration efforts in the southwest region of Ecuador.	251,124.10	149,776.81	131,308.98	-
	Output 3 Total	391,388.09	257,275.98	224,553.90	-
Output 4 Operational Management of the National REDD-plus Action Plan.	Activity 4.1 Strengthening of the institutional capacities of the Ministry of Environment to manage the implementation of the REDD-plus Action Plan.	293,129.84	228,411.16	171,379.70	-
	Activity 4.2 Improving the National Forest Monitoring System capacity to monitor forest degradation.	149,820.10	103,761.77	102,038.15	-
	Activity 4.3 Implementation of Stakeholder Consultation Plan and the Environmental and Social Management Plan for the use of proceeds.	315,629.75	224,155.62	190,272.22	-
	Activity 4.4 Strengthening REDD-plus Implementation in Indigenous Territories.	36,375.20	1,610.00	1,610.00	-
	Output 4	794,954.89	557,938.55	465,300.07	-
	Project management Cost	254,845.73	133,065.43	84,739.26	-
	PMC Total	254,845.73	133,065.43	84,739.26	-
	GRAND TOTAL:	2,143,922.47	1,485,867.90	1,176,390.36	14,700.00

SECTION 4: PROJECT- SPECIFIC REPORT ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS & GENDER

4.1 IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS AND GENDER ELEMENTS

(Max 1 page)

Please provide information on the Project or Programme on the following: (1) key risks and impacts as identified; (2) compliance with applicable laws and regulations including FAA conditions and

covenants; and (3) progress in the implementation of environmental and social management plans and programs including monitoring activities undertaken during the implementation of the funded activity.

(1) *The information includes description on any changes in the key environmental and social risks and impacts as identified and arising from the implementation including any unanticipated risks and impacts (ex. from changes in laws and regulations) and, based on these if any change in the Project's environmental and social risk category. In case of a change in the E&S risk category for the Project, please provide an explanation.*

The risks identified in the ESIA are consistent with the risks identified in the Project's Environment and Social Management Framework. The ESIA details the risks more specifically. The main risks identified are associated with the rights of indigenous peoples, gender equity and a lack of local information on gender. No new risks have been identified for this reporting year and there is no change in the project's environmental and social risk category.

(2) *The information should include status of compliance with applicable laws and regulations of the country as well as the relevant conditions or covenants under the FAA. This can be captured in the table below:*

Status of compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the conditions and covenants under FAA

Applicable laws and regulations/conditions and covenants	Status of compliance
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FAA Clause 8.03

In addition to clause 18.02 of the AMA and other relevant clauses of this Agreement, the Accredited Entity covenants that as from the Effective Date it shall:

[. . .]

(c) Inform the Recipient of and, as relevant, provide in the Project Document the requirements of the Rf and this Agreement, including the requirements in Clause 4.

(d) Undertake and/or put in place any adequate measures in order to ensure that the management of the environmental and social risks and impacts arising from the Funded Activity complies at all times the recommendations, requirements and procedures set forth in the Environmental and Social Safeguards, Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) Report and the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), which was provided by the Accredited Entity to the Fund before the Approval Decision.

e) Obtain, or ensure that the Executing Entity shall acquire, as when needed, environmental licenses or clearances, land and rights in respect of land that are required to carry out the Funded Activity, including deeds of donation or assignment of land use rights for land that will not be compensated, and shall promptly furnish to the Fund, upon its request, evidence satisfactory to the Fund that such licenses, clearances, land and rights in respect of the land are available for the purposes of the Funded Activity.

(f) Prior to commencing any activities that have potential application of the Accredited Entity’s safeguards standards on indigenous peoples and/or cultural heritage, the Accredited Entity shall submit to the Fund the relevant indigenous peoples plan, cultural heritage plan, or other appropriate mitigation measure, including related to benefit sharing and/or a grievance mechanism where relevant, and shall also furnish to the Fund evidence, satisfactory to the GCF Secretariat, that free, prior and informed consent from the indigenous communities has been obtained for the purposes of the relevant activities.

(g) Apply, in accordance with its own policies and procedures, its own fiduciary principles and standards relating to AML/CFT in the implementation of the Funded Activity.

(i) Contractually require and monitor that (i) the GCF Volume of ERs and the REDD+ RBP paid by the GCF for those ERs are published in the Info Hub as well as in the Ecuador’s National Registry of Emission Reduction Accounting for REDD+; (ii) the GCF Volume of

FAA Clause 8.03

[. . .]

(c) UNDP confirms compliance to this covenant.

(d) Adequate measures are being undertaken during the implementation of the Project. The Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and its actions plans are under implementation since the beginning of 2021. These plans were developed considering all the recommendations, requirements and procedures set in the SESP, ESMF and ESIA. The ESMP and its plans have been shared with the Project’s technical team through various training sessions. Furthermore, the ESMP planning matrices are being linked to the Project’s internal monitoring and tracking system to follow up on activities and expected outcomes. Staff was hired to coordinate activities related to gender, safeguards, and grievance mechanisms with the rest of the team and the strategic partners of the project. A total of three people were hired in 2021 (service contracts financed by the Project). Additionally, an independent consultant was hired to develop the project’s gender baseline.

(e) Activities carried out in 2021 did not need to obtain such licenses, clearances, land, and rights in respect of land to carry out the Funded Activity.

(f) The Indigenous Peoples Plan has been translated into English and will be sent to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), pending final internal approval. The processes of Free, Prior and Informed Consultation (FPIC) will be conducted to seek the consent of local communities and indigenous nationalities according to the document "National Consultation Guide for the implementation of REDD+ activities in collective territories" issued by MAATE through the ministerial agreement 116. The consultations will be carried out based on the lessons learned and experiences from the PROAmazonía GCF Project (FP019). Documentation of the FPIC processes will be shared with the GCF on a rolling basis. The REDD+ Grievance Mechanism was approved by the MAATE, and the public has access to it. Once the locations and direct beneficiaries of the Project are clearly identified, training will be conducted to explain how it works and its importance to ensure transparency in the execution and risk mitigation of the Project.

(g) UNDP confirms compliance to this covenant.

(i) The GCF Volume of ERs and REDD+ RBP paid by the GCF for those ERs are published in the Info Hub as well as in the Ecuador’s National Registry of Emission Reduction Accounting for REDD+. For (ii) and (iii) UNDP will continue monitoring compliance.

- Link to Info Hub: <https://redd.unfccc.int/info-hub.html>
- Link to the National Registry of Emission Reduction Accounting for REDD+: http://reddecuador.ambiente.gob.ec/redd/?page_id=702

(k) The ESIA re-confirmed the risk category as moderate - assigned to the project in the design phase



ERs are no longer eligible for RBPs under the GCF or in any other arrangement; and (iii) the GCF Volume of ERs are and will not be transfer or otherwise used (e.g., offsetting).
(k) Ensure that the REDD+ RBP will not support or finance, directly or indirectly, any activities with potential environmental and social risks that equivalent to category A pursuant to the Environmental and Social Risks Categories to be conducted as part of the use of GCF Proceeds.

through UNDP's SESP. The project is not supporting or financing any activities with potential environmental and social risks that are equivalent to Category A.

Organic Code of Environment and its regulations.	2021: Fully compliant. The Project is directly linked to the Undersecretariat of Climate Change to guarantee the implementation of its activities in accordance with the policies and projects of the MAATE, thus ensuring that the Organic Code of Environment (COA, for its acronym in Spanish) regulations are met. Additionally, the Project works in a coordinated manner with the GADs to comply with the provisions of art. 12 and 13 of this legal text, further strengthening the Decentralized National System of Environmental Management.
Organic Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information.	2021: A specific space was created for the coastal region within the framework of the REDD+ Roundtable, called the Coastal Roundtable, to coordinate the efforts of the RBP Project with key stakeholders in the region. Two meetings have been held with this specific group to report on the Project's activities that are planned to be carried out in this region.
Organic Law of Citizen Participation.	2021: During 2021, key stakeholders have been identified for the implementation of activities in the coastal region. The Coastal Roundtable was created within the framework of the REDD+ Roundtable, which is expected to be strengthened next year. In 2022 beneficiaries of the Project will be approached to begin the consultation to start restoring 1,000 hectares in the province of Zamora Chinchipe.
Law for Strengthening and Development of Production, Marketing, Extraction, Export, and Industrialization of Oil Palm and its Derivatives.	2021: Not applicable yet. This Project builds upon the achievements of Project FP019, which is supporting the implementation of best agricultural practices with small scale farmers and the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil certification (RSPO) scheme to strengthen the oil palm sector.
Organic Entrepreneurship & Innovation Act.	2021: Not applicable yet. The Project will support SMEs in two value chains to promote the sustainable use of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) including research for product innovation. The development of these ventures will contribute to the achievement of the National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Strategy goals.
Organic Law of the Ombudsman's Office.	2021: Not applicable yet. The Project is implemented under a voluntary participation scheme. Work is being done to establish a partnership with the Ombudsman's Office for the purpose of obtaining advice on human rights and training in 2022.
Comprehensive Organic Law to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women.	2021: The PROAmazonia Program has a Gender Action Plan 2021-2026 (PAG, for its acronym in Spanish), which is a multiannual planning tool that unifies the actions for gender mainstreaming of its three projects (GCF, GEF and RBP). This tool allows for the optimization of resources by facilitating the coordination of activities among various actors and their respective follow-up. Activities also include actions to raise awareness and prevent violence against women, which are described in more detail in the gender section of this report.

(3) Provide a report on the progress made in implementing environmental and social management plans (ESMPs) and frameworks (ESMFs) describing achievements, and specifying details outlined in the tables below. Implementation of management plans and programmes.

The implementation of the environmental and social management plans began in 2021 and there were several activities that the Project has undertaken during 2021 to address the risks identified in the ESMF.



(i) activities implemented during the reporting period, including monitoring.	(ii) outputs during the reporting period.	(iii) key environmental, social and gender issues, risks and impacts addressed during implementation.	(iv) any pending key environmental, social and gender issues needing accredited entity's actions and GCF attention.
<p>ESMF - Recommendation&MM1: The Project should develop a clear set of procedures, mechanisms, and/or guidelines.</p> <p>The Safeguards Information System is currently being piloted and tested by the project team. It is expected to start operations in 2022.</p> <p>The REDD+ Grievance Mechanism is in the pilot phase. There are instructions, a user's manual, digital and physical forms, a process flow, and locations for receiving grievances in place.</p> <p>The ESMP monitoring matrices are currently being integrated with the Project's internal monitoring and follow-up system.</p>	<p>SIS prototype in testing phase.</p> <p>Piloting use of the Grievance Mechanism.</p> <p>Pilot for the incorporation of the ESMP matrices into the Project's internal monitoring system.</p>	<p>ESMF – Risk 4: Environmental and especially social impacts of project activities are not assessed and monitored regularly and adequately and do not prompt real time changes to project operations, management plans, and implementation to improve project results and avoid adverse impacts; results of assessments and monitoring are not accessible to stakeholders yet to ensure effective participation and public accountability, or connected to mechanisms to allow sharing across institutions and departments responsible for reporting, accountability, and public communication.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>ESMF - Recommendation&MM2: need for undertaking an ESIA for all project activities and the development of an ESMP and associated management plans.</p> <p>The ESMP are being implemented based on the progress and activities of the Project. The technical team of the Project was trained on implementation of the ESMP.</p>	<p>Project team capacities strengthened for the implementation of the ESMP.</p>	<p>All risks from the ESMF.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>ESMF - Recommendation&MM3: establish a small multi-stakeholder committee that meets at least twice a year to examine any new activities being developed.</p> <p>During 2021, the MAATE's Safeguards Roundtable was consolidated and met twice during the year. On the other hand, the REDD+ Roundtable designated focal points to form a specific REDD+ Safeguards Roundtable. The objective is that both groups can form a Committee for Environmental and Social Safeguards in the future.</p>	<p>Roadmap developed for the MAATE's Safeguards Roundtable, and a repository document for use and consultation of this group.</p> <p>Designation of focal points from the REDD+ Roundtable for a specific REDD+ Safeguards Roundtable.</p>	<p>ESMF - Risk 4: Environmental and especially social impacts of project activities are not assessed and monitored regularly and adequately and do not prompt real time changes to project operations, management plans, and implementation to improve project results and avoid adverse impacts; results of assessments and monitoring are not accessible to stakeholders to ensure effective participation and public accountability, or connected to mechanisms to allow sharing across institutions and departments responsible for reporting, accountability, and public communication.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>ESMF - Recommendation&MM 5: ToR will be developed to hire staff needed for the PMU.</p>	<p>A total of four people were hired to strengthen the Project's team on issues related to safeguards, gender, and grievance</p>	<p>All risks from the ESMF.</p>	<p>N/A</p>



<p>The project hired a Junior Gender Assistant in March 2021 and a Senior Gender Specialist (independent consultant) in June 2021 for the implementation of the Gender Action Plan. In addition, a safeguards technician and an assistant for the grievance mechanism were also hired. All contracts are financed by the Project.</p>	<p>mechanisms.</p>		
<p>ESMF-Recommendation&MM 10: There will be a Stakeholder Engagement Plan developed.</p> <p>The process of evaluating the participation spaces used in the GCF PROAmazonia Project FP019 has begun to generate lessons learned that will be useful for the RBP project.</p> <p>Meetings were held with key stakeholders on the Coast to define the scope of REDD+ activities in this region. This activity was carried out by the Coastal Roundtable of the REDD+ Roundtable.</p> <p>The Terms of Reference to implement the COFENIAE Pdl was developed in a participatory manner with the CONFENIE and the MAATE.</p>	<p>Evaluation of the participation processes of the GCF PROAmazonia Project FP019 initiated.</p> <p>Proceedings and minutes of the agreements reached by the Coastal Roundtable within the framework of the REDD+ Roundtable.</p> <p>NGO selected to support the COFENIAE in the implementation of actions of its REDD+ Implementation Plan.</p>	<p>ESMF - Risk 2: Private Sector stakeholders lack the knowledge or capacity to participate effectively in the project. Some may lack the sustained interest and/or not see the value of the benefits being promised compared to those they may secure through their other forest-related economic endeavors. Well-beings are not improved over time, and they withdraw from the project arrangements related to conservation and alternative deforestation-free economic initiatives.</p> <p>ESMF - Risk 3: The project will be developed in areas where there is a high proportion of indigenous people with important cultural heritage, ancestral land and resource rights, also poor rural farmers, and collectives. It aims to bring together these stakeholders with differing levels of resources, rights, and power through a multi-level governance framework for designing and implementing land use planning and protected areas resource management plans. The project could lead to adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights of the affected populations because duty-bearers might not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project or because rights holders might not have the capacity to claim or seek protection of their rights. The risk of adverse impacts to property rights is notable. The Project could have inequitable or discriminatory adverse impacts on affected populations, particularly indigenous peoples with titled and untitled property rights in project areas, and other individuals and collectives living in poverty or otherwise marginalized.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>ESMF - Recommendation&MM 12: An Indigenous Peoples Plan should be developed.</p> <p>The Indigenous Peoples Plan has been prepared and steps are being put in place to implement it. No activities have yet been implemented in collective territories of indigenous peoples and nationalities.</p> <p>Although no project actions have yet been carried out in indigenous territories, the lessons learned from the GCF PROAmazonia Project</p>	<p>Lessons learned document of the FPIC processes of the GCF PROAmazonia Project FP019 for future application in this project.</p> <p>NGO WWF selected in a participatory manner with COFENIAE and MAATE for the implementation of COFENIAE's</p>	<p>ESMF – Risk 3: The Project will be developed in areas where there is a high proportion of indigenous people with important cultural heritage, ancestral land and resource rights, and poor rural farmers and collectives. It aims to bring together these stakeholders with differing levels of resources, rights, and power through a multi-level governance framework for designing and implementing land use planning and protected areas resource management plans. The project could lead to adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights of the affected populations because duty-bearers might not have the capacity to meet their</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>FP019 on the implementation of the national consultation guide will be used to develop the RBP project's consultation plan.</p> <p>Participatory process carried out with the CONFENIAE for the development of the ToR for the implementation of their Pdl.</p>	<p>Pdl.</p>	<p>obligations in the project or because rights holders might not have the capacity to claim or seek protection of their rights. The risk of adverse impacts to property rights is notable. The Project could have inequitable or discriminatory adverse impacts on affected populations, particularly indigenous peoples with titled and untitled property rights in project areas, and other individuals and collectives living in poverty or otherwise marginalized.</p> <p>ESMF – Risk 6: The Project will implement land use plans, conservation, and forest restoration efforts to reduce the pressure on forest areas and increase protection of key forest stratum. Some of these activities may place restrictions on existing and future natural resource uses. Although the project does not envisage such restrictions resulting in economic displacements or infringements on cultural heritage, this could happen, especially for poorer and marginalized individuals and collectives who may not have resources to change their current practices and resource uses or whose livelihoods, physical and cultural survival is deemed connected to these resources, or where the peoples in question did not.</p> <p>ESIA Risk 11, 12 and 15: Impact on the conservation of intangible cultural heritage in protected areas and protective forests.</p> <p>Non-existent or limited access and distribution of benefits associated with natural resources and traditional knowledge.</p> <p>Lack of knowledge of the value and ownership of ancestral practices and knowledge.</p>	
<p>ESMF - Recommendation&MM 14 – 15: Establish an effective Project Grievance Mechanism.</p> <p>A pilot of the REDD+ Grievance Mechanism (GRM) is successfully underway for the Project.</p>	<p>Tools developed for registering complaints.</p> <p>Instructions and manual developed for the use of the validated mechanism.</p> <p>Informative materials proposed to disseminate the mechanism in the Project.</p>	<p>ESMF Risk 1: Project intentions to promote land regularization in National Protected Areas, Protective Forests and within areas of forest restoration, and project plans to have CONFENIAE and its members prioritize REDD+ activities and the communities that will implement them, may result in disputes among those with overlapping claims of ownership and use rights (including disputes among local governance bodies (cantons, parochial units, the governance structures of indigenous and other collectives), among private individuals and collectives, as well as among the leaders and members of CONFENIAE.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Additionally, include a description of the actions undertaken towards increasing the relevant stakeholders' engagement in the project environmental, social and gender elements, and a list on the grievances received in the reporting period that will include at least the description of the grievance, the date the grievance was received, and the resolution of the grievance.

Information below in this sub-section should be provided for all projects regardless of the E&S risk category for the Project.

Implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan

The development of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan was finalized during 2021 and its implementation will begin in 2022. Nonetheless, the Project has conducted several activities to promote the active participation of stakeholders.

(i) activities implemented during the reporting period.	(ii) dates and venues of engagement activities.	(iii) information shared with stakeholders.	(iv) outputs including issues addressed during the reporting period.
Training for the Project team on the implementation of the ESMP.	June 15 - 17, 2021 June 21 - 25, 2021 June 22 - 24, 2021	ESMP content. Planning to implement ESMP activities.	Roadmaps to work with each of the components of the Project developed.
Meeting of the REDD+ Coastal Roundtable	April 29, 2021 May 17, 2021 September 12, 2021 November 10 - 12, 2021	REDD+ initiatives on the Coast Region. Information about milestones and interventions with the REM Program (REDD+) in the Coast. Milestones and prioritized areas for the intervention of the RBP Project (REDD+). ACUS selection process within the framework of the Performance-based Payment Agreement for the selected GADs.	Initial needs assessment for capacity building in the Coast related to REDD+ developed
Meeting of the REDD+ Indigenous Nationalities Roundtable.	October 22 - 24, 2021	REDD+ initiatives in indigenous territories.	Exchange of experiences and learning about protocols for the use of genetic resources and voluntary repositories. Relevant inputs for indigenous peoples within an intercultural REDD+ approach.
Meeting of the MAATE's Safeguards Roundtable	June 3, 2021 September 1, 2021 November 22, 2021	Inputs and materials for training and dissemination of safeguards information in MAATE's REDD+ initiatives.	Document repository for consultation purposes developed for MAATE's officials. Guidelines for structuring the safeguards toolbox. Roadmap for establishing the safeguards work plan for the first quarter of 2022.

Implementation of the grievance redress mechanism

No grievances were received during the reporting period.

(i) description of issues/complaints received during the reporting period.	(ii) status of addressing issues/complaints
None	None

4.2 GENDER ACTION PLAN

Provide a progress report on the gender action plan developed during project preparation stage for the reporting period. This will primarily be a report on activities undertaken and results achieved because of completion of an activity. Further it should also indicate if the Project is on track to achieving the intended outcome(s).

The reporting should be done for activities, targets and indicators already set in the action plan including on vulnerable groups (youth, poor, female heads of households, etc.) as would have been identified in the gender analysis and action plan. If activities or targets are not achieved as per plan, reasons should be provided, and recourse action should be proposed. Please include a reporting on any changes or deviations.

Include a Report on implementation challenges and lessons learnt and how these will inform on -going actions and what action will be taken by when to address the challenges faced.

- Incorporate both quantitative data and qualitative report of the performance of such actions, and on progress on actions identified.

2021

As a recap and reported in the 2020 APR for the project, under the 2020 ESIA/ESMP consultancy for the project two additional risks were identified. In response, a supplemental GAP was incorporated into the project-specific GAP (under activity 4.3) to effectively mitigate these risks. This updated GAP, which was presented in the 2020 APR for the project, remains valid and it is the same GAP that is used to report 2021 gender progress in Section 4.2.1 below.

Also, to highlight, in order to optimize and unify the actions for gender mainstreaming of the three projects of the PROAmazonía Program (GCF FP019, GEF and this project), a multiannual planning tool for the period 2021 – 2026 has also been developed. Combining the activities, indicators and targets of the GAPs and gender mainstreaming actions of the three projects, this tool allows for the optimization of resources by facilitating the coordination of activities among various stakeholders and their follow-up, thus avoiding duplication of efforts among these three projects.

The PROAmazonía Program (GCF FP019, GEF and this project) has a gender team of three gender professionals: 1 Specialist, 1 Technical Assistant and 1 Consultant, who work directly on ensuring the effective and full implementation of a gender approach within the projects.

During 2021, the methodology for the preparation of the diagnosis of the socioeconomic situation of the women beneficiaries of the RBP project was developed. The diagnosis will be based on available primary and secondary sources of information and will be the baseline against which the impact of the RBP project intervention will be measured in the following years. Gender-sensitive indicators of the multiannual planning tool were also defined to measure its execution.

In 2021 the Project started raising awareness to promote meaningful equity in local governments for the involvement of women, men, and youth from the communities in decision-making on land use with a group of young women and women leaders from 23 grassroots federations of the CONFENIAE (12 women, 11 men), with whom local and community proposals were developed to prevent gender violence. In November 2021, the first awareness workshop on the prevention of gender-based violence was held with the participation of these actors.

In 2021, a communications campaign was developed (which will be implemented throughout the year 2022 to raise awareness on gender equality and to eradicate violence against women). The campaign will be symbolized by purple boots, which will be given to the beneficiaries of the Program and implementing partners as a recognition of the direct contribution that women have in the Project's intervention areas and as a direct invitation to take action to reduce the gender gaps identified in these areas.

Women leaders interested in actively participating in planning and articulation spaces supported by the PROAmazonía Program, such as the commodity platforms directed by the MAG, have also been identified in 2021. Furthermore, the "Purple Boots" campaign is being created which seeks to integrate not only women producers, but also GAD technicians and indigenous leaders in decision-making processes. The goal of the "Purple Boots" campaign is to form a platform of women from the Amazon to coordinate actions with all relevant stakeholders to reduce gender gaps in the project's intervention areas. These women also act as spokespersons on gender equality.

Updated information on access barriers to credit was collected from the Project FP019's beneficiaries (women producers). This information will be used to propose measures to reduce the barriers that rural women face to access credit with existing lines of credit such as the "Super Rural Women" offered by BanEcuador. The study "Analysis of gender gaps in access to credit for rural women in the country, with emphasis



on the Amazon", carried out within the framework of PROAmazonía's GEF project with UN Women identified local regulations to facilitate access to credit for women. The manual to improve women's access to credit is not yet developed because the collection of information at the local level for the manual has not yet been completed.

The implementation of the gender approach and the actions of the multiannual planning tool for the period 2021 – 2026 mentioned above in the intervention areas, especially those related to the methodology of the socio-economic diagnosis and the current situation of women in the prioritized areas took longer than expected because it was necessary to obtain MAATE's approval, which came at the end of November. However, the information gathering process has started in several Amazonian provinces and cantons where the GCF FP019 project (PROAmazonía) works, and some of these areas will be considered in the RBP Project.

The current context of the pandemic and the restrictions to hold in-person workshops have delayed the implementation of some activities. Nonetheless, workshops to collect information on women's empowerment and violence prevention were held with a smaller number of participants, who are highly committed to support the actions of the project. The latter will allow to coordinate activities in 2022 to reach the proposed objectives and targets.

4.2.1 Progress on implementing the project-level gender action plan submitted with the funding proposal.				
Objective	Gender-responsive Actions	Gender indicators, including sex-disaggregated targets	Responsible institutions/ individuals	Report on annual progress 2021
Activity 1.1: Implementing land use plans at the local level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate a gender perspective within the Land Use Plans (LUPs) of local governments. Equitably and meaningfully involve women, men, and youth from communities in the development of the LUPs of local governments. Equitably build capacity of women, men, and youth from communities on REDD+ and LUPs, so that they can meaningfully engage in LUP development and raise their perspectives. 	<p>1. Indicator: % and # of LUPs of local governments that integrate i) a gender perspective and ii) assign an explicit budget to support such activities. Target: 100% LUPs of local governments integrate i) a gender perspective and ii) assign an explicit budget to support such activities. Baseline: Local governments have begun the process of updating their PDOTs to include climate change and gender criteria and actions.</p> <p>2. Indicator: % and # of participants of consultations/workshops on LUPs, who are women and youth. Target: 50% of participants of consultations/workshops on LUPs are women and female youth. Baseline: 0</p> <p>3. Indicator: % and # of women participants involved in consultations and trainings for this activity who felt they could actively participate and had their perspectives considered. Target: 90% of women participants felt the consultations and trainings for this activity at least 'adequately' met and/or achieved these parameters. Baseline: 0</p> <p>4. Indicator: % of trainings and workshops associated with this activity which are designed to account</p>	MAATE, Zapotillo GAD, GAD of the Metropolitan District of Quito, Commonwealth of the North Pacific (Pedernales GAD and Jama GAD).	<p>1. Progress: 100% LUPs of local governments integrated a gender perspective. These actions were implemented under the GCF PROAmazonía Project FP019.</p> <p>During 2021 two GADs and one commonwealth were selected to participate in the PBPA:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> GAD of the Metropolitan District of Quito. Zapotillo GAD in Loja province. Commonwealth of the North Pacific (Jama GAD and Pedernales GAD) in Manabí province. <p>(To note, the PBPA requires that these GADs update their ACUS management plans with the inclusion of social and environmental safeguards, including a gender approach.)</p> <p>2. Progress: 0% and 0#, no progress made during the reporting period. The beneficiaries of the RBP Project will be approached in 2022. The work related to the LUPs was done through the FP019 PROAmazonía Project.</p> <p>3. Progress: 0% and 0#, no progress made during the reporting period. The beneficiaries will be approached in 2022 and the actions will focus on the PBPA.</p>

		<p>for women's constraints (e.g., location, timing, women's only groups, etc.). Target: 100% of meetings and workshops associated with this activity are designed to account for women's and youth constraints. Baseline: 0</p>		<p>4.Progress: 0%, no progress made during the reporting period. The beneficiaries will be approached in 2022.</p>
<p>Activity 1.2: Improving the management of land rights within Protective Forests and National Protected Areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equitably and meaningfully involve women, men, and youth from communities in efforts to develop a baseline and information system of the monitoring of land use zoning within the Protective Forests and National Protected Areas LUPs. Equitably build capacity of women, men, and youth from communities on land use zoning within the Protective Forests land use plans, so that they can meaningfully engage in LUPs development and raise their perspectives. Validate findings of land use zoning within the Protective Forests land use plans equitably and meaningfully involve women, men, and youth from communities. Disaggregate by sex land ownership where possible (e.g., with individual land titles at a minimum) as well as collect data on land plot size as well. 	<p>1.Indicator: % and # of participants of consultations/workshops on baseline development for land use zoning within the Protective Forests and National Protected Areas land use plans who are women and youth. Target: 40% participants of consultations on land use zoning for the Protective Forests and National Protected Areas land use plans are women and female youth. Baseline: Protective Forests and National Protected Areas in Ecuador have management plans.</p> <p>2.Indicator: % of trainings and workshops associated with this activity which are designed to account for women's constraints (e.g., location, timing, women's only groups, etc.). Target: 100% of meetings and workshops associated with this activity are designed to account for women's and youth constraints. Baseline: 0</p> <p>3. Indicator: % and # of women participants involved in consultations and trainings for this activity who felt they i) could actively participate, ii) understood the content being discussed and iii) had their perspectives considered. Target: 90% of women participants felt the consultations and trainings for this activity at least 'adequately' met and/or achieved these parameters.</p>	<p>MAATE and the Project team.</p>	<p>1.Progress: 0% and 0#, no progress made during the reporting period. The beneficiaries will be approached in 2023.</p> <p>2.Progress: 0%, no progress made during the reporting period. The beneficiaries will be approached in 2023.</p> <p>3.Progress: 0% and 0#. The beneficiaries will be approached in 2023.</p> <p>4.Progress: 0% and 0#. The land ownership baseline assessment was initiated in 8 protective forests and 6 protected areas. The sex variable was included in the collection records of the MAATE to identify women in these territories. Additionally, the Project requested the MAATE to participate in the review of the Ministerial Agreement that will regularize the areas that will be selected, and ensure the inclusion of gender criteria, and safeguards in this policy instrument. Once the baseline is completed, the Project will start to work with the beneficiaries in the selection process of the two areas to be prioritized for the land tenure regularization with the MAATE.</p>

		<p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>4.Indicator: % and # of land titles that have data on sex of owner and plot size. Target: The sex of the owner and size of the land plot are noted for 100% of land titles that are individually held. Baseline: 0</p>		
<p>Activity 2.1: Establishing a private-public partnership for marketing deforestation-free commodities from the Amazon.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target an equitable number of women producers within these value chains (e.g., at least 30% of producers are women). • Work and collaborate with those private sector companies who promote gender equality and a human right base approach (HRBA) in their work. • Design all consultations and training associated with this activity to encourage women's active involvement. • Address any knowledge gaps and needs of women and youth in advance of consultations for this activity to enable the active participation of these groups. 	<p>1.Indicator: % and # of producers involved in this activity who are women. Target: At least 30% of producers are women. Baseline: 0</p> <p>2.Indicator: % and # of private sector companies who have gender equality and/or a HRBA principles explicitly listed in their vision and/or mission statement. Target: 90% of private sector companies have gender equality and/or a HRBA principles explicitly listed in their vision and/or mission statement. Baseline: 0</p> <p>3.Indicator: % of trainings and workshops associated with this activity which are designed to account for women's constraints (e.g., location, timing, women's only groups, etc.). Target: 100% of meetings and workshops associated with this activity are designed to account for women's and youth constraints. Baseline: 0</p> <p>4.Indicator: % and # of women participants involved in consultations and trainings for this activity who felt they i) could actively participate, ii) understood</p>	<p>MAATE, MAG, UNDP</p>	<p>The activities related to sustainable production for the RBP will begin in 2023. However, some of the activities which are being carried out with the GCF PROAmazonia Project FP019 will be the basis to continue the work with the RBP Project in the next years. Such activities are reported here:</p> <p>1.Progress: 40% of participants of the Farmer Field Schools (livestock, coffee, and cocoa) are women. These are beneficiaries of the GCF FP019 Project, the RBP project will continue to work based off this intervention.</p> <p>2. Progress: 0% and 0#, no progress made during the reporting period. Activities related to deforestation free commodities will begin in 2023.</p> <p>3. Progress: 100% of Farmer Field Schools consider women's constraints. The RBP project will continue to work based off this intervention.</p> <p>4. Progress: 10%. The instrument to collect this information to measure this indicator was designed during 2021 and will be applied in 2022.</p>

		<p>the content being discussed and iii) had their perspectives considered. Target: 90% of women participants felt the consultations and trainings for this activity at least 'adequately' met and/or achieved these parameters. Baseline: 0</p>		
<p>Activity 3.1: Supporting the business case for forests: supporting SMEs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target an equitable number of women-owned businesses producers within these value chains (e.g., at least 30% of businesses targeted are women- owned). • Ensure that women- owned businesses are equitably represented in each business cluster. • Design all consultations and training associated with this activity to encourage women's active involvement. • Address any knowledge gaps and needs of women-owned businesses in advance of consultations for this activity to enable the active participation of this group. • Assess business-related training, market access issues, and needs of businesses owned by women and address these needs, so that they can actively and competitively participate in national and international markets. 	<p>1.Indicator: % and # of businesses involved in this activity which are women owned. Target: 40% of businesses involved in this activity are women owned. Baseline: 0</p> <p>2.Indicator: # and % of women-owned businesses within each business cluster. Target: At least 30% of business within each business cluster are women owned. Baseline: 0</p> <p>3.Indicator: # and % women trained who say the value chain trainings helped i) them to understand the market better and ii) their businesses have become more competitive and profitable. Target: 90% of women trained who say the value chain trainings helped their businesses to become more competitive and profitable. Measured 1 year and 3 years after training given. Baseline: 0</p> <p>4.Indicator: % of trainings and workshops associated with this activity which are designed to account for women's constraints (e.g., location, timing, women's only groups, etc.). Target: 100% of meetings and workshops associated with this activity are designed to account for</p>	<p>MAATE and the Project team.</p>	<p>During 2021, the "Amazon Innovates Challenge" was carried out. As a result, there is a registry of bioentrepreneurships from the Amazon (the available information is disaggregated by sex). This information will be used to select one value chain to be strengthened by the Project. Gender criteria will be applied for the selection of this value chain in 2022, and it is expected that a significant number of women will benefit from this process.</p> <p>1.Progress: 0% and 0#. The information will be available once the value chain is selected.</p> <p>2.Progress: 0# and 0%. The information will be available once the value chain is selected.</p> <p>3.Progress: 0# and 0%. The beneficiaries will be approached once the value chain is selected.</p> <p>4.Progress: 0%. The beneficiaries will be approached once the value chain is selected.</p> <p>5.Progress: 0% and 0#. The beneficiaries will be approached once the value chain is selected.</p>

		<p>women's and youth constraints. Baseline: 0</p> <p>5.Indicator: % and # of women participants involved in consultations and trainings for this activity who felt they i) could actively participate, ii) understood the content being discussed and iii) had their business needs addressed. Target: 90% of women participants felt the consultations and trainings for this activity at least 'adequately' met and/or achieved these parameters. Baseline: 0</p>		
<p>Activity 3.2: R&D on industrial uses of NTFP and other deforestation-free products.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate gender within studies on industrial uses of NTFP. Given their involvement in NTFP, equitably and meaningfully consult with women, men, and youth from communities during the development of the studies. Validate findings of studies equitably with women, men, and youth from communities. 	<p>1.Indicator: % and # of industrial uses of NTFP studies that integrate a gender perspective. Target: 100% of industrial uses of NTFP studies integrate a gender perspective. Baseline: 0</p> <p>2.Indicator: % of consultations and workshops associated with this activity which are designed to account for women's constraints (e.g., location, timing, women's only groups, etc.). Target: 100% of meetings and workshops associated with this activity are designed to account for women's and youth constraints. Baseline: 0</p> <p>3.Indicator: % and # of women participants involved in consultations and workshops for this activity who felt they i) could actively participate, ii) understood the content being discussed and iii) had their perspectives considered. Target: 90% of women participants felt the consultations and workshops for this activity at least</p>	<p>MAATE, research centers and universities and the Project team.</p>	<p>This year's efforts focused on the "Amazon Innovates Challenge".</p> <p>1.Progress: 0% and 0#, no progress made during the reporting period.</p> <p>2.Progress: 0%, no progress made during the reporting period.</p> <p>3.Progress: 0% and 0#, no progress made during the reporting period.</p>

		'adequately' met and/or achieved these parameters. Baseline: 0		
Activity 3.3: Increasing Forest restoration efforts in the Southwest region of Ecuador.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In capacity building activities related to the maintenance of restored areas with stakeholders, equitably and meaningfully involve and target women, men, and youth from communities. Design all consultations and training associated with this activity to encourage women's active involvement. When new agreements are signed with individuals, collect sex disaggregated on signatories. Build capacity on the stipulations of the agreements equitably among 1) women and men signatories for individual agreements and 2) women and men from communities for communal agreements. 	<p>1.Indicator: % and # of participants of capacity building activities and consultations/workshops associated with this activity who are women. Target: 40% participants of capacity building activities and consultations/workshops associated with this activity are women. Baseline: 0</p> <p>2.Indicator: % of trainings and workshops associated with this activity which are designed to account for women's constraints (e.g., location, timing, women's only groups, etc.). Target: 100% of meetings and workshops associated with this activity are designed to account for women's and youth constraints. Baseline: 0</p> <p>3.Indicator: % and # of women participants involved in consultations and capacity building for this activity who felt they i) could actively participate, ii) understood the content being discussed and iii) had their perspectives considered. Target: 90% of women participants felt the consultations and capacity building for this activity at least 'adequately' met and/or achieved these parameters. Baseline: 0</p> <p>4.Indicator: % and # of new agreements signed have data on sex of signatory and plot size for each agreement</p>	MAATE, UNDP	<p>The report of prioritized areas for restoration was approved at the end of November, and the first bidding and tendering for the restoration of 1,000 hectares in the province of Zamora Chinchipe was published. Starting in 2022, women involved in this first restoration project will be identified. Given this, no progress made on this activity's gender actions during the reporting period.</p> <p>1.Progress: 0% and 0#.</p> <p>2.Progress: 0%.</p> <p>3.Progress: 0% and 0#.</p> <p>4.Progress: 0% and 0#.</p>

		<p>Target: The sex of the signatory and size of the land plot are noted for 100% of agreements that are individually signed Baseline: 0</p>		
<p>Activity 4.1: Strengthening of the institutional capacities of the Ministry of Environment to manage the implementation of the REDD+ Action Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train and build capacity of the MAATE's staff and REDD+ staff, stakeholders, and partners on the 'why' and 'how to' integrate a gender perspective within REDD+ Implementation. • Hire a gender expert or create a specialized team composed of male and female experts focusing on supporting the mainstreaming of gender of this Project. • Train and build capacity of National Councils for Equality members on REDD+ as necessary, so that their guidance can be context specific, and they can be used as resource to help gender integration into REDD+. 	<p>1.Indicator: # of MAATE and REDD+ staff and stakeholders who have had their capacity built/awareness raised on gender and REDD+ (disaggregated by sex and stakeholder group). Target: 80% of MAATE and REDD+ staff and stakeholders have their capacity built/awareness raised on gender and REDD+. Baseline: 0</p> <p>2.Indicator: Evidence of changes in perception/understanding of gender among MAATE and REDD+ staff and stakeholders. Target: 80% of MAE and REDD+ staff and stakeholders trained demonstrate changes in perception/ understanding of gender (e.g., through use of pre and post workshop surveys, etc.). Baseline: 0</p> <p>3.Indicator: Evidence that either gender expert or team is supporting the mainstreaming of gender in REDD+ efforts in Ecuador for the lifespan of the Project. Target: Either a gender expert or team is hired to support the mainstreaming of gender in REDD+ efforts in Ecuador for the lifespan of the Project. Baseline: No existing gender team is supporting the mainstreaming of gender in REDD+ efforts in Ecuador.</p> <p>4.Indicator: % and # of National Councils for Equality members who have had their capacity</p>	<p>MAATE, National Councils for Equality and the Project team.</p>	<p>1.Progress: 0%. During the year 2021, 1 module out of 3 of a gender capacity building programs was designed within the REDD+ framework aimed at Project staff and implementing partners, which will be finished and delivered in 2022.</p> <p>2.Progress: 0%. Results will be delivered once the courses are taken by the staff.</p> <p>3.Progress: 100%. The technical assistant for gender mainstreaming was hired in March 2021. A consultant was also hired to directly support the implementation of this Gender Action Plan. Both work with PROAmazonía's gender and intercultural specialist to mainstream the gender approach in the project.</p> <p>4.Progress: 0% and 0#. Results will be delivered once the courses are taken by the staff.</p>

		<p>built/awareness raised on REDD+ (disaggregated by sex). Target: 80% of National Councils for Equality members have their capacity built/awareness raised on gender and REDD+. Baseline: 0</p>		
<p>Activity 4.2: Improving the National Forest Monitoring System capacity to monitor forest degradation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When undertaking local monitoring and validation efforts within a pilot area, equitably and meaningfully consult with involve women, men, and youth from the applicable communities. 	<p>1.Indicator: % and # of women and female youth involved i) in monitoring activities and ii) consulted with during the validation process. Target: 40% of community participants of involved 1) in monitoring activities and 2) consulted with during the validation process are women or female youth. Baseline: 0</p> <p>2.Indicator: % of trainings and workshops associated with this activity which are designed to account for women's constraints (e.g., location, timing, women's only groups, etc.). Target: 100% of meetings and workshops associated with this activity are designed to account for women's and youth constraints. Baseline: 0</p> <p>3.Indicator: % and # of women from communities involved in the monitoring and validation efforts within the pilot area who felt they i) could actively participate, ii) understood the activities being undertaken and iii) had their perspectives considered. Target: 90% of women participants involved in the monitoring and validation efforts within the pilot area felt the activities for this activity at least 'adequately' met and/or achieved these parameters. Baseline: 0</p>	<p>MAATE, UNDP and the Project Team.</p>	<p>The monitoring methodology for forest degradation will be developed during 2022. Once the methodology is ready, community monitoring pilots will be carried out to ensure the inclusion of women and youth. Given this, no progress made on this activity's gender actions during the reporting period.</p> <p>1.Progress: 0% and 0#.</p> <p>2.Progress: 0%.</p> <p>3.Progress: 0% and 0#.</p>

<p>Activity 4.3: Implementation of the Stakeholder Consultation Plan Environmental and Social Management Plan for the use of proceeds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement all gender-related findings and activities of the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and ESMP. • Ensure that gender-sensitive and sex-disaggregated indicators and targets are included in the results monitoring framework for the implementation of the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and ESMP sufficiently. • Allocate enough budget to cover costs of 1) implementing gender-related findings and activities of the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and ESMP; and 2) collecting data for the gender-sensitive indicators within the Stakeholder Consultation Plan's and ESMP's results framework. • Develop a gender policy to guide the mainstreaming of gender within the implementation of the REDD+ Action Plan. • Validate above mentioned gender policy with state and non-state stakeholders, including those more marginalized, such as women, youth, etc. • Modify the Guide to the Participation of Actors in the REDD+ Roundtable so that it fully mainstreams a gender perspective. • Ensure equitable gender participation and involvement of marginalized groups representatives (such as women, youth, indigenous people, etc.) in the REDD+ Roundtable. • Elaborate an internal and external communication strategy for informing and promoting gender initiatives within the REDD + scope. 	<p>1.Indicator: % of gender-related findings and activities of the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and ESMP that are successfully implemented. Target: 100% gender-related findings and activities of the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and ESMP are successfully implemented. Baseline: 0</p> <p>2.Indicator: % and # of gender-sensitive and sex disaggregated indicators and targets within the results monitoring framework for the implementation of the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and ESMP. Target: 90% of gender-related findings and activities of the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and ESMP have corresponding gender indicators and targets established within the results monitoring framework. Baseline: 0</p> <p>3.Indicator: % of budget allocated to cover costs of i) implementing gender-related findings and activities of the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and ESMP; and ii) collecting data for the gender-sensitive indicators within the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and ESMP's results framework. Target: Evidence that enough funds are budgeted to cover costs of i) implementing gender-related findings and activities of the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and ESMP; and ii) collecting data for the gender-sensitive indicators within the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and ESMP's results framework. Baseline: 0</p> <p>4.Indicator: Evidence that a gender policy to guide the mainstreaming of gender within the implementation of the REDD+ Action Plan was drafted.</p>	<p>MAATE and Project Team.</p>	<p>1.Progress: 17% execution of the multiannual planning tool discussed above. During 2021, the multiannual planning tool was socialized with the entire technical team of the project, with whom a quarterly follow-up is carried out to obtain feedback and cover specific support needs on gender issues.</p> <p>2.Progress: 0% and 0#. The gender-sensitive and sex disaggregated indicators of the multiannual planning tool have been integrated into the Project's Monitoring system.</p> <p>To help collect gender-sensitive baseline data and guide monitoring and implementation of the ESMP, gender sensitive indicators have been designed to be incorporated to Social and Environmental Safeguards system (SIS) and Project's Monitoring system (S&M). These systems are in the testing phase at the present.</p> <p>3.Progress: 18% of the total budget for gender actions in the RBP Project (the total budget for this Project is US 265,000 aprox). During 2021 the budget executed was US 48,924, this amount corresponded to (i) the gender baseline development that will continue in 2022, (ii) the Gender Technical Assistant for the project, and (iii) the workshops and materials used.</p> <p>4.Progress: 0%, no progress made during the reporting period The project will support the MAATE in the drafting of the National Climate Change Gender Action Plan (PAGCC) during 2022. A roadmap has been developed by the Undersecretary of Climate Change to continue with this process in 2022.</p>
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		<p>Target: Gender policy to guide the mainstreaming of gender within the implementation of the REDD+ Action Plan drafted within the first year of Project. Baseline: No current gender policy to guide the mainstreaming of gender within the implementation of the REDD+ Action Plan exists.</p> <p>5.Indicator: % and # of participants of the gender policy consultations and validation meeting who are women and youth. Target: At least 50% participants of consultations and validation meeting are women and female youth. Baseline: 0</p> <p>6.Indicator: % and # of women participants involved in consultations and validation meetings for this activity who felt they i) could actively participate, ii) understood the content being discussed and iii) had their perspectives considered. Target: 90% of women participants felt the consultations and validation meetings for this activity at least 'adequately' met and/or achieved these parameters. Baseline: 0</p> <p>7.Indicator: Evidence that a gender perspective has been integrated into the Guide to the Participation of Actors in the REDD+ Roundtable. Target: A gender perspective integrated into the Guide to the Participation of Actors in the REDD+ Roundtable Baseline: Guide to the Participation of Actors in the REDD+ Roundtable exists but only included a limited amount of gender considerations.</p>		<p>5.Progress: 0% and 0#. Consulting activities will be carried out once the PAGCC is drafted.</p> <p>6.Progress: 0% and 0#. Consulting activities will be carried out once the PAGCC is drafted.</p> <p>7.Progress: 0% no evidence yet.</p> <p>8.Progress: 34 women, 38% from the 90 members of the REDD+ Table are women (45 lead and 45 alternate). 18 women participate as lead representatives.</p> <p>9.Progress: 3 organizations of women (AMWAE, La Chakra Association, and CONFENIAE's women group), and 1 youth organization called JASE (Environmental Youth Network from the South of Ecuador) participate on the REDD+ Roundtable.</p> <p>10.Progress: 0% no evidence yet. The "Purple Boots Campaign" was drafted, and it is pending approval from the MAATE and MAG for its official launch during 2022. Also, communicational products were developed, including the "Booklet for the prevention of gender-based violence and violence against women in spaces of conservation and sustainable production" and the "Booklet for gender and climate change".</p>
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<p>Activity 4.4: Strengthening REDD+ Implementation in Indigenous Territories</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate a gender approach within the support provided by the proposed Project to the REDD+ Implementation Plan in the Amazonian Indigenous Territories of Ecuador. For those activities being supported by the proposed Project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the results monitoring framework for the REDD+ Implementation Plan in the Amazonian Indigenous Territories of Ecuador sufficiently integrates gender-sensitive 	<p>1.Indicator: Evidence that gender is mainstreamed within the support provided by the proposed Project to the REDD+ Implementation Plan in the Amazonian Indigenous Territories of Ecuador. Target: Gender mainstreamed with the support provided by the proposed Project to the REDD+ Implementation Plan in the Amazonian Indigenous Territories of Ecuador. Baseline:0</p>	<p>MAATE, UNDP, CONFENIAE, NGO WWF.</p>	<p>1.Progress: 0%, no evidence yet. CONFENIAE's Pdl includes specific actions for working with women. The implementation of the Pdl will begin in 2022.</p> <p>2.Progress: 35% and 33 of 94 indicators of the CONFENIAE's Pdl are gender sensitive and sex disaggregated, and they are integrated within the results monitoring systems for REDD+. CONFENIAE must report in the SIGMA and SIS (official systems for REDD+).</p>

	<p>and sex disaggregated indicators and targets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Allocate enough budget to support the full integration of gender within the REDD+ Implementation Plan in the Amazonian Indigenous Territories of Ecuador. 	<p>2.Indicator: % and # of gender-sensitive and sex disaggregated indicators and targets integrated within results monitoring framework for the REDD+ Implementation Plan in the Amazonian Indigenous Territories of Ecuador. Target: 30% of targets and indicators are gender sensitive. Baseline:0</p> <p>3.Indicator: % of budget allocated to support the full integration of gender within the REDD+ Implementation Plan in the Amazonian Indigenous Territories of Ecuador. Target: 5% of budget to support the REDD+ Implementation Plan in the Amazonian Indigenous Territories of Ecuador is allocated for gender-related activities. Baseline:0</p>		<p>3.Progress: 5% of the budget of CONFENIAE's Pdl is allocated to gender activities.</p>
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Provide a list of activities in the ESMP to be implemented in the next reporting period. Include relevant deliverables such as reports or action plans, and other project specific products. Please include the monitoring schedule concerning ESS and gender activities for the next annual reporting period.

The detailed activities and measures from the environmental and social plans to be implemented in the next reporting period 2022 are listed below.

Environmental and Social Management Plan

- Define and incorporate a mechanism to control deforestation displacement (leakage) in the monitoring of vegetation cover in the ACUS, which should be developed by the GADs that manage the ACUS.
- Incorporate in the selection process of value chains (NTFP bioentrepreneurships) selection criteria that guarantee greater participation of women in this activity, environmental sustainability (Management Plans) and better income opportunities for the organizations to ensure sustainable livelihoods (Business Plan).
- Begin the FPIC processes in the territories where forest restoration processes will be carried out and ensure that the species used are endemic and of interest to the communities.
- Organize an exchange of experiences on restoration and bioentrepreneurships with the communities that have worked on the GCF PROAmazonía Project FP019, as well as the organizations that implemented the restoration and bioentrepreneurship projects supporting these communities and MAATE through the National Reforestation Program, and the Undersecretariat of Natural Heritage.

Indigenous Peoples Plan

- Define the location of the protective forest in which land legalization processes will be carried out with the objective of identifying and defining the need to apply FPIC processes with local communities.
- As a first step, a consultation plan must be developed for the implementation of the FPIC with the communities that will work with the Project in the restoration areas, in the ACUS conserved by the GADs and the other interventions of the project.
- Review the National FPIC Guide with the CONFENIAE and gather inputs to improve the consultation protocol with the organization and incorporate these recommendations into the FPIC processes. Ensure the FPIC Guide is consistent with the UNDP SES.
- Initiate a registration and safeguarding process on ancestral knowledge in the NTFP bioentrepreneurship value chains with the National Service for Intellectual Rights (SENADI). Also strengthen the capacities of the project's technical team and beneficiaries through training with the SENADI.
- Disseminate the REDD+ grievance mechanism in the communities and beneficiaries of the RBP project.

Stakeholder's Engagement Plan

- Identify key local participatory spaces in the coast and highlands regions to create a specific strategy adapted to the local stakeholders.
- Articulate MAATE's Safeguards Roundtable with the REDD+ Safeguards Roundtable, so that both groups can form the Environmental and Social Safeguards Committee.
- Promote value and respect for the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICP) of indigenous peoples in protected areas, protective forests, and indigenous territories in the project's intervention areas.

Capacity Building

- Develop trainings to promote the understanding and importance of conserving ancestral knowledge and practices at a collective level among different indigenous peoples and within the project.

Please refer to section 2.4 for the monitoring schedule concerning ESS and gender activities for the next annual reporting period.

4.4 PLANNED ACTIVITIES ON GENDER ELEMENTS

The following activities have been planned for the next period:

- Promote meaningful equity in local governments for the involvement of women, men, and youth from the communities in decision-making on land use. This activity will be carried out in coordination with the entire project team. In a first phase, awareness and training processes will be carried out. This process already began in 2021 with a group of young women and women leaders from 23 grassroots federations of the CONFENIAE (12 women, 11 men), with whom local and community proposals were developed to prevent gender violence. In the first half of 2022, support will be given to survivors of violence and to other indigenous justice issues to strengthen social and environmental safeguards, such as the appropriation of the dispute settlement mechanism for REDD+ (grievance mechanism), among others. Furthermore, the leadership skills of youth and women at the organizational level of the CONFENIAE and communities that actively participate in project activities will be strengthened. In addition, knowledge about REDD+ will be broadened in the territory to promote the equal participation of men, women, and youth, and to encourage informed decision making among these population groups. Work will be conducted with technical teams at the parish and cantonal GAD level in the Project's intervention areas. This action is also part of the activities foreseen in the CONFENIAE's Pdl, and accompaniment will be provided to the Youth Leadership of this organization.
- Application of the guidelines for the collection of information for the socioeconomic diagnosis of the situation of women in the RBP Project's implementation areas, which includes economic and productive information. It should be noted that this information will also include official statistics, population censuses, parish, and cantonal GAD administrative files. The diagnosis will be ready in the first quarter of 2022 and will include the analysis of information gathered from primary and secondary sources and will also serve to review the gender-sensitive indicators of the multiannual planning tool, so that they can be updated if necessary. The findings of the socioeconomic diagnosis will be socialized with the REDD+ Roundtable and will also serve for decision making processes regarding the REDD+ gender policy.
- Review of information reported by project partners on gender issues including REDD+ systems: SIS and SIGMA. This is an ongoing activity. Additionally, with the information reported in the official REDD+ systems, it will be possible to know the Project's contribution to gender issues and will facilitate decision-making on climate change and national gender policies from MAATE. For monitoring and implementing the ESMP, couple gender sensitive indicators have been designed to be incorporated to Social and Environmental Safeguards system (SIS) and Project's Monitoring system (S&M). These systems are in the testing phase at the present.
- Capacity building and women's empowerment processes in RBP Project topics, such as: violence prevention, inclusive language, and the strengthening of women's participation in the different strategies to be implemented. Learning modules will be designed for technical teams and beneficiaries of the Project. This work will be done with the CONFENIAE's Youth Representatives and the Pdl of the Organization will be used as the base of this work. There will be a module on gender violence and actions to prevent it with an intercultural approach. This process began in November 2021, and it will continue in the first quarter of 2022.
- Form a group of Amazonian women for the local dissemination of the "Purple Boots" initiative, to promote multi-stakeholder and multilevel work that promotes the reduction of gender gaps. This will be a platform for ongoing communication and action with public and private institutions and other stakeholders and is expected to be consolidated by the end of 2022.
- The guide to the Participation of Actors in the REDD+ Roundtable will be revised and updated during 2022, based on the results of the socioeconomic diagnosis of the women beneficiaries.
- The RBP project will focus on land planning activities through the Performance-Based Payment Agreement (PBPA) to promote the effective conservation of the Areas of Conservation and Sustainable Use (ACUS), which will include social benefits for vulnerable populations, women, youth, and/or indigenous peoples within these areas.
- During 2022 efforts will focus on the systematization of the existing administrative data within the MAATE. Once the baseline is complete, the project will start the participative workshops for the selection process of the protected area and the protected forest to work on this indicator in 2023.
- The studies on industrial uses of NTFP will be conducted during 2022 and will include information related to women.

SECTION 5: ANNEXES

Annex 1. [Updated implementation timetable for the Funded Activity.](#)

Annex 2. [Updated milestone time table](#)

SECTION 6: ATTACHMENTS

N/A

ADDITIONAL SECTION: COVID-19 IMPACT

Please indicate if your project/programme is adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Yes

Please choose the severity of overall impact (Description of levels of severity):

2. Facing delays: Implementation progress faced delays in the timeline but did not require any substantial changes in the implementation plan.

Please describe an overall impact on your project/programme by the COVID-19 pandemic (100-word limit).

There are still restrictions on having massive meetings or workshops in-person due to the Covid-19 pandemic since the capacity must be limited to a maximum of 25 people, depending on the provisions of each local government. The participation of strategic partners through online communication spaces has also been limited due to connectivity issues and other institutional priorities.

The mobilization restrictions and social distancing caused by the pandemic have resulted in the need to extend deadlines of consultancies. The latter has created a greater administrative burden to the Project, UNDP, and the implementing partners.

However, it is worth mentioning that the Covid-19 pandemic has also provided an opportunity to improve time management and promote key alternative spaces with local institutions and stakeholder.

Please describe details of challenges encountered and corrective/mitigation measures taken.

Type of Challenges Encountered	Details of the challenges encountered
Field Activities	<p>At the beginning of 2021, in person capacity building activities could not be conducted due to the risk of Covid-19 transmission and high hospital occupancy. These restrictions affected the work in the field and the collection of data from MAATE offices in the provinces. Several activities planned for the year have been rescheduled for 2022. More face-to-face activities took place in the second semester of the year thanks to the successful vaccination campaign led by the new administration.</p> <p>The use of online technological tools facilitated the coordination of meetings, workshops and inspections with the partners, which optimized time and resources. Also, some face-to-face activities were carried out</p>



	<p>with the support of the team based on the provinces. Furthermore, consultants hired to implement some of the project’s strategies were able to move forward the execution of the project during 2021.</p> <p>The project is constantly adapting to the Covid-19 reality and was able to advance with its planning thanks to its ability to prioritize activities, adapt them to the new circumstances and maintain ongoing coordination with key stakeholders.</p>
Supply Chain	N/A
Liquidity and Solvency	N/A
Project Costs	<p>The pandemic resulted in additional costs for the project to reduce the transmission of the coronavirus among project personnel and beneficiaries such as indigenous communities and agricultural producers. Safety materials were purchased such as masks and alcohol for conducting field trips and meetings throughout the year. PCR tests were also done to all project members to hold a workshop in December 2021 to plan the activities for 2022.</p>
Financing and Concessionality	N/A
Others	N/A

Please describe if any support is required from the GCF to address the COVID-19 impact on your project/programme.

N/A.