WWF GEF
Project Document
Cover Page

Project Title:	Connectivity Corridors in two priority landscapes of the Ecuadorian Amazon Region
GEF Project ID:	10259
WWF-US Project ID:	G0020
Countries:	Ecuador
Project Duration:	60 months
Project Type:	Full-size project
GEF Trust Fund(s):	GEFTF
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity and Land Degradation
Implementing Agency:	World Wildlife Fund, Inc.
Lead Executing Agency:	Ministry of Environment and Water, Ecuador Conservation International

GEF Project Cost:	$6,423,853
GEF Agency Fee:	$578,147
Project Co-financing:	$ 45,061,551
Total Project Cost:	

WWF GEF Agency Contact	Isabel Filiberto, Astrid Breuer
Version Date:	February 26, 2021

Contents

Acronyms and abbreviations

AECBs	Special Areas for the Conservation of Biodiversity
ACUS	Areas of Conservation and Sustainable Use
AEDSPP	Pastaza Provincial Ecological Area for Sustainable Development
AFD	French Development Agency
AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use
ASL	Amazon Sustainable Landscapes
ATPA	Agenda for Productive Transformation of the Amazon
BAVC	High Conservation Value Forests
BMZ	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
BVP	Protective Forests and Vegetation
CI	Conservation International
COA	Ecuadorian Environmental Organic Code
COICA	Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon River Basin
CONFENIAE	Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Amazon
COOTAD	Organic Code for Territorial Organization, Autonomy and Decentralization
CTEA	Special Amazonian Territorial Circumscription
ECA	Field Schools for Farmers
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FEPP	Ecuadorian Fund for Peoples Development
FFF	Forest and Farm Facility Mechanism
GAD	Decentralized Autonomous Governments
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GIZ	German International Cooperation
IBA	Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas
INABIO	National Institute of Biodiversity
INEC	National Institute of Statistics and Census
LOCTEA	Organic Law of the Amazon Territorial Circumscription
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAAE	Ecuadorian Ministry of Environment and Water
MAG	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
NCI	Nature and Culture International Foundation
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NICFI	Norway's International Climate and Forests Initiative
PA	Protected Areas
PANE	State Natural Heritage Areas Sub-system
PASNAP	Project for the Support of the National System of Protected Areas
PDOT	Development and Territorial Management Plans
PIA	Integral Plan for the Amazon
PIR	Project Implementation Report
PMU	Project Management Unit

PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PSB	Socio Bosque Program
PUGs	Soil Use and Management Plans
RCOA	Regulation to the Organic Code of the Environment
SCTEA	Technical Secretariat of the Amazon
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SINMBIO	National Biodiversity Monitoring System
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SNAP	National Protected Areas System
SPN	Undersecretary of Natural Heritage
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

Executive Summary

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program (ASL) II aims at improving integrated landscape management and conservation of ecosystems in targeted areas of the Amazon region, and includes Child Projects in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Suriname. One of the ASL II Child Projects is the proposed "Connectivity Corridors in two priority landscapes of the Ecuadorian Amazon" (Connectivity Corridors Project). The objective of this Child Project is to improve the ecological connectivity of two priority landscapes of the Ecuadorian Amazon, through the establishment of two connectivity corridors and associated management mechanisms, to ensure the long-term biodiversity conservation of its ecosystems.

The two proposed project landscapes, the Putumayo Aguarico and the Palora Pastaza, include the two main Ecuadorian tributaries of the Amazon River (The Napo and Pastaza rivers) and play a significant role in connecting areas of high conservation value, acting as biological corridors, providing buffers for Protected Areas (PAs), and supplying other globally important ecosystem services. Several indigenous nationalities live in both landscapes and their practices, traditional knowledge and cultural beliefs have existed for centuries, providing a vast amount of knowledge about the tropical Amazon, with an important intrinsic cultural value.

The Putumayo Aguarico landscape extends over 144,915 ha and is integrated into the great wetland of the Ecuadorian Amazon, with 78% of it covered by forests. The proposed connectivity corridor in the landscape would connect three important PAs of the Ecuadorian National Protected Areas System (SNAP): the Limoncocha Biological Reserve, the Cuyabeno Fauna Production Reserve, and the Yasuní National Park (World Wildlife Fund-WWF, Conservation International-CI, 2019). The Palora - Pastaza landscape covers an area of 178,129 ha, most of which is forested (86% of the landscape) and plays a significant role in regulating the water flows from the Andes that tribute to the Pastaza River. In this landscape, the proposed corridor would connect the core habitats of the Sangay National Park with indigenous communities' forests, including territories from the Achuar, Kichwa and Shuar indigenous peoples.

The environmental problem the project proposes to address is the habitat fragmentation and lack of connectivity among PAs, and the associated loss of biodiversity and ecosystem integrity of the Ecuadorian Amazon forest, in the two selected landscapes. Both landscapes suffer from deforestation and fragmentation, and if those processes continue it is expected that within a few years, the landscape PAs will remain as islands surrounded by an ocean of agricultural land, with the associated consequences of ecosystem impoverishment and biodiversity loss, amongst others. The expansion of the agricultural frontier and the current unsustainable agricultural practices have been prioritized by the project stakeholders as the most important threats to connectivity in the two project landscapes.

To overcome the identified threats and ensure the biological connectivity of the landscapes, the project will work to overcome four key barriers: (i) Limited capacities of national and local governments to design and implement functional connectivity corridors; (ii) Lack of articulation and stakeholder coordination within the territorial planning processes in the two project landscapes; (iii) Limited technical and financial capacity for conservation friendly agriculture production and for bioeconomy initiatives, in the two connectivity corridors to be proposed by the project; and (iv) Insufficient regional coordination to address common problems in the Amazon region and insufficient mechanisms to share knowledge at the local, national, and regional levels.

The project will support the implementation of the government of Ecuador ecological connectivity model, recently stablished in the Ministerial Agreement No. MAE-2020-019, issued on May 22, 2020, that includes the technical standard for the design, establishment, and management of connectivity corridors in Ecuador. The project will create enabling conditions and capacities for the implementation of this Ministerial Agreement, and will put it into action, creating one connectivity corridor in each of the two priority amazon landscapes, selected for their ecological relevance, and the convergence of a relevant baseline of national and local initiatives. The project will build on the most important public and private interventions that, in the two project landscapes, are working to promote (i) biodiversity conservation and ecological connectivity; (ii) sustainable agriculture practices and bioeconomy initiatives; (iii) territorial planning processes and coordination of stakeholders.

The project theory of change aligns with the ASL II program, and is based on the logic that the ecological integrity of the landscapes, dependent on the biological connectivity between the existing PAs and other landscape forest remnants, can be maintained if:

- a participatory process, coordinated through interinstitutional and multisectoral governance platforms leads to the identification of two connectivity corridors, consented by involved indigenous peoples and nationalities through an FPIC process, and to the formal designation of the connectivity corridors by the Ministry of Environment and Water (MAAE),
- fragmentation and other agricultural threats to ecological connectivity are reduced through the promotion of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) practices in key intensive agricultural production areas in and around the two connectivity corridors,
- alternative sustainable livelihoods for the corridor communities are promoted via the strengthening of bioeconomy initiatives, that are compatible with the biodiversity conservation of the corridors, and
- enabling conditions are created for ensuring the effective integration of the connectivity corridor objectives in territorial planning instruments and capacities of the two landscapes.

The project will be implemented over a period of 5 years and includes 4 interrelated components.

Component 1 seeks to implement a technical analysis to select the best connectivity corridor route, based on geospatial, social, economic, cultural, ecological, and political criteria. It will also include activities to fulfill the necessary requirements established in Ministerial Agreement 019 and to submit the technical documentation required for the MAAE to officially designate a connectivity corridor each project landscape. Finally, under Component 1 key planning and management tools for the management of the corridors will be prepared.

Component 2 seeks to decrease threats to connectivity in the two proposed corridors, by promoting sustainable agriculture production practices in key areas of the corridors, based on the assessments done in Component 1. In those key productive areas, the project will promote land-use planning at a farm level and SLM practices. In the connectivity corridors, the project will also promote alternative bioeconomy initiatives to reduce pressure on native forests and incentivize alternative forest friendly income generating initiatives.

Component 3 seeks to establish the enabling conditions for effective and participatory corridor management through three strategies: 1. Development of standards, public policy, technical or administrative instruments that contribute to the connectivity and integrated management of

sustainable landscapes; 2. Strengthening key stakeholders' capacities for corridor management; and, 3. Establishment of inter-institutional, inter-sectoral, and multi-level governance platforms for the participatory identification and management of the corridors.

Component 4 focuses on developing and implementing a monitoring and evaluation plan that will allow for effective and efficient project management and provide information for effective decision-making within the adaptive management of the project. It also seeks to promote spaces for dialogue and knowledge exchanges at the national and regional levels, to leverage successful strategies and lessons learned from other initiatives.

The project, with a total GEF budget of USD6,423,853, will be executed under the lead of the MAAE, with WWF as the GEF Project Agency and Conservation International-Ecuador (CI-Ecuador) as the Co-Executing Agency, based on an established partnership and work in biodiversity conservation, multi-stakeholder initiatives for the management of natural resources, and expertise and trajectory of working in the Amazon region in Ecuador. The project will generate important Global Environmental Benefits, including the creation of 50,000 ha of new PAs (two connectivity corridors) and associated management instruments; the improved management of 20,000 ha of landscape, through the promotion of sustainable land management practices in productive systems, and improved management of forests associated to bioeconomy activities, to benefit biodiversity; and 212,644 tonCO2 emissions reduced from avoided deforestation and degradation by project activities.

Within the context of Ecuador's ambitious ecological connectivity model, the project's impact will extend well beyond the specific target landscapes and will also provide a scalable model at the country level.

SECTION 1: PROJECT BACKGROUND AND SITUATION ANALYSIS

1.1 Project Scope and Environmental Significance

Project Scope

The Amazon Region contains both the largest tropical rainforest and the largest river (in terms of water discharge volume) in the world. Considered one of the most diverse regions on the planet, the Amazon rainforest hosts at least 10% of the world's known species, including endemic and endangered flora and fauna, and provides significant ecosystem services to people worldwide. However, the forest faces several threats that are increasing its fragmentation, destabilizing forest dynamics and accelerating biodiversity loss.

The GEF funded Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program (ASL) II aims at supporting the ecological integrity of the globally significant Amazon landscapes. The World Bank is the Lead GEF Agency for the program and, in that role, coordinates the program level activities supported by the regional coordination grant. The program is composed of a series of country-driven projects that contribute to the overall goal of the Program. Government agencies involved in the implementation of the country projects, GEF Agency partners, and the GEF Secretariat are all represented on an ASL Program Steering Committee. The objective of this program is to improve integrated landscape management and conservation of ecosystems in targeted areas in the Amazon region, and includes Child Projects in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname.

One of the ASL II Child Projects is the proposed "Connectivity Corridors in two priority landscapes of the Ecuadorian Amazon". The objective of this Child Project is to improve the ecological connectivity of two priority landscapes of the Ecuadorian Amazon, Putumayo – Aguarico and Palora-Pastaza, through the establishment of two connectivity corridors and associated management mechanisms, to ensure the long-term biodiversity conservation of its ecosystems.

Establishing individual PAs has been the primary focus of traditional in situ conservation. However, science shows that the most innovative solution to maintain ecosystem services, avoid species extinction and preserve biodiversity in PAs is to create connectivity among these PAs. According to a study conducted in 2019, natural landscape features found adjacent to PAs were determined to be crucial to facilitating species movement, gene flow and species distribution (Stewart Darlington, Volpe et al., 2019[1]). Animals were proven to utilize these contiguous natural landscape features over "stepping stones" of non-connected PAs. Another study found that new species colonize habitats connected by corridors 5% more than species located in habitat patches connected only through stepping stones (Damschen et al., 2019[2]).

[1] Frances E. C. Stewart, Siobhan Darlington, John P.Volpe, Malcolm McAdie & Jason T. Fisher. (2019) Corridors best facilitate functional connectivity across a protected area network, (2019) 9:10852 | https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-019-47067-x

[2] Ellen I. Damschen, Lars A. Brudvig, Melissa A. Burt, Robert J. Fletcher Jr., Nick M. Haddad, Douglas J. Levey, John L. Orrock, Julian Resasco, Joshua J. Tewksbury (2019) Ongoing accumulation of plant diversity through habitat connectivity in an 18-year experiment, SCIENCE 1478-1480

To achieve long-term conservation goals, active measures must be taken to reduce fragmentation and maintain, enhance, and restore ecological connectivity among and between PAs and forest remnants (Belote et al., 2020[3]). The government of Ecuador has recently established the ecological connectivity model for the country, with the Ministerial Agreement No. MAE-2020-019, issued on May 22, 2020, that includes the technical standard for the design, establishment, and management of connectivity corridors in Ecuador (for additional information, see section 1.4 National and Sectoral Context). The proposed project will create enabling conditions and capacities for the implementation of this Ministerial Agreement, and will put it into action, creating one connectivity corridor in each of the two priority amazon landscapes, selected for their ecological relevance, the convergence of a relevant baseline of local initiatives, existing conservation gaps, and important emerging threats to forest loss and fragmentation.

Environmental Significance

In Ecuador, the Amazon Region, or CTEA, for its acronym in Spanish – see Figure 1-), has a total area of 116,588 km^2, and occupies 41% of the country (Ministry of Environment & United Nations Development Program-UNDP, 2017). Its global importance lies in its high levels of biodiversity (the Ecuadorian Amazon lowlands host 4,857 species of herpetofauna, of which 235 are endemic the Ecuadorian Amazon, and 5,000 species of vascular plants); carbon storage capacity (with a storage of 1.53 giga / ton of carbon) and water resources (provision, regulation and maintenance), with 81% of the national water resources located in eight Amazonian watersheds (Ministry of Environment & UNDP, 2017). According to the last population census (INEC (National Institute of Statistics and Censuses), 2010), the area is home to 739,814 people, including 11 indigenous nationalities: Achuar, A'i Kofan, Andwa, Kichwa, Quijos, Siecopai (Secoya), Shiwiar, Shuar, Siona, Waorani and Zapara (Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Amazon - CONFENIAE, 2020).

[3] R Travis Belote, Paul Beier, Tyler Creech, Zachary Wurtzebach, Gary Tabor, A Framework for Developing Connectivity Targets and Indicators to Guide Global Conservation Efforts, BioScience, Volume 70, Issue 2, February 2020, Pages 122–125, https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/biz148

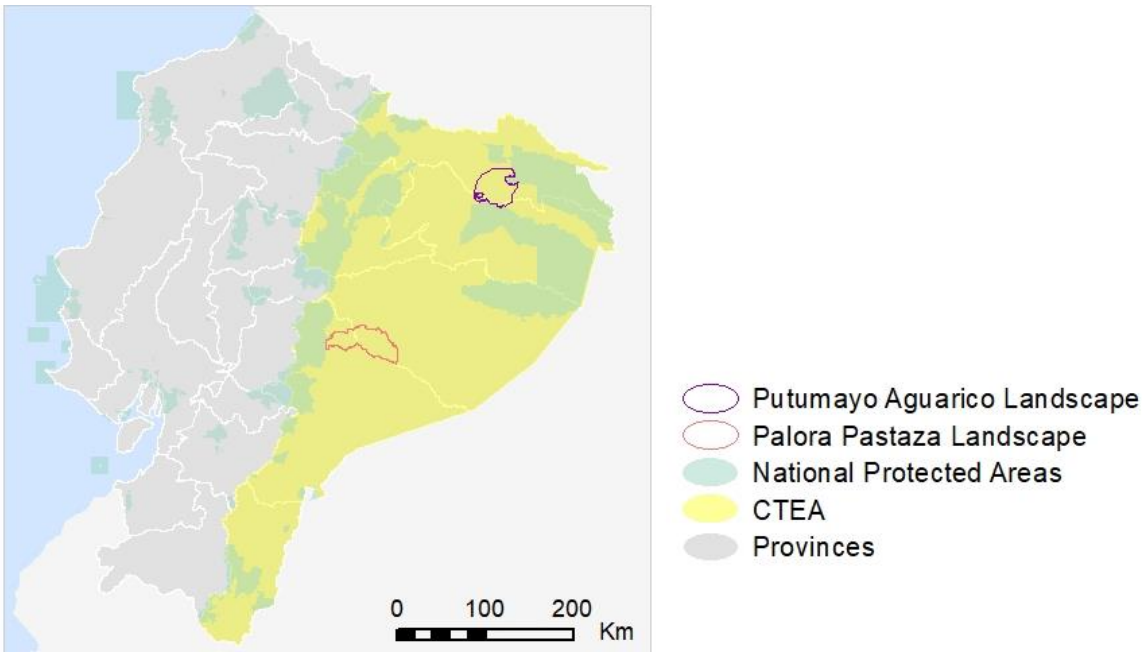


Figure 1: Map of the Special Amazonian Territorial Circumscription, and the two project landscapes

The two proposed project landscapes, Putumayo – Aguarico and Palora - Pastaza, cover about 3% of the CTEA's surface, and include the two main Ecuadorian tributaries of the Amazon River (The Napo and Pastaza rivers). The two landscapes play a significant role in connecting areas of high conservation value, acting as biological corridors, providing buffers for PAs, and supplying other globally important ecosystem services. Several indigenous nationalities live in both landscapes and their practices, traditional knowledge and cultural beliefs have existed for centuries, providing an immense amount of knowledge about the tropical Amazon, with an important intrinsic cultural value.

In 2013, the Ministry of Environment implemented an analysis based on the Pressure, Status, and Response framework, to assess the conditions of remnant vegetation and ecosystems, at the national level. The assessment considered variables such as the intensity of human activities, the ecological importance, and the existence of on the ground conservation management efforts, including the management of the National System of PAs. Based on this analysis, the Ministry of Environment identified 11 priority zones for the establishment of connectivity corridors at the national level (See map in Figure 2).

Figure 2. Map of priority zones for the establishment of connectivity corridors (Ministerial Agreement MAE-135-2013 (MAE, 2013)

The Putumayo-Aguarico Landscape is located in the eleventh priority zone, and this is one of the reasons why this landscape was selected for the project. While the Palora-Pastaza landscape doesn´t fall entirely in one of the zones prioritized by this Ministerial Agreement (it is located at the north of zone #9), it was selected by the project because it covers a key conservation gap on the central-eastern part of the Ecuadorian Amazon, a territory of high ecological relevance. Furthermore, in this landscape, there is an interesting convergence of baseline initiatives and a strong support from local stakeholders (including local governments and indigenous communities), and the Ministry of Environment, to work on biodiversity conservation and connectivity corridor initiatives.

Both landscapes have important remnants of native vegetation cover with relevant biodiversity and ecosystem services; presence of core habitats with diverse conservation management (PAs, Socio Bosque Program-PSB, protected forests); potential for the establishment of new local conservation areas; and high level of threats to the fragmentation of the natural ecosystems, as described in the following sections.

The Putumayo - Aguarico Landscape

The Putumayo - Aguarico Landscape has extends over 144,915 ha, and covers 2 provinces (Orellana and Sucumbíos), 4 municipalities (Orellana, Shushufindi, Cuyabeno, and La Joya de los Sachas) and 9 parishes[4] (San Roque, Limonchocha, Shushufindi, Pañacocha, Tarapoa, Aguas Negras, Aljeandro Labaka, El Edén, and Pompeya). It has a population of 10,993 people, of which 4,458 (41%) are indigenous, including communities of the Shuar, Kichwa, Waorani, Secoya, and Siona indigenous nationalities[5] (RAISG, 2017). The landscape is integrated into the great wetland of the Ecuadorian Amazon with 78% of it covered by forests; mostly evergreen lowland forest of the Putumayo-Caquetá Aguarico (59.8%), followed in extension by the Palm-flooded forest of the Amazon floodplain (13.1%) (Ministry of Environment, 2018).The biomass in the landscape stores approximately 18.7M ton of carbon (Woods Hole Research Center, 2019), equivalent to 132 TonC/ha, representing a higher than average carbon storage capacity within the Ecuadorian Amazon(123 TonC/ha).

The Putumayo - Aguarico landscape connects three important PAs of the Ecuadorian SNAP: the Limoncocha Biological Reserve, the Cuyabeno Fauna Production Reserve, and the Yasuní National Park (WWF, CI, 2019), which together cover about 58.5% of the landscape area. Other conservation areas are also present in the landscape, with 14.6% declared as Protected Forest and Vegetation; 20.8% conserved under the PSB[6], 14.59% declared as a RAMSAR site and 3.31% of the landscape area is recognized as Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) (Ministry of Environment, sf). See map in figure 3 below, showing the conservation areas of the Putumayo Aguarico landscape.

[4] In Ecuador, local governments are divided in three jurisdictions: a province (state), municipality (city) and parish (town). A group of parishes make up a municipal jurisdiction, while a group of municipal jurisdictions form the province.
[5] Ecuador recognizes 14 indigenous nationalities in the country. This term is used to describe a group of millenary peoples that have a historic identity, language and common culture and live in a determined area with their own governance bodies and traditional social, economic and political systems.
[6] The PSB provides economic incentives to private and community landowners with native ecosystems who commit to conserving those areas for 20 years. Until September 2020, the program has 2.647 agreements to conserve 1.6 million hectares, benefiting 178.000 people, with an annual investment of USD $10.5 million in incentives. Until 2018, PSB has invested more than USD $90 million.

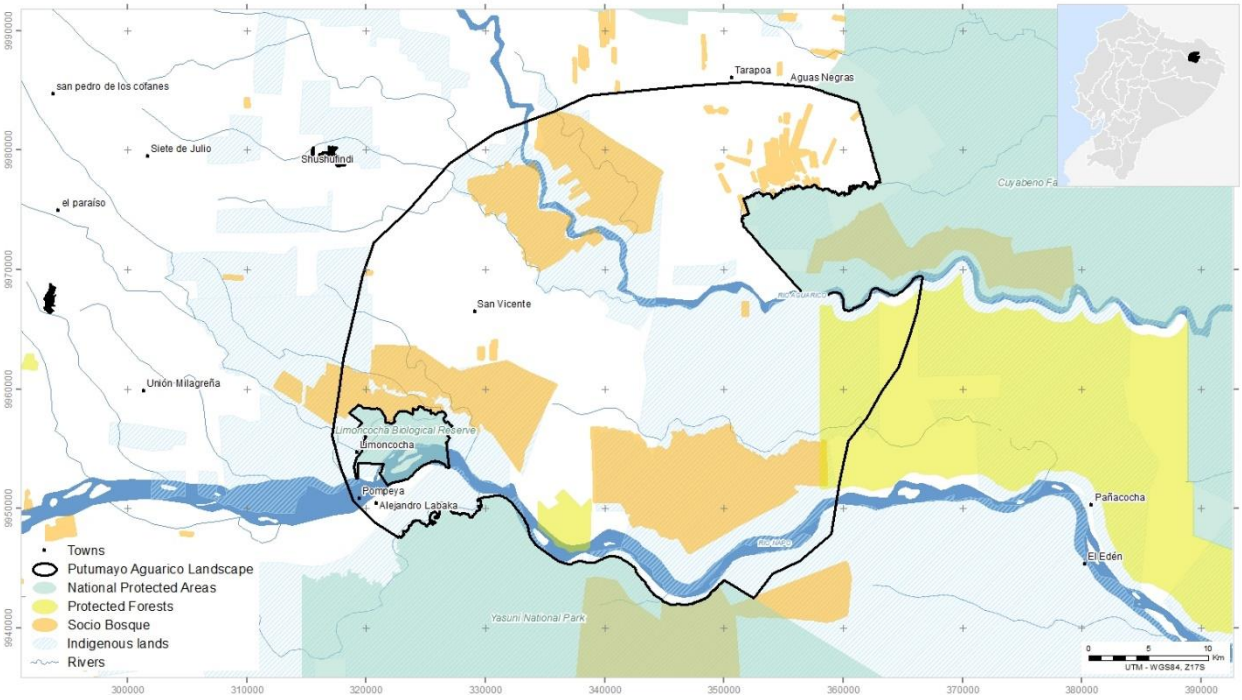


Figure 3. Putumayo Aguarico Landscape Conservation Areas

The landscape also plays a key water flow regulation function in the Napo River basin and is known as one of the main routes for bird migration and transit of large animals (WWF, 2017). As many as 12 species of fauna with some level of threat, as indicated by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, are present in this area. Among these are the Amazonian manatee (*Trichechus inunguis*) (VU), giant otter (*Pteronura brasiliensis*) (EN) and river dolphin (*Inia geoffrensis* and *Sotalia fluviatilis*) (EN) that inhabit the aquatic ecosystems of the seasonal flooded forests of the landscape (Site Information Service Ramsar). Threatened mammals like the jaguar (*Panthera onca*) (NT) and the lowland Amazonian tapir (*Tapirus terrestris)* (VU), that need large connected forested areas to maintain viable populations, are also found in this landscape.

Currently, 24% of the land use in the Putumayo - Aguarico landscape corresponds to an agricultural mosaic in which grasslands (5%) and crops (11%) predominate (Ministry of Environment, 2018) (see Figure 4. Putumayo – Aguarico Landscape Land Use Map). The most frequent crops are African oil palm, cocoa, coffee, and banana (SIGTIERRAS, nd). Grassland, cocoa and coffee farms present an important opportunity to improve the conditions to provide ecosystem services through increasing forest biomass with native species (eg. through living fences and agro-silvo-pastoral systems). Complementarily, some small bioeconomy7 initiatives, implemented mainly by indigenous communities, can be found in this landscape; although they are incipient, they represent an opportunity for sustainable forest management. These

7 Bioeconomy initiatives, according to Ministerial Agreement 034, refers to “public, private, academic, community or association initiatives linked to the sustainable use of native biodiversity that contributes to its value and the conservation of natural heritage” (MAE, 2019). Bioeconomy initiatives, according to Ministerial Agreement 034, refers to “public, private, academic, community or association initiatives linked to the sustainable use of native biodiversity that contributes to its value and the conservation of natural heritage” (MAE, 2019).

bioeconomy initiatives include the following: sweet water fish like paiche (arapaima gigas) and cachama (piaractus brachypomus); citronella; guayusa (ilex guayusa); ungurahua (oenocarpus bataua); turmeric, ishpingo (amazon cinnamon); morete (mauritia flexuosa); sacha inchi (amazon peanut); and community nature-based tourism.

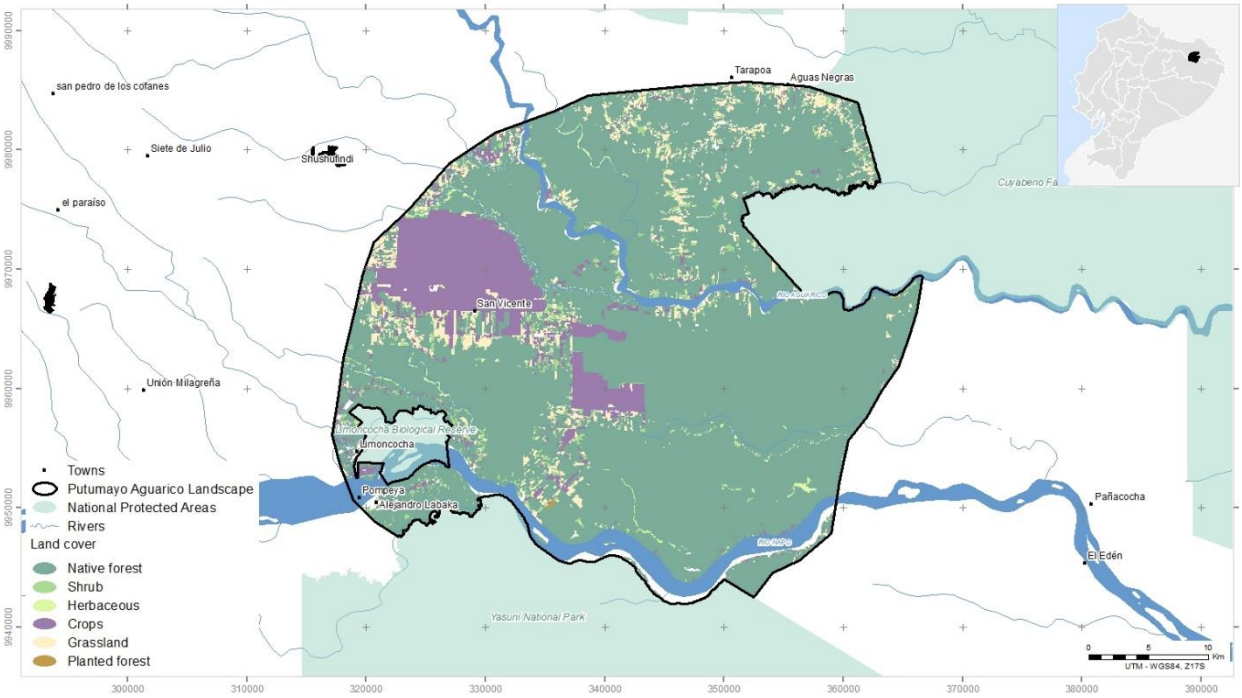


Figure 4. Putumayo – Aguarico Landscape Land Use Map

These characteristics make Putumayo-Aguarico a critical landscape for maintaining and restoring long-term forest connectivity to provide uninterrupted habitats for improved species mobility and genetic resource exchange. The ecosystem services the landscape provides such as energy flow and carbon mitigation heavily depend on connectivity.

The Palora - Pastaza Landscape

The Palora - Pastaza landscape comprises 2 provinces (Pastaza and Morona Santiago), 4 municipalities (Pastaza, Palora, Huamboya and Pablo Sexto) and 6 parishes (Simón Bolivar, Sarayacu, Arapicos, 16 de Agosto, Huamboya, and Pablos Sexto), and covers an area of 178,129 ha, most of which is forested (86% of the landscape), followed by grasslands with 9% of the territory, and just 0.4% of land dedicated to crops: cassava, sugar cane, banana, and the most recent and expanding is pitahaya (SIGTIERRAS, nd). As in the Putumayo-Aguarico landscape, some emerging bioeconomy initiatives can be found in this landscape such as the use of ungurahua (*oenocarpus bataua*), morete (*mauritia flexuosa*), cachama (*piaractus brachypomus*), vanilla, sacha inchi (amazon peanut), and ginger products as well as community nature-based tourism which are all implemented mainly by indigenous communities. The population inside the landscape is 10,137 individuals, of whom 7,737 (76%) belong to the indigenous Shuar, Achuar and Kichwa nationalities (RAISG, 2017).

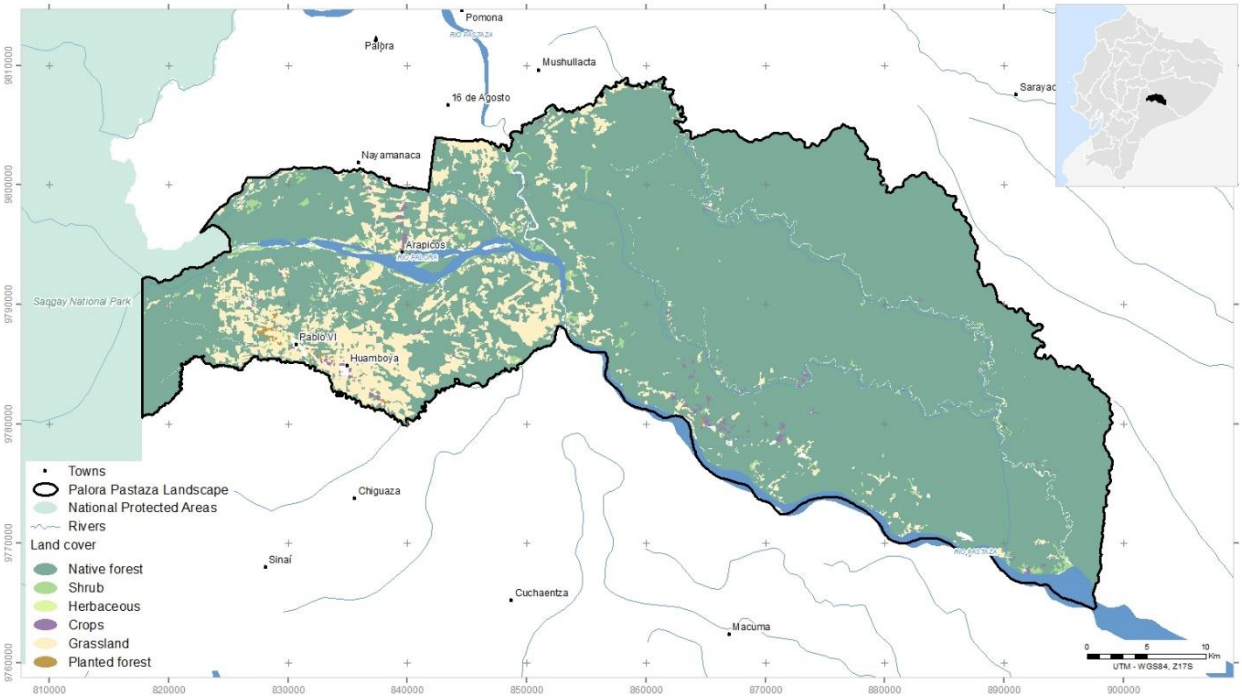


Figure 5. Palora Pastaza Landscape Land Use map

The Palora – Pastaza Landscape plays a significant role in regulating the water flows that descend from the Andes and tribute to the Pastaza River. The landscape is also home to mainland forests, located in the foothills of the Andes, characterized by their high biodiversity and levels of endemism. The most representative ecosystems are the Piemontano evergreen forest in the north of the eastern Andes mountain range (37%), the evergreen lowland forest of the Tiger-Pastaza (23%), flooded forest of the Amazon floodplain (10%), and the piedmont evergreen forest of the Condor-Kutukú mountain range (9%) (Ministry of Environment, 2018).

Carbon storage in biomass in this landscape is approximately 21.4 Mton of carbon (Woods Hole Research Center, 2019), which is equivalent to 121 TonC/ha.

Approximately 15% of the landscape is designated under national conservation categories (1.4% Protected Forests and Vegetation and 14% PSB), while 23% of the landscape area is internationally recognized as an IBA (Ministerio del Ambiente, s.f.) (see Figure 5. Palora Pastaza Landscape Land Use map). This landscape is also home to at least 17 species of fauna with some level of threat according to the IUCN Red list. In this landscape, the proposed corridor will connect the core habitats of the Sangay National Park, and in the East, the forest in hands of indigenous communities, including the Achuar, Kichwa and Shuar peoples. See map in figure 6 below, showing the conservation areas of the Palora Pastaza landscape.

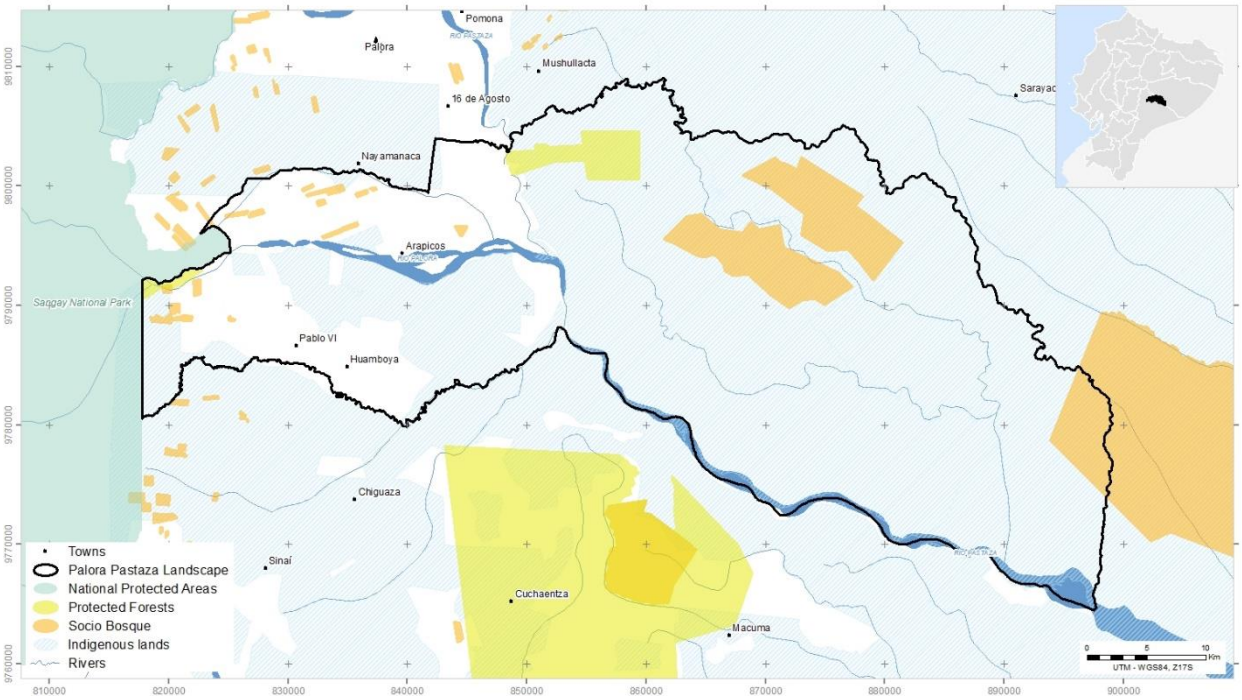


Figure 6. Palora Pastaza Landscape Conservation Areas

The spatial patterns of the recently deforested areas (2014-2016) show a process of severe fragmentation between the Amazon and the Andes (MAE 2017). The high concentration of deforestation in the piedmont forests along the main access roads (i.e. Troncal Amazónica E45, Troncal Amazónica Alterna E45A, E10, E40, E451) has accentuated fragmentation in the Southern Amazon, particularly in the Kutukú mountain range where the Palora-Pastaza landscape is located. Hence, restoring connectivity between these areas is one of the main actions that will contribute to preserving the ecosystem integrity of the Amazon basin. Due to its strategic geographical location and its relatively high native forests cover, this landscape plays a key role as an ecological corridor between the Sangay National Park, several Protected Forest and Vegetation areas, and community forests under the PSB (WWF, CI, 2019).

Both landscapes are located in one of the Jaguar Conservation Units identified in 2006 by a group of researchers and institutions at the regional level. Jaguar Conservation Units are significant because they are the areas with the greatest potential to maintain viable and healthy jaguar populations in Ecuador (Espinoza, 2006). The presence of this species in the landscapes is a

good indicator of the health status of the landscape ecosystems and can guide the identification of priority biological corridors within the landscapes (Conde et al., 2011).

1.2 Environmental Problem(s), Threats and Root Causes

The environmental problem this project proposes to address is the habitat fragmentation and lack of connectivity among Protected Areas and other conservation areas, and associated loss of biodiversity and ecosystem integrity of the Ecuadorian Amazon forest, in the two selected landscapes.

This environmental problem is reflected in the loss of vegetation cover and loss of representative habitats (the Ecuadorian Amazon went from 14.5 to 12.6 million hectares of native forest, between 1990 and 2016 - MAE, 2018). Between 2014 and 2018, the deforested area in the Putumayo - Aguarico landscape was 3,810 hectares (MAE, 2019), and the average annual deforestation rate during the last 30 years has been 1,050 hectares per year. In addition, the risk of future deforestation is the second highest in the CTEA (Ecuadorian Special Amazonian Territorial Circumscription), with a projected loss of 1.5% of the remaining native forest area during the 2016 to 2025 period (Sierra, 2019). Figure 7 below shows the landscape's historical deforestation evolution.

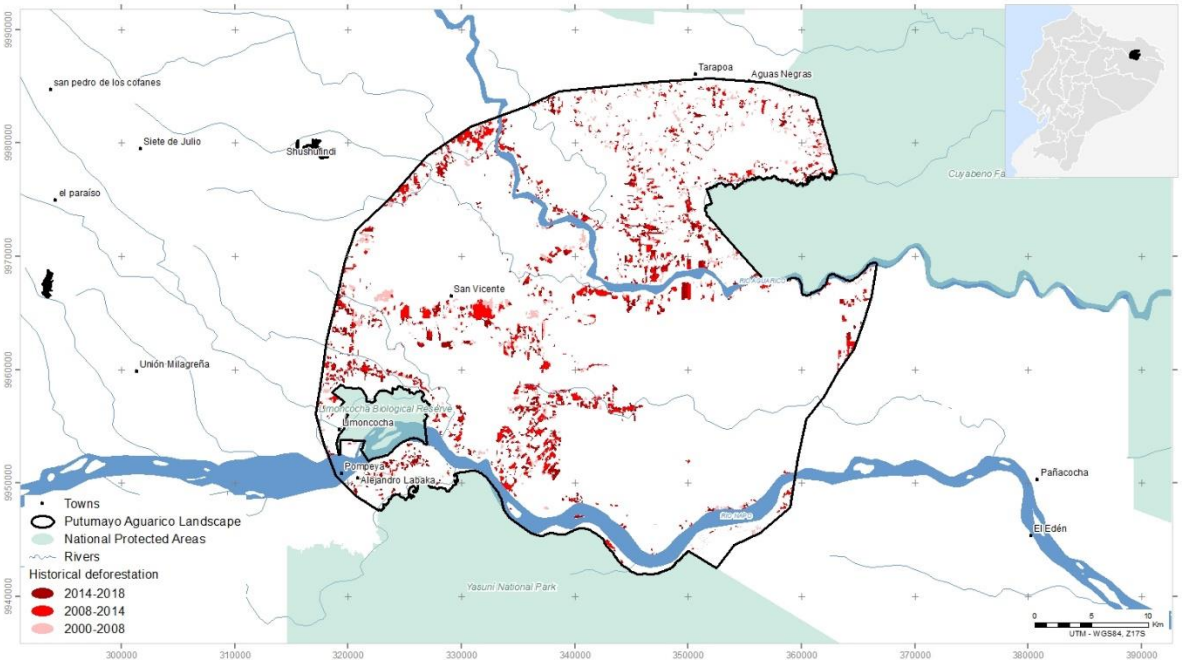


Figure 7. Deforestation in the Putumayo Aguarico Landscape

In the Palora - Pastaza Landscape, the average annual deforestation rate during the last 30 years has been 1,100 ha / year. However, between 2016 and 2018 the deforestation rate recorded by the Ministry of the Environment increased to 1,734 ha / year, mainly related to the conversion of forests to pastures. Figure 8 shows the historical deforestation evolution in the landscape.

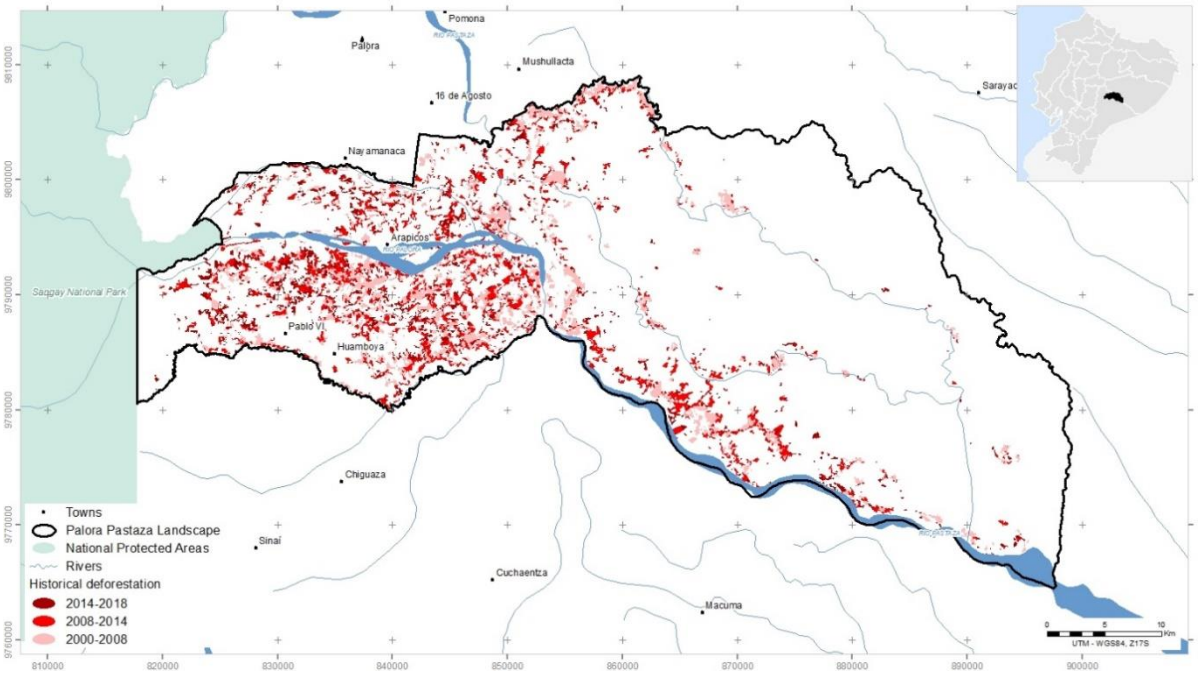


Figure 8: Deforestation in the Palora Pastaza Landscape

A report spanning 35 years, demonstrated that habitat fragmentation within forests reduces biodiversity by between 13 and 75% (Haddad, Brudvig, Clobert, Davies et al.,2015)[8]. Habitat loss and fragmentation are a leading cause of biodiversity loss worldwide. Species loss, decreasing population sizes and significant range contractions are caused by human activities that have negative impacts on biodiversity as well as on the ecosystem functions and services. In the project landscapes, there are still important remnants of exuberant tropical humid forests, that are rapidly disappearing. If the deforestation processes presented above continue, it is expected that within a few years, the PAs in those landscapes will remain as if they were islands surrounded by an ocean of agricultural land.

This process of fragmentation or division of large habitats into small, isolated patches of vegetation has important biological and socio-economic consequences. The consequences, from the biological point of view, occur at different levels, ranging from changes in the populations genetic characteristics to changes in the distribution of species and ecosystems. Only those species that have small ranges of distribution or modest habitat requirements, such as many plants and invertebrates, would survive on these islands. The habitat fragmentation produced by deforestation in both landscapes causes an increase in the vulnerability and risk of loss of species such as the jaguar (*Panthera onca centralis* and *P. onca onca*), and the peccary (*Tayassu pecari aequatoris* and *T. pecari pecari*), which require large and ecologically connected areas to maintain viable populations (WWF, 2017).

[8] Nick M. Haddad, Lars A. Brudvig, Jean Clobert, Kendi F. Davies, Andrew Gonzalez, Robert D. Holt, Thomas E. Lovejoy, Joseph O. Sexton, Mike P. Austin, Cathy D. Collins, William M. Cook, Ellen I. Damschen, Robert M. Ewers, Bryan L. Foster, Clinton N. Jenkins, Andrew J. King, William F. Laurance, Douglas J. Levey, Chris R. Margules, Brett A. Melbourne, A. O. Nicholls, John L. Orrock, Dan-Xia Song, John R. Townshend. (2015) Habitat fragmentation and its lasting impact on Earth's ecosystems. SCIENCE ADVANCES: E1500052

Additionally, the loss of habitat increases the probability that certain species will come into conflict with humans, a phenomenon that occurs in both landscapes, but with a higher record of cases in the Putumayo - Aguarico landscape, and with special emphasis on the jaguar. The loss of forests, combined with the degradation of the remaining patches due to unsustainable activities such as logging and subsistence hunting, results in a decrease of available prey for the jaguar. Therefore, the species turns towards domestic animals to supplement its diet, which leads to human wildlife conflict and jaguar hunting to eliminate threats the species pose. (Wildlife Conservation Society-WCS- Ecuador, 2010; Espinosa, 2012). This increased proximity between wildlife, domestic animals and humans increases, in turn, the risk of zoonotic disease spillover like COVID 19.

The fragmentation of the natural ecosystems in both landscapes has also direct and indirect negative effects over daily activities carried out by indigenous and rural communities. For example, there are local communities and indigenous groups that depend on hunting for their subsistence. Soil degradation, alterations of water cycle, and modifications of local climate dynamics are some other examples of negative consequences of the environmental problem described. Lastly, deforestation also aggravates the effects of climate change in both landscapes. For example, since 2013, landslides and floods associated with extreme climatic events have been registered in both landscapes mainly near deforested areas[9].

Threats and Drivers

During the project preparation phase, a series of workshops and interviews with key landscape experts and stakeholders were organized to identify and prioritize main threats to connectivity and biodiversity conservation. The list of identified threats to biological connectivity in the two project landscapes included issues such as unsustainable logging and hunting, unsustainable infrastructure development and unplanned settlement expansion, expansion of the agricultural frontier and unsustainable agricultural practices, amongst others. From the list of identified threats, the expansion of the agricultural frontier and the unsustainable agricultural practices were selected as the most important and urgent threats to connectivity in the two project landscapes, that the project should directly tackle.

Expansion of the agricultural frontier

The Ecuadorian Amazon registered relatively recent processes of agricultural frontier expansion (compared to other regions of the country). In large part, due to the oil production in this region, and the associated road construction and settlement processes. In addition, the agrarian reform policies applied in the region in the 1960s and 1970s led to the conversion of forested areas to agricultural lands. The deforestation created by those processes in the two intervention landscapes generated complex mosaics of fragmented forest remnants blended with crops and pasture areas.

Even though the rate of conversion of forests to agricultural uses within the two landscapes has decreased in the last decade, agricultural expansion continues to be a critical driver of deforestation in the landscapes, intensifying the breakdown of latitudinal and altitudinal connectivity in the ecosystems. On one hand, degraded forests that have been accessed for timber extraction, are quickly being replaced by pastures or crop fields (MAE, 2016). On the other

[9] At less than 510 m from deforested areas in the Putumayo Aguarico landscape and at less than 130 m from deforested areas in the Palora - Pastaza Landscape. Risk and Emergencies Management National Service (SNGRE for its acronym in Spanish), 2018.

hand, both these landscapes have crop productivity yields that are less than half in comparison to other amazon regions in Ecuador and other countries. This low productivity directly encourages the clearing of forests for agricultural production purposes (Castro et al, 2013) (MAE, 2016).

In the Northern Amazon region of Ecuador, where the Putumayo - Aguarico landscape is located, the expansion of pastures and perennial monocultures of African palm, cacao, and coffee have been the main drivers of deforestation. By 2014, pastures occupied 57% of deforested lands, followed by agricultural mosaic with 19%, then coffee with 7%, cacao with 5%, and African palm with 4% (MAE, 2016). Cacao, African palm, and palmetto hearts have had a significant expansion between 2000 and 2008, representing 28% of the agricultural area. These products are intended for export, while livestock breeding production is intended for national consumption (Castro et al, 2013).

As presented above, in the Palora - Pastaza Landscape, between 2016 and 2018 the deforestation rate increased to 1,734 ha / year, mainly related to the conversion of forests to pastures. Currently, livestock breeding farming represents approximately 9% of the total area of this landscape (MAE, 2018).

The growth of temporary crops in monoculture farming systems, such as corn, cassava, tree tomato, and other crops destined for national consumption, has also been an important driver of deforestation in the Central Amazon region (Ministry of the Environment, 2018) where the Palora - Pastaza landscape is located. During the 2000 - 2008 period, the main expanding land use in this area was temporary crops that grew by 92,000 hectares at the expense of other agricultural and forest uses of land (Castro et al., 2013). In the last 10 years, there has been an important and accelerated introduction of the cultivation of Pitahaya, another transitory crop that adds pressure and has contributed to the deforestation of several forest areas in the municipality of Palora in the Morona Santiago province (Castro et al., 2013) (MAE, 2018).

Unsustainable agricultural practices

The development of agriculture within the Amazon region originally responded to the need for food for subsistence in a complex ecosystem that, due to the composition of its soils, the levels of rainfall, and temperature fluctuation, does not support conventional agriculture (MAE, 2017). The Amazonian populations settled and established agriculture in chakra systems, traditional biodiverse agroforestry systems developed in forest clearings and forested areas of higher altitude. With the entry of settlers to the Amazon as part of the migratory process, much of the production for sustenance has been replaced by production as a source of income, which is reflected in a growing linkage between the area and the agricultural markets of Ecuador (Castro et al. al., 2013). This production takes place in intensive agricultural and livestock breeding systems that are not suitable for the soils and climate of the region. Production is thus characterized by intensive use of the soil, excessive use of water, intensive use of fertilizers and phytosanitary products, the exposure of the soil to the climate, and little diversity of plants. The impact of these productive systems upon the ecosystems is severe and is reflected in a loss of biological diversity and diminished ecological connectivity, as well as in the degradation of agricultural soils and the pollution of rivers.

Root Causes

There are underlying and structural factors that aggravate the above presented threats. Although the project will not implement direct actions to address these root causes, their general conditions need to be considered in the intervention landscapes to adequately contextualize project activities.

Poverty

A relationship of interdependence between poverty and environmental degradation has been demonstrated in this region of Ecuador. In 2014, poverty in the Ecuadorian Amazon region affected 47.7% of the population, double the national average of 25% in the same year (ECV. INEC 2015). The lack of access to public services (health, education, security), along with limited opportunities for employment and income generation, create added pressures on natural resources, particularly forests located in rural areas. While there is a high percentage of employment in the agricultural sector in both project landscapes, the low productivity of the land, combined with little access to education, health and other public services results in high levels of poverty. This is evidenced by the high percentages of Unsatisfied Basic Needs (UBN) in both landscapes, reaching an average of 97% and 92% of the population in the parishes of Putumayo - Aguarico Landscape and Palora - Pastaza Landscape, respectively (INEC 2010).

Extractive development model

The current economic model within the country depends on the intensive use of natural resources, which puts pressure on the ecosystems of the Amazon region (Carvajal, 2016). Currently, Ecuador is positioned as a producer of raw materials in the extractive industry, mainly crude oil. Although the revenue generated by this activity has allowed the State to finance itself (in March 2019 the oil balance was establishing exports of USD 797 million (CONAFIPS, 2019)), the distribution of resources historically has not been equitable. The municipalities with extractive activities endure the bulk of the environmental and social impacts of production. These impacts directly affect the area of influence of the Project. 100% of the Putumayo - Aguarico Landscape and 96% of the Palora - Pastaza Landscape have oil blocks, and 306 wells operate in the north alone (Ministry of the Environment, 2014). In the same manner, in both landscapes, there are 35 mining concessions for non - metallic and construction materials (aggregates and stone) (Ministry of the Environment, 2014). In addition, both landscapes are affected by the impact of agricultural activities, especially by the expansion of monocultures such as African palm (Putumayo - Aguarico Landscape, with 9%) and grasslands (Palora - Pastaza Landscape, with 9%). Both cause habitat loss and render the land infertile and unusable (Institute of Environmental Science and Technology of the Autonomous University of Barcelona, 2017).

Weak public environmental institutions

Ecuador has been immersed in an economic crisis for the last several years, mainly as a consequence of the global oil crisis that reduced national revenues from oil exports, and was exacerbated by the effects of the Covid - 19 Pandemic in 2020. In addition, there has been a high level of political instability in the country. For example, between May 2017 and May 2020 there were several changes in authority in the MAAE, resulting in challenges for the continuity and sustainability of public environmental policies, programs, and projects.

As a result of this economic crisis, public environmental institutions, at the national and local level have been weakened The MAAE has been one of the most affected public institutions in the country, registering a budget decrease of more than 50% in the last 6 years ($117.2M in 2013, and $51.9M in 2019), 85% of which is allotted to cover staff expenses.

Since the end of 2019, due to a need for optimization and austerity of public spending, the former Ministry of the Environment (MAE) began a merger process with the National Water Authority (SENAGUA). Between 2017 and 2020 (before the merger) the MAE had already reduced its staff by nearly 300 employees, including technical staff and park rangers, threatening the continuity of key activities, such as the patrolling and monitoring of PAs, and the continuity of emblematic public programs, such as the PSB. After the merger and in the coming months, additional layoffs resulted from greater budget restrictions imposed by the COVID 19 pandemic crisis. And with projections for an economic downturn in Ecuador of approximately 9% in 2021, it could mean additional budget cuts for the public sector, including the MAAE. In addition, with the new Organic Statute of the MAAE, there are important modifications, particularly regarding the offices of the MAAE on the ground at a provincial level. Through the new Organic Statute, 24 provincial offices of the MAAE are eliminated and 10 Zonal Offices assume the responsibilities and jurisdiction at a local level, both for Environment (regarding forests, wildlife, and environmental quality) and water (water resources, irrigation, and drainage, and drinking water and sanitation). The changes in the institutional structure and capacity, as well as in the budget availability, could potentially undermine the overall environmental capacity of the MAAE.

Climate Change

Tropical ecosystems are among the most vulnerable to climate change. The impacts of climate change are being felt in Ecuador in increased temperatures, seasonal shifts in rainfall patterns, and severe and recurrent droughts and floods, with adverse effects on most vulnerable sectors, including agriculture. Climate change projections indicate that, in Ecuador, the frequency and severity of extreme weather events will continue to increase, escalating the expected adverse consequences of these climate related events.

More specifically, projected changes in precipitation, combined with current and projected deforestation patterns, will make the Ecuadorian Amazon region more prone to flooding (MAE 2017). Several high-resolution regional and global models suggest an increased rainfall in the western Amazon. However, these projections must be confirmed through specific models for the Ecuadorian Amazon region, that need to consider its hydro-geological and geomorphological characteristics.

Another expected impact of increasing temperature and precipitation in the Ecuadorian Amazon region are the proliferation of vectors, responsible for several severe human diseases like Malaria, Dengue, and Chagas (Mato et al. 2019). This is particularly relevant for both landscapes because of the high indigenous population. According to a study by Pan et al. 2010, the health patterns of indigenous peoples, which are highly vulnerable to these diseases, are linked to social, economic, and cultural variables that determine land-use changes and deforestation patterns (Mato et al. 2019). Furthermore, increased temperatures and precipitation can have a negative effect on livestock productivity due to heat stress, the propagation of cattle diseases, and proliferation of crop pests, which can contribute to increased forest clearing to expand production. For additional information on climate change and the risk assessment of the project, see Section 3.4 Risks and Proposed Mitigation Measures.

1.3 Barriers addressed by the project

The project will address existing barriers for the establishment of two functional connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes, described below:

Barrier 1: Limited capacities of national and local governments to design and implement functional connectivity corridors.

As discussed in previous sections, while PAs are essential, they are no longer considered as sufficient alone. Conservation practitioners and scientists have demonstrated that conservation of species, ecosystems and habitats can only be achieved if PAs are functionally connected (Trombulak & Baldwin, 2010; Resasco, 2019). This approach entails a shift in conservation practice, from a limited focus on PAs to a broader focus on larger spatial scales, in which many species and ecological processes operate and in which what happens outside PAs affects the health of ecosystems inside these PAs (IUCN, 2019).

In Ecuador, the SNAP has traditionally adopted an institutional, administrative, and financial approach centered on “site management”. This approach prioritizes inward PA management, which isolates them from the positive and negative interactions that exist within the surrounding territory. This approach started to change towards a broader one in 2013, with the publication of the Ministerial Agreement 105 which issued guidelines and identified 11 prioritized areas for the establishment and management of connectivity corridors. In 2020 this approach was fully endorsed by the MAAE through the Ministerial Agreement 019 which established the technical guidelines for the design, formal designation, and management of functional connectivity corridors across the country. Although MAAE, through these agreements, sought to diversify conservation mechanisms across the country, by incorporating local governments and other stakeholders to promote conservation and connectivity, there are still financial, institutional, and technical barriers that need to be overcome to fully implement this integrated approach.

In the project landscapes, the PAs of Cuyabeno and Yasuní (in the Putumayo - Aguarico Landscape), and Sangay, (in the Palora - Pastaza Landscape), are among the SNAP’s largest and most complex PAs of the country (MAE, 2015). The establishment of connectivity corridors among those PAs will support their long-term conservation goals. That effort will require the effective involvement of key central and decentralized stakeholders with jurisdictions over the territories surrounding the PAs, that can complement the PA management efforts done by the central government. Amongst the local stakeholders, the Decentralized Autonomous Governments (GADs) play a key role because, by law, they can declare and manage different categories of conservation areas in their territories. Their role is especially important in the face of the current fiscal adjustment by the national government, that has led to a reduction of the already scarce resources dedicated to the SNAP.

Many GADs have expressed willingness and interest in strengthening conservation actions to promote ecological connectivity among PAs in their territory. However, they have also expressed that they do not have the experience, resources, nor capacity necessary to carry out these processes. During the workshops and interviews with stakeholders in the two landscapes, from this project development process, the following barriers were highlighted: i) Limited technical and financial capacity of relevant institutions to prepare baselines, maps, and technical documents to guide and justify the creation of new conservation areas such as the connectivity corridors; ii) Limited experience in convening, facilitating, and structuring participation and management of

multi-stakeholder platforms; iii) Lack of tools to plan and manage new conservation areas from a broader ecological PA connectivity perspective; and iv) Limited experience in design and implementation of financial sustainability mechanisms and strategies.

Barrier 2: Lack of articulation and stakeholder coordination within the territorial planning processes in the two project landscapes.

To be successful in creating functional and sustainable connectivity corridors, the connectivity corridors will need to be effectively integrated in the existing territorial planning processes, in the two project landscapes.

Territorial planning in the Ecuadorian public sector includes processes at various levels and sectors, including the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG) and the MAAE, at the national level; the CTEA, at the Amazon territory level; and the three levels of GADs, who are responsible for Land Use (PDOTS) and Management Plans (PUGs) in their territories. These processes, very often, lack coordination, resulting in contradictions regarding urban and infrastructure planning, economic activities promotion, and conservation of natural resources in the Amazon region.

On the other hand, Indigenous Peoples and Nationalities in the Ecuadorian Amazon region have traditional planning processes, called Life Plans, in which they shape their models and visions of territorial development. Although Life Plans are mentioned in current standard and public policy instruments[10], they have not yet been officially defined in legal - technical terms. Therefore, there is no clarity regarding how Life Plans relate to the other existing planning or land use management instruments, such as PDOTs or PUGs, or how these should be observed by the GADs, and other authorities with abilities to regulate land use in these territories. This barrier is very relevant for the establishment of the project connectivity corridors, since indigenous territories represent large areas of the two project landscapes.

The Organic Law for the Integral Planning of the Amazon Special Territorial Circumscription establishes a regional planning subsystem for the Ecuadorian Amazon territory. As a key element of this subsystem, in 2016, the State issued the Integral Plan for the Amazon (PIA, for its acronym in Spanish), as the highest-level territorial planning instrument for the Amazon Special Territorial Circumscription". The elaboration of the PIA, led by the Technical Secretary of the CTEA, involved the participation of various territorial stakeholders. Its implementation, has shown, again, difficulties associated with coordination mechanisms and implementation of obligations on behalf of different governmental and non - governmental entities.

This lack of articulation between the different territorial processes and governmental entities and local actors with territorial planning and management competences is a key barrier that the project will need to overcome in the two project landscapes. Both the Integral Plan of the Amazon and the testimonies collected during the workshops, also highlighted the lack of enabling conditions, in legal, technical, administrative, and institutional terms, necessary to promote and implement ecological connectivity in the existing territorial planning processes and the lack technical capacity and tools for facilitation and management of inter- institutional participatory platforms.

[10] Life plans are referred in the Organic Law for the Integral Planning of the Amazon Special Territorial Circumscription (LOCTEA), Ministerial Agreement 083 of 2016 of the MAAE, and the National Development Plan 2017- 2021.

Barrier 3: Limited technical and financial capacity for conservation friendly agriculture production and for bioeconomy initiatives, in the two connectivity corridors to be proposed by the project.

As explained in the threats section, agricultural production in the two project landscapes is currently mainly dominated by the production of coffee, cacao, banana, oil palm, and livestock breeding, mostly utilizing unsustainable production practices. These intensive production systems ensure short-term income but compromise the health of the ecosystems and the wellbeing of human populations. In addition, the value chains for these products are controlled by intermediaries who impose prices and conditions upon producers that lack bargaining power (Murphy, 2006; Salazar, 2013). These two barriers have limited the possibility of developing sustainable production systems compatible with the biodiversity conservation of the Amazon region and that contribute to the eradication of poverty faced by populations that currently depend on agricultural production.

The territory included in and around connectivity corridors the project will establish, in the two project landscapes, includes some of the above-described intensive agriculture production areas. In those areas, with direct influence over the connectivity corridors, the project will promote a shift of paradigm towards a more sustainable agricultural production, in accordance with the connectivity objectives of the corridors. This objective presents several barriers, highlighted by the producers during the preparation of the project: i) Lack of technical capacity (in agroecology and business) and of opportunities for the training of qualified labor in sustainable agricultural production practices; ii) Underused production (e.g., greenhouses, stables) and post-harvest infrastructure (e.g., cellars, tanks), which frequently is deteriorated due to a lack of maintenance, and inefficient use.

On the other hand, the bioeconomy activities in the two project landscapes present an interesting economic potential and are compatible with the conservation of the amazon natural ecosystems. However, they are still incipient and present several shortcomings to become real alternatives to the intensive agricultural model previously described. Some of the most important barriers for the development and upscaling of the bioeconomy initiatives are: i) Limited application of associative strategies to promote aggregation and the quality of the offer, with the goal of taking advantage of economies of scale; ii) Lack of knowledge surrounding the population dynamics of the biodiversity and species that are exploited; iii) The lack of access to information, financing, technology, and markets; iv) Insufficient application of strategies for adding value and differentiation based on comparative advantages; v) Lack of market intelligence on the existing demand for biodiversity-based products and services (tastes, preferences, competitors, etc.).

Barrier 4: Insufficient regional coordination to address common problems in the Amazon region and insufficient mechanisms to share knowledge at the local, national, and regional levels.

As mentioned throughout this section, the creation and management of connectivity corridors, represents a shift in the standard operations of the responsible public institutions and organizations linked to the management of natural resources and the conservation of biodiversity in Ecuador.

Although there is information generated by different projects and / or initiatives related to connectivity corridors, this information is often dispersed and not available. There are no mechanisms in place to identify and disseminate the knowledge and successful experiences generated by different national and regional institutions and organizations, let alone exchange

this knowledge and lessons with the other Amazon basin countries. Consequently, there is a need to have educational and communication products, as well as learning networks, to allow the capitalization and scaling up of good practices and lessons learnt.

Decision-making, planning, and course correction depend, to a large extent, on being able to have access to reliable information at the central and local levels. In a similar manner, the ability to coordinate between institutions at national level depend on existing mechanisms for coordination and information sharing.

Additionally, many of the efforts carried out by different organizations, civil society, and the state institutions are hampered by a weak communication strategy to the public and other institutions that work in the project areas of influence. One of the greatest challenges requires adequate knowledge management and continuous adaptation of communication to ensure an effective commitment to inform and raise awareness, as well as to coordinate actions within and around the intervention sites.

1.4 National and Sectoral Context

Ecuador has undertaken significant institutional changes in recent years, from a new political constitution including the rights of nature to decentralization development and land-use planning in the Amazon territory. The 2008 Ecuadorian Constitution in its article 250 recognizes the importance of the Ecuadorian Amazon, and mentions, “the territory of the Amazonian provinces is part of an ecosystem necessary for the environmental balance of the planet. This territory will constitute a special territorial circumscription for which there will be integral planning included in a law that will include social, economic, environmental and cultural aspects, holding a territorial order that guarantees the conservation and protection of its ecosystems and the principle of Sumak Kawsay (*rights of nature*)".

An overview of the sectoral policy, programs, and institutional frameworks, relevant to the project, is provided below.

CTEA, Technical Secretariat (SCTEA) and PIA

With the issuance of the CTEA's Organic Law for Integral Planning of the Amazon Special Territorial Circumscription (LOPCTEA) on May 17, 2018, the CTEA is recognized as a territory that requires a proposal for a relevant and differentiated state intervention, gathered within the integral planning. In the same manner, the CTEA's Council for Planning and Development is created as the body in charge of the articulation and inter-institutional coordination between the different levels of government, with the citizens, and with the public and private sectors. In turn, the SCTEA[11] *(Special Territorial Amazonian Circumscription Technical Secretariat),* was created and granted technical, administrative, and financial autonomy, as the governmental entity responsible for preparing, implementing, and monitoring the PIA, developed in a participatory manner among actors of the region, and its prioritized projects. The SCTEA currently has offices in Puyo, the capital of the Pastaza Province and has 25 staff members. For these purposes, the

[11] Article 16 of the Organic Law for Comprehensive Planning of the CTEA establishes the Technical Secretariat of the Amazon Special Territorial Circumscription as a public law entity, with legal personality, and its own economic assets and resources, holding technical, administrative and financial autonomy and establishing its headquarters in the city of Puyo, with provincial technical delegations.

SCTEA administers the Common Fund of the *CTEA*, which is financed with royalties from public and private companies operating within the mining, oil, and hydroelectric sectors.

Article 23 of this Law also establishes that planning for the Amazon shall, among other things: reduce degradation, deforestation, and the degradation of forests; contribute to the adaptation and mitigation of climate change; promote sustainable forest management and the productive diversification, and sustainable use of resources; generate capacities based on bio knowledge; and promote the integration of the countries within the Amazon Basin.

The PIA (2016-2035) is in the process of being updated, however, it is a planning, coordination and articulation tool, aimed at achieving the integral development of the Ecuadorian Amazon, based on its biophysical and socio-cultural distinctive features. Additional details of the Integral PIA are included in Section 3.5 Alignment with National Priorities and Plans.

Integrated management of the territory

The Municipal GADs have a leading role in the integrated management of the territory, based on the 2008 Constitution, which stipulates that municipalities have exclusive responsibility for the planning of municipal development and land use. The Organic Code on Territorial Organization, Autonomy and Decentralization (COOTAD), issued in 2011 and reformed in 2018, ratifies these roles and specifies the responsibility of the municipalities regarding the control upon the use and occupation of lands located within their territories. In turn, it establishes that the central government and the GADs will adopt policies targeted towards sustainable development and compensation measures to correct inequities, with the purpose of protecting the Amazon territory's biodiversity. Within the scope of environmental management, policies concerning preservation, conservation and remediation will be applied, in compliance with its ecological diversity (Article 12). Additionally, the Organic Law for the Use and Administration of Land Management (2016) stipulates that municipal governments have jurisdiction upon the classification and definition of the use and management of rural and urban land. Therefore, they have a more significant role in the control of alterations in land use, and in the integral management of the territory, the conservation of its biodiversity and its productive development.

As an example, in the Putumayo - Aguarico landscape, the Shushufindi Municipal GAD are working on the creation of a 200-hectare municipal PA and on several reforestation initiatives. Within the same landscape, the provincial GADs of Sucumbíos and Orellana are working on reforestation and forest restoration activities, with a goal of recovering soils and generating alternative livelihoods for residents within degraded areas. In March 2017, through Ordinance No. 92, the Provincial Pastaza GAD, in the Palora - Pastaza landscape, established the Provincial Sustainable Development Ecological Area of Pastaza (AEDSPP) that practically covers all the forest remnants of the Province (approximately 2.5 million hectares). In addition, this GAD hosts a "consortium" that brings together the other sub-provincial sectional governments, who have dedicated annual financial resources to the ecological area.

PAs and other Forms of Conservation

In response to the threats to the Ecuadorian Amazon (see section 1.2 about environmental problems, threats, and root causes), under the leadership of the MAAE, Ecuador recognizes different mechanisms and tools for conservation. All of them are under a legal framework that include: The Constitution of the Republic of Ecuador, the Forestry and Conservation of Natural Areas and Wildlife Law, the Environmental Management Law, and the recently approved Ecuadorian Environmental Organic Code (COA). The different types of conservation recognized by the Ecuadorian government are as follows:

- The SNAP is the main biodiversity conservation strategy in Ecuador. It includes a total of 60 PAs, of which 24 are in the Amazon, protecting 27.9% of the Amazonian territory. It is made up of four subsystems: i. State; ii. Decentralized autonomous; iii. Community; and iv. Private. The state subsystem includes PAs with different management categories such as national parks, biological, ecological, geo-botanical, fauna production, and marine reserves, wildlife refuges, and recreation areas, all of which are distributed throughout Ecuador.
- Biosphere Reserves recognized by UNESCO. Ecuador currently has 7 national biosphere reserves, including 3 in the Amazon, and one that is shared with Peru.
- The Special Areas for the Conservation of Biodiversity (AECB)s for its acronym in Spanish) seek to ensure the integrity of ecosystems, the functionality of landscapes, the sustainability of the dynamics of territorial development, the sustainable use of natural resources or the recovery of areas that have been degraded or are in the process of degradation, according to criteria determined by the National Environmental Authority. They can be public, private or community based. These areas include the following: a. Areas or sites recognized by international instruments ratified by the State; b. Environmental buffer zones; c. Connectivity corridors; and d. Ecological easements.
- Ramsar Sites or Wetlands designated as of international importance under the Convention on Wetlands. Ecuador has a total of 19 Ramsar sites distributed in the four regions of the country. Of the 19 Ramsar sites, 7 are 100% within the SNAP, and 6 are within the Ecuadorian Amazon.
- The Important areas for the conservation of birds (AICAs). In continental Ecuador, there are 108 AICAs, of which 52 are within PAs and 56 outside; and 28 AICAs are within the Amazon region.
- The Protective Forests and Vegetation (BVP for its acronym in Spanish) are areas of public or private domain, focused on conserving water, soil, and wild biodiversity. In Ecuador, 201 areas have been designated as BVPs. This is equivalent to 9.8% of the country's territory, of which 43 are in the Amazon.
- The PSB consists of the delivery of economic incentives to rural and indigenous communities that voluntarily commit to the conservation and protection of their native forests, páramos (moors) or other native vegetation. This incentive is conditional to the protection and conservation of its forests. The PSB conservation scheme and its scope within the intervention landscapes of this project are presented in greater detail in section 1.5 of the Baseline.
- Areas of Conservation and Sustainable Use (ACUS for its Acronym in Spanish) are territories that GADs, private or community owners have created to protect and preserve natural and water heritage, as well as to develop sustainable activities to guarantee the maintenance of environmental services.

The Ministerial Agreement No. MAAE-2020-023 of August 28, 2020, issues the organic statute of organizational management of the MAAE, creating the Directorate of Protected Areas and Other Forms of Conservation within the Undersecretary of Natural Heritage (SPN, for its acronym in Spanish), to direct the governance and comprehensive management of the SNAP and AECBs for the protection and maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services. It also establishes the Directorate of Forests, whose mission is to promote the sustainable management of forestry resources and the conservation associated biological and cultural diversity, to contribute to the economic and social development of the country.

Regarding connectivity corridors, on October 24, 2013, the MAE issued Ministerial Agreement 105 by which the "guidelines for the management of connectivity for conservation purposes" were issued, including the prioritization of 11 areas at the national level to be considered for establishing connectivity corridors. In this agreement, the MAE points out the priority of "establishing corridors that will promote the development of the populations through a coherent territorial planning between the development and the adequate maintenance of natural resources". This laid the foundation for Ministerial Agreement No. MAE-2020-019, issued on May 22, 2020, that includes the technical standard for the design, establishment, and management of connectivity corridors in Ecuador, was issued. The Agreement states that connectivity corridors must maintain a sustainable landscape management approach that encourages the provision of environmental services. In the same manner, they must contribute to strengthening prioritized conservation objectives; promote the sustainable use of natural resources; encourage the participation of GADs, private owners, and indigenous and local communities; as well as articulate environmental policy within territorial planning tools.

In addition, it establishes the technical criteria for the design of the corridors, which must consider the following:

- Core areas to be connected, remnants of habitats or basins, and habitats that have been modified by anthropogenic uses,
- Land use and management of potential areas, in agreement with the provisions held within the development planning and land use planning tools.

To establish the connectivity corridors, the following criteria should be considered:

- The GADs must demonstrate their interest in establishing the connectivity corridors for the conservation of biodiversity within their jurisdiction,
- They can be promoted by citizens, GADs, or other local actors,
- Decisions will be based upon updated, sufficient, timely, reliable, and pertinent information,
- The National Environmental Authority will prioritize the areas for the establishment of the corridors,
- The process to establish the corridors must be flexible, adaptive and articulate the conditions of each territory,
- Local participants interested in establishing the corridors can form an advocate group of an inter-institutional, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary nature.

It also determines the documents that must be in the database to establish the corridor, which include:

- Diagnosis of the connectivity corridor, including a biophysical, socioeconomic and cultural characterization,
- Analysis of the feasibility of the proposal, including ecological and socioeconomic criteria,
- Participation process of the stakeholders involved,
- Description of the limits of the proposed corridor,
- Basic and topical cartographic information.

The Ministerial Agreement also establishes that, for the design, establishment, and management of the connectivity corridors, the National Environmental Authority will coordinate with the GADs, the sectoral entities that hold jurisdiction in the territory, and the public, private, or community stakeholders interested in the implementation thereof. Finally, for the management of the connectivity corridors, the Ministerial Agreement mentions that the following actions must be carried out:

- The GADs will create consortiums and / or associations, or a legal structure that supports the management process,
- Issuance of ordinances, resolutions, or agreements for the consolidation of sustainable development in the corridor matrix,
- Five-Year Administration Plan,
- Annual Operating Plan,
- Management Plan,
- Management Evaluation.

Experiences in promoting Integrated Landscape Management and biological corridors in Ecuador

Over the past 5 years, there have been some experiences promoting integrated landscape management approaches and supporting biological corridors in the country. The Project for the SNAP (PASNAP), funded by KfW, is the main MAAE project supporting the SNAP and has 3 objectives: i. the consolidation of the State Natural Heritage Areas Sub-system (PANE); ii. the integration of new subsystems to the SNAP (including the establishment of connectivity corridors); and iii. strengthening the SNAP's financial sustainability. The PASNAP is a key baseline initiative for the proposed Connectivity Corridors Project project (more detail about this project and how the proposed Connectivity Corridors Project will complement it is included in section 1.5 Baseline).

The Project Advancing Landscape Approaches in Ecuador's National Protected Area System to Improve Conservation of Globally Endangered Wildlife Project, financed by the GEF (Global Environment Facility) and implemented by UNDP (United Nations Development Program) between 2015-2019, aimed at applying a landscape approach in the Ecuador's PA system to increase its effectiveness for conservation of globally important wildlife. The project contributed to the positive management of wildlife in PA and other conservation areas across many locations of the country, and achieved an effective collaboration of local communities and local governments, through activities such as censuses and monitoring, strengthening of capacities, management support in the legal and normative fields, wildlife trafficking control, alternative sources of protein projects, mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts, etc. Although the project did not directly work on the creation of connectivity corridors, it left some lessons learnt on how the landscape management approach and the management of non-PA areas can contribute

effectively to the conservation of threatened wildlife. Lessons learnt from this project have been included in the proposed Connectivity Corridors Project design (see Section 3.7 Lessons learned during project preparation and from other relevant projects).

The Podocarpus - Sangay was a municipal led initiative that culminated with the official designation of the first biological corridor in the country, in 2020, the “Podocarpus - Sangay” connectivity corridor. This process was a collaborative effort, driven by the participation of local governments, universities, communities, and Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) and private sector, that garnered important lessons such as the work in spaces that are not very extensive but with defined conservation targets, the importance of the joint work with the Municipal GADs, the identification of ecosystem services by the local inhabitants and, the socialization and communication of the actions that are being carried out. Lessons learnt from this initiative have also been included in the proposed Connectivity Corridors Project design (see Section 3.7 Lessons learned during project preparation and from other relevant projects).

Similarly, there are other initiatives such as the Trinational Program for the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the PAs Corridor: La Paya National Natural Park (Colombia), the Cuyabeno Wildlife Production Reserve (Ecuador) and the Güeppí reserved area (Peru). These were recognized officially in 2011 with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding among the Ministries of the Environment from the three countries. In addition, there is the Pañacocha Protective Forest, which, according to CI (2013), together with its 56,000 hectares of influence, constitutes a bio-corridor that has been called: Pañacocha Biological Corridor. The corridor’s high biodiversity (fauna and more than 650 bird species) and scenic beauty have led to important tourist developments in the area. In the southern part of the country, there is the experience of Yacuambi - Podocarpus and the binational (Ecuador-Peru) Abiseo-Cóndor-Kutukú corridors, both considered by CI (2013) as two of the most relevant corridor initiatives in the country. These initiatives, implemented before the new Ministerial Agreement on Connectivity Corridors was issued, have provided lessons learnt, detailed in Section 3.7 of Lessons Learned, that the Project will apply and benefit from. However, as with the conservation efforts described below, while they provide important insight for connectivity corridors, none of these corridors have been formally approved or recognized under the recent Ministerial Agreement 019 or complied with technical requirements that it establishes.

Agricultural activities within the CTEA

The MAG, as the governing institution for the agricultural sector, has heavily invested in agricultural conversion of traditional crops such as cocoa and coffee, to deforestation-free products and agroforestry systems through projects such as the Amazon Productive Transformation Agency (ATPA), and the Comprehensive Amazon Program for Forest Conservation and Sustainable Production (PROAmazonía), financed by the Green Climate Fund (FVC) and the GEF (more details on both projects are presented in Section 1.5 of the Baseline). The latter bases its work upon the priority actions and policies identified by the Ecuadorian REDD+ Action Plan (2016 to 2025), which emphasizes the conversion of agricultural production activities into sustainable agricultural - productive systems under a social, cultural, environmental,

and economic perspective (see Section 3.5 Alignment with National Priorities and Plans for more details on the REDD+ Action Plan).

Farmer Field Schools (ECAs for its acronym in Spanish)

ECAs were developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and have been implemented globally and in Ecuador through the MAG as spaces for people-centered learning where agricultural and livestock breeding producers develop and consolidate their skills in order to improve their production practices. In practice, they are workspaces where capacities are developed and strengthened through hands-on experiences in the field. In the ECAS, the farmers and the organizations guarantee the sustained formation of the group, using the cultivated field both as a resource and as a learning space.

Bioeconomy initiatives

The native forest and natural vegetation areas dominate both landscapes. These are generally not associated with production systems. However, there are efforts being made on behalf of the MAAE and the MAG to support bioeconomy initiatives towards the production of forest-friendly products and services. These are being channeled through projects such as the ATPA, PROAmazonia, and the German Technical Cooperation (GIZ), German Program for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Heritage, for its acronym in German).

The Ministerial Agreement 034 issued on April 18, 2019, defines bioeconomy initiatives and the environmental, economic and social requirements that they must meet. It also mentions that bioeconomy initiatives are a strategy for the conservation of natural heritage, through the sustainable use of biodiversity (Art. 1). The Ministerial Agreement establishes that, in coordination with the SPN, cooperation treaties and agreements will be established with universities, NGOs, private businesses, and others to promote these bioeconomy initiatives. The aforementioned requirements are summarized below:

1. Environmental:
    a. Harvesting processes respect species' natural regeneration cycles;
    b. The cultivated native biodiversity cannot, in any case, be transformed into monocultures;
    c. Native crops free from deforestation;
    d. Crop collection methods and production procedures do not imply environmental risks or result in physical, chemical and / or biological contamination;
    e. They generate resilient alternatives to climate change; and,
    f. Consider safeguards to preserve the bio knowledge and the genetic heritage from biodiversity.

2. Economic:
    a. They have proven economic profitability, which guarantees their sustainability over time and represents an income alternative for entrepreneurs.

3. Social:
    a. Improve the quality of life of the people and incorporate a gender approach;
    b. They safeguard the ancestral knowledge of the communities involved; and

c. They contribute with social development alternatives aimed at reducing the environmental pressure upon areas under conservation.

1.5 Baseline Scenario

The analysis of the baseline—or "scenario without the GEF project" over the next six years—presented below, summarizes the ongoing or planned actions that the government and other key stakeholders will undertake in the coming years to address the barriers towards the creation and sustainability of two connectivity corridors in the two selected landscapes of the Ecuadorian Amazon. The baseline scenario includes projects and investments in areas such as PAs management and strengthening of other forms of conservation; promotion of sustainable agriculture practices and strengthening of bioeconomy initiatives; articulation of territorial planning processes and coordination of key territorial stakeholder in the two project landscapes. The section identifies entry points, by theme, for the project to complement those initiatives, identifies the gaps that the project will help to fill, and the results of the baseline the project will influence.

Biodiversity conservation and ecological connectivity

The following Table 1 summarizes the projects or initiatives that contribute as baseline to Component 1, specifically related to connectivity corridors and conservation initiatives.

Table 1. Baseline initiatives that contribute to Component 1.

Project	Source of Funding	Executing Entity	Timeline	Budget
Ministry of Environment and Water	General State Portfolio	MAAE	Present	Pending
PASNAP	KfW	MAAE	2020-2023	5.5M Euros
PSB	General Portfolio of the State and international cooperation	MAAE	2008-Present and ongoing	$688,548
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Project (PSB-Northern Amazon)	KfW	MAAE through the Forest Conservation and REDD+ Program (PCB REDD)	2011-2023	7,312,324.50 Euros

Project	Source of Funding	Executing Entity	Timeline	Budget
Project for Strengthening Technical and Institutional Capacities of the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Cuyabeno, Güeppí, Airo Pai, Huimeki, La Paya Corridor	TBD	MAAE, GIZ and WCS (Wildlife Conservation Society)	2020-2021	179,000 Euros

Ministry of Environment and Water

The MAAE is the governing authority for environmental policy and management in the country. As such, the MAAE leads policies, initiatives, and projects (government funded and funded by external donors) and executed in partnership with other organizations, that are most closely associated with Component 1 of this project. Specifically, the MAAE's Directorate of Protected Areas and Other Forms of Conservation regulates and manages the SNAP and other AECBs, such as buffer zones, corridors and PSB. Below we've highlighted both areas that are key to the project implementation: 1. PAs and connectivity corridors and 2. PSB.

PAs and Connectivity Corridors

Of the annual budget allocated through State funds, the MAAE invests USD 1,0713,371 in the Northern Landscape for the management of the Yasuní National Park, Cuyabeno Fauna Production Reserve and Biological Reserve, while for the Southern Landscape it makes an annual investment of USD 91,500 in the management of the Sangay National Park. To complement State funds in PAs, since 2016 MAAE has implemented the PASNAP, which contributes to the conservation of biodiversity and the population's livelihoods nation-wide.[12] The PASNAP has three components: i. the consolidation of the PANE; ii. the integration of new subsystems to the SNAP and the establishment of bio-corridors; and iii. strengthening the SNAP's financial sustainability. In the Amazon, it carries out activities within the provinces of Orellana, Sucumbíos, Pastaza, and Morona Santiago. In its second phase, the PASNAP is implementing activities that support connectivity with the Pas (linked to Component 1 of this project) and the financing of bioeconomy initiatives in the Northern Amazon (linked to Component 2 of this project). Through components 1 and 2 of this ASL GEF project, the results that PASNAP intends to develop regarding the management of PAs under a landscape and connectivity corridors approach will be complemented and leveraged. The project will coordinate closely with the MAAE and PASNAP to ensure complementarity in activities on the ground and alignment in methodologies.

Components 1 and 3 will reinforce the work on landscape connectivity issues, given that the MAAE does not have a specific technical team or a specialized unit dedicated to the subject, and that there is a need to develop a regulatory framework that complements the existing one. the

[12] The project is currently in its second phase. The first phase was carried out during 2016-2019, and the lessons learned from it are included in section 3.7 of Lessons Learned of this ProDoc.

Ministry must coordinate with the GADs regarding environmental management and land use planning Through its Zonal Directions, which constitute deconcentrated administrative units of the MAAE within the territory. In this context, there is a gap between the MAAE and the GADs to manage their conservation units from an integrated landscape perspective, due to limited experience, and to technical and institutional capacity. To help fill the gap, this project will create and strengthen the capacities of the MAAE and GADs, regarding sustainable landscape management and conservation corridors.

PSB

The PSB is a public policy through which the Ecuadorian State provides an economic incentive for individual and collective owners who commit to the preservation of their native forests through agreements signed for 20 years. It is implemented by the MAAE with an investment in the Northern Landscape of USD 513,261.03 (until 2018), and in the Southern Landscape of USD 175,287.37 (until 2018). In the Putumayo - Aguarico Landscape, 45 individual and 7 collective agreements have been signed, totaling more than 30,000 hectares under conservation. In the Palora - Pastaza Landscape, 18 collective agreements have been signed totaling 25,067 hectares.

The implementation of the PSB is also supported through the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Project (PSB-Northern Amazon) as part of the cooperation agreements between the governments of Ecuador and Germany, and part of the MAAE initiatives to reduce the rate of deforestation and contribute to the conservation of forests and preservation of biological diversity. The objective of the PSB-Northern Amazon Project is to expand and consolidate forest conservation activities through the PSB through the following activities: 1. the payment of financial incentives to associated communities in the provinces of Sucumbíos, Orellana, and Napo; and 2. forest governance.

The gaps identified in PSB are the following: weak coordination between program participants which, if improved, could help position them as strategic stakeholders regarding the territory's governance; weakness in conservation proposals for the areas that are under the agreement; and a lack of investments to incentivize economic/productive initiatives. Successful initiatives that improve the economic and productive sectors will provide financial security to stakeholders beyond just the incentive term and associated sustainable practices will reduce long-term pressures on the forests. This project will consider PSB conservation areas as core habitats within the connectivity corridors and will work with current PSB participants, complementing existing conservation actions, land-use planning, and sustainable production to allow for the long-term sustainability of the conservation areas within the connectivity corridors. In addition, the project will strengthen the conservation of existing areas in the program by expanding new conservation areas in each landscape as part of the connectivity corridors. To achieve this, the project will strengthen the capacities of the PSB participants in related issues, allowing for the development, complementarity, or improved execution of the sustainable production activities they carry out at the farm level.

Project for Strengthening Technical and Institutional Capacities of the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Cuyabeno, Güeppí, Airo Pai, Huimeki, La Paya Corridor

This project has the following objectives: i. Strengthening of institutional strategic capacities to adequately assume the functions and competencies of the Technical Secretariat of the Trinational Program; ii. Promote the consolidation of technical capacities to facilitate the management of the

Cuyabeno, Güeppí, Airo Pai, Huimeki, La Paya Conservation and Sustainable Development Corridor; and iii. Strengthen biological monitoring, as well as enforce control and surveillance in prioritized sites of the Cuyabeno, Güeppí, Airo Pai, Huimeki, La Paya Conservation and Sustainable Development Corridor. The support of this project is directly related to component 1, especially for the development of actions that strengthen the integration and management of conservation areas, in this case at the trinational level. One foreseeable challenge could be the need to improve the management of PAs under a landscape approach and in the connectivity corridors.

Promotion of Sustainable Agricultural Practices and Bioeconomy Initiatives

The following Table 2 summarizes the projects or initiatives that contribute as baseline to Component 2, specifically related to sustainable production and bioeconomy initiatives.

Table 2. Baseline initiatives that contribute to sustainable agriculture practices and bioeconomy initiatives.

Project	Source of Funding	Executing Entity	Timeline	Budget
ATPA	General State Portfolio	Ecuadorian government through the MAG	2019-2023	$13.5M
Project for the Promotion of Financial Instruments and Land Use Planning for the Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation (PROAmazonia)	Green Climate Fund (GCF)	UNDP	2018-2022	$41,172,739
Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Heritage / Bioeconomy Program	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)	GIZ	2018-2021	10M Euros
WWF-Ecuador: Belgian Development Cooperation (DGD) Project	DGD- WWF Belgium	WWF Ecuador	2017-2021	$4M (Phase 1) $4M (Phase 2)
WWF-Ecuador: Amazon Indigenous Rights and Resources Activity - AIRR	USAID	WWF Ecuador	2019-2024	$680,918

Agenda for the Productive Transformation of the Amazon Region (ATPA)
ATPA is a public policy aimed at the conversion of agricultural production in the Amazon towards sustainable production systems. It promotes the implementation of three strategic lines: a) Land use planning; b) Gender equity; and c) Internalization of environmental costs within production processes. The Project will contribute to the replicability and scaling up of sustainable production initiatives promoted by ATPA at the farm level, in a broader context of connectivity management in the two intervention landscapes. Component 2 will contribute to the commercialization of the endeavors promoted by the ATPA, by supporting the production, promotion, marketing, and access to market opportunities. It will also leverage ATPAs efforts and approaches in strengthening capacities for sustainable production. Similarly, it will help to strengthen and promote an integrated landscape approach, which the ATPA currently lacks, linking land use planning processes at the farm level and with the PDOTs to ensure ecological connectivity. In relation to component 2, a lack of innovation, value added, and commercialization of Amazonian ventures has been identified, which highlights the potential of biodiversity to generate a local economic model that replaces unsustainable extraction practices within the forest.

Project for the Promotion of Financial Instruments and Land Use Planning for the Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation (PROAmazonia)
PROAmazonia seeks to generate a transition towards a low emission development model, through the reduction of deforestation and forest degradation, the development of financial and market tools for the sustainable use of the land, the strengthening of supply chains for deforestation free products, policies and strengthening of the financial sustainability of the existing programs. It also supports the development of PDOTs in the Orellana, Sucumbios, Morona Santiago, and Pastaza provinces; of the Huamboya, Palora, and Pastaza municipalities (Palora - Pastaza Landscape); of 80 Life Plans and several PUGs. The project also promotes the transition of 45,000 hectares to sustainable production systems through five field schools with 1,000 palm producers andaccess to credit for coffee and cacao producers who are transitioning to forest-friendly processes.

PROAmazonía will be complemented by the project for *Results-Based Payments for reduced deforestation in 2014* which will provide continuity and complement actions promoted by PROAmazonia and for the REDD+ Action Plan. The project components are: (1) Support inter-sectoral articulation and mainstreaming of climate change and REDD+ in public policies and in the main territorial planning instruments at the level of GADs, communities, peoples and nationalities; (2) Support the transition to sustainable deforestation-free agriculture; (3) Sustainability of areas under forest management and increase the production and commercial use of non-timber forest products; and (4) Integrate the operational components of the PA REDD+.

The Connectivity Corridors Project will consolidate the current coordination processes and will link them with the objective of effectively managing the connectivity in the intervention landscapes (Component 1), through the establishment of management committees in the two corridors. In addition, it will enhance the benefits that the communities may obtain from forest products for the development of bioeconomy initiatives (Component 2). Communities will also benefit from the

replication and scaling of initiatives that take place within the Kichwa communities located near the Putumayo - Aguarico Landscape, among other bioeconomy initiatives that are considered important to position and consolidate certain value chains of forest-friendly products/services. Through component 3, the Connectivity Corridors Project will support the implementation of PDOTs, PUGs, and Life Plans, in aspects related to the connectivity of Amazonian landscapes.

Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Heritage / Bioeconomy Program

The program is funded by BMZ and implemented by GIZ, with a global amount of 10 million euros (1.9 M euros in the southern landscapes). It is scheduled to end by October 2021. The intervention area in the Amazon covers the provinces of Pastaza and Morona Santiago. Its objective is the conservation of PAs and the sustainable use of their biodiversity as a basis to catalyze the transition to a more sustainable and resilient economic model. The program implements actions within the Palora - Pastaza Landscapes, located in the lower area of the Sangay National Park. It provides technical and financial support for the development of bioeconomy initiatives in 10 promising areas (e.g., tourism, vanilla, and bamboo). It also coordinates with the GADs to strengthen their role within the production chains and as a facilitator for market access and the inclusion of the bio economy in its PDOTs.

CI-Ecuador is an executing partner of this project, especially for the development of species management plans for bioeconomy initiatives, the generation of participatory methodologies for monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and updating Life Plans within the Kichwa and Achuar communities. The Connectivity Corridors Project will leverage the lessons learned from this project regarding sustainable production initiatives linked to community territorial planning, to scale planning at a landscape level to that of a corridor level. In addition, the Connectivity Corridors Project can fill the gap related to the strengthening and commercial articulation of the bioeconomy initiatives supported by the GIZ, by increasing coordination in the supply of Amazonian products, and improving access to the local and national markets (Component 2).

WWF-Ecuador

WWF-Ecuador currently implements two key projects relevant to the Connectivity Corridors Project: 1. The Project financed by the Belgian Development Cooperation (DGD) and 2. Amazon Indigenous Rights and Resources Activity (AIRR). Both projects will be key to providing co-funding for activities in the Putumayo-Aguarico Landscape, particularly for Component 2 and Component 1.

The first phase of the DGD project (2017-2021) works in communities from the Mira, Pastaza, and Putumayo basins to “improve their socio-economic quality of life through an improvement in protection of their forests and sustainable productive systems”. It includes the followingf components: 1) Sustainable productive systems based on the adequate use of forest resources contribute to the improvement in income and food security of rural populations, 2) PAs and other conservation strategies, managed in a comprehensive and participatory manner to contribute to the provision of environmental services and the well-being of communities, and 3) Development of political and social awareness that is favorable to the protection of forests and biodiversity. Thus far, this project has provided the social, political, and cultural context needed to accompany the design of the Connectivity Corridors Project project, as well as establish relationships with key

partners. The second phase (2022-2027) of the DGD project is currently being designed strategically to complement this Project, with an emphasis on supporting livelihoods of vulnerable IPLC by strengthening long-term conservation areas, women's empowerment, education for sustainable development, bioeconomy initiatives (ecotourism, NTFP, and cocoa).

The AIRR (2019-2024) funded by USAID is a regional project implemented in Brazil, Colombia, Peru, and Ecuador that seeks to improve participation of indigenous peoples in the sustainable economic development of the Amazon, ultimately leading to the conservation of biodiversity and reduction of forest loss. In Ecuador, the project focuses on indigenous bioeconomy initiatives in the Putumayo Basin that are equitably and sustainably scaled to regional and global markets. Through these projects, WWF-Ecuador's work will complement the Connectivity Corridors Project project as co-finance for the implementation of activities in the Putumayo-Aguarico landscape related to local conservation areas, sustainable production, and bioeconomy initiatives, particularly with indigenous peoples. While the ASL project will include indigenous peoples and nationalities as key stakeholders, it encompasses a broader audience in the implementation of its activities. The AIRR project will co-finance ASL activities through a Landscape Coordinator and support in bioeconomy initiatives. WWF-Ecuador's work will also complement activities in both corridors through forest-based tourism and restoration inside and outside productive systems.

Territorial planning processes and coordination of stakeholders

The following Table 3 summarizes the projects or initiatives that contribute as baseline to Component 3, specifically related to governance and intersectoral coordination platforms and participatory mechanisms.

Table 3. Baseline initiatives that contribute to Component 3.

Project	Source of Funding	Executing Entity	Timeline	Budget
Council for Planning and Development of the Special Amazon Territorial Circumscription	General State Portfolio with royalties from public and private companies within the mining, oil, and hydroelectric sectors	Ecuadorian Government through the Technical Secretariat of the CTEA	2018-Present	$90M in 2020
CI-Ecuador: Our Future Forests – Amazonia Verde	Government of France	CI-Ecuador	2020-2022 (Phase I)	$2,593,000

Project	Source of Funding	Executing Entity	Timeline	Budget
CI-Ecuador: Bio-Andean Cacao: Project to support the sustainable development of a cacao sector of excellence in Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru	French Development Agency (AFD)	CI-Ecuador	2019-2022	$173,963

Council for Planning and Development of the Special Amazon Territorial Circumscription
The Council of the CTEA is the Ecuadorian State agency in charge of the articulation and inter - institutional coordination between the different levels of government, with the citizens and the public and private sectors of the Amazon. Among other functions, the Council is responsible for approving the guidelines and directives for the creation and coordination of the implementation of the PIA and for issuing criteria and guidelines for the prioritization of the interventions within the CTEA: PDOT, PUGs, Life Plans, and other territorial management tools within the Amazon. They will also define criteria and guidelines for the distribution of the Common Fund that finances the macro projects of the CTEA. The Council operates through the SCTEA (mentioned in section 1.4 of the National and Sectoral Context) which is responsible for preparing, coordinating, and monitoring the PIA.

The gaps that the Connectivity Corridors Project aims to address (Component 3) are related to the development of approaches, instruments, and regulations that contribute to the integrated management of the landscapes and connectivity corridors, as well as their inclusion in the various existing planning and management tools of the Amazonian territory. The Connectivity Corridors Project will also contribute to implementing the PIA, in particular the Territorial Planning, Production, and Environmental components, which CI-Ecuador supported in developing.

CI-Ecuador
CI-Ecuador is currently implementing two projects that will contribute co-financing for the Connectivity Corridors Project, as well as leverage established relationships with key stakeholders at a national level as well as in the Palora-Pastaza Landscape. The first project, Amazonia Verde, seeks to preserve the forest remnants in the Amazon Basin through the empowerment of indigenous peoples and nationalities, linking innovative financial mechanisms to encourage conservation. It has four broad components: 1. ensuring the protection of new conservation areas and improving the management of existing conservation zones; 2. empower indigenous leaders and communities; 3. identify and implement sustainable value chains; and 4. strengthen indigenous knowledge management. Being a project strongly linked to the management and participation of indigenous peoples and nationalities in Pastaza and Morona Santiago provinces, Connectivity Corridors Project can strengthen the link that these groups have with the multi-actor articulation spaces within the corridors (Components 1 and 3), something that

is not considered in Amazonia Verde. In addition, it can leverage the knowledge and lessons learned from the bioeconomy initiatives implemented within indigenous territories, linked to the conservation of forests in Achuar and Kichwa territories (Component 2). The Connectivity Corridors Project will also be able to harness the participatory monitoring processes of Amazonia Verde (which include using Earth Observation data to monitor indigenous territories) to strengthen Component 4. Amazonia Verde will be key to providing additional technical and logistical support for the Connectivity Corridors Project (including co-financing of partial time of an Achuar indigenous community specialist and sustainable production and bioeconomy field technician, as well as a vehicle).

The second, Bio-Andean Cacao project seeks to contribute to the consolidation of the organic and sustainable fine and aromatic cacao (CFA) sector in Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. This project promotes organic and sustainable CFA chain, incorporating favorable national support and the protection of the environment and its rich biodiversity. It is linked to Connectivity Corridors Project through component 2 of sustainable production and will provide lessons learned on the conservation agreement methodology with smallholder producers through the promotion of "conservation cacao", that link productive activities to better agricultural practices for forest preservation. The gap that Connectivity Corridors Project fills is to link these cacao initiatives and elevate them to be incorporated in planning processes at a landscape level in the Palora - Pastaza corridor (Component 3).

1.6 Coordination with other relevant GEF & non-GEF Initiatives

The project will coordinate with the GEF and non-GEF projects listed below, to ensure synergies are created with those projects and best practices and lessons are incorporated into an integrated sustainable landscape management approach within the two project landscapes:

Integrated Management of Landscapes of Multiple Use and of High Conservation Value for Sustainable Development of the Ecuadorian Amazon Region Project
GEF Agency: UNDP
Execution Status: In execution (until 2023)
Budget: $12,462,550

The project is part of PROAmazonia and its objective is to catalyze the transformation of land use planning and management in the CTEA, through the establishment of a governance and sustainable production framework based on a landscape approach and the optimization of ecosystem services and livelihoods. To this end, this project will develop a multi-level governance framework for the management and sustainable production in Multiple Use Landscapes and High Value Conservation Forests (BAVC) of the CTEA. It will facilitate access to markets, credit, and incentives for the sustainable production of the main products in the Multiple Use Landscapes and BAVC of the CTEA and the implementation of sustainable practices for commercial production and livelihoods at the landscape level. This project is a key ally in the implementation of components 2 and 3 of Connectivity Corridors Project, especially for the added benefit of corridor governance platforms and the access of biodiversity products to markets. The Connectivity Corridors Project will coordinate with PROAmazonía on developing and

implementing indigenous community Life Plans, complementing efforts to implement bioeconomy initiatives, and participate in multi-stakeholder engagement platforms. The Connectivity Corridors Project, through the MAAE and MAG, will coordinate periodic meetings with PROAmazonía to ensure project alignment and avoid duplicating efforts (Components 1, 2 and 3).

Seventh Operational Phase of the Small Grants Program (FO7-PPD)
GEF Agency: UNDP
Execution Status: In execution
Budget: $1,826,484

The objective of FO7-PPD is to strengthen associative bioeconomy initiatives in nine landscapes located in the coastal, Andean and Amazonian regions. To this end, it proposes to replicate methodologies validated by the PPD (Small Donations Program) in previous phases, such as i) the management of Territories and Areas Preserved by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities; ii) The development of bioeconomy initiatives based on “Products with Territorial Identity” (PIT); iii) The strengthening of multilevel governance in bio-corridors through “Bio-corridors Work Groups” (MTB); and, iv) The articulation of producers and other key actors through territorial “Bio-Networks”. The approach and methodologies of the PPD are key for components 2 and 3 of Connectivity Corridors Project, although the Amazonian landscapes where it intervenes are different. One added benefit to the Connectivity Corridors Project is the potential for replicability, scalability and coordination in the supply of Amazonian products that will increase the opportunities of access to local and national markets. The Connectivity Corridors Project will collaborate with the FO7-PPD to replicate and scale-up existing investments in bioeconomy initiatives, as well as adapt and replicate capacity-building efforts for bioeconomy initiative strengthening (Component 2).

Integrated Management of the Putumayo - Ica Basin
GEF Agency: World Bank
Execution Status: in design phase of the ProDoc
Budget: $12,844,037

The Putumayo - Ica Basin Integrated Management project aims to increase the capacities of Brazil, Colombia, and Ecuador in the management of freshwater ecosystems and aquatic resources of the Putumayo - Ica basin located in the Amazon region. The GEF project will support priority cross-border actions identified in the Strategic Action Program. The project will help reduce 3 tons of mercury pollution and address issues of overfishing, deforestation, and increase regional governance capacity, through better monitoring and synthesized information. The Connectivity Corridors Project will harness lessons learned, particularly in the Putumayo-Aguarico Landscape, regarding integrated management for the connectivity corridors, for Components 1 and 3 as well as knowledge management and knowledge exchanges linked to Component 4.

Integrating landscape considerations into wildlife conservation, with an emphasis on jaguars
GEF Agency: UNDP
Execution Status: in design phase of the ProDoc
Budget: $1,788,991

This project is in its design phase and the executing agency will be WCS. The project aims to make full use of the coordination processes and structures of the Global Wildlife Program to catalyze the conservation of the jaguar and associated wildlife within their habitats in critical landscapes in Ecuador (coastal zone in the north of Esmeraldas; the foothills of the Andes-Amazon; and the Cordillera Cóndor - Kutukú in the southern Amazon). It seeks to meet this objective through the implementation of conservation strategies at the national level, with pilot projects at the local level, generating lessons learned that could be scaled up, especially in other countries with jaguar populations. The project is relevant because of the work that will be carried out at the landscape level to define the Jaguar Conservation Units and priority areas, to improve connectivity, and to provide support for the establishment of sub-national PAs in the mentioned territories. Especially in the Putumayo-Aguarico landscape, the Connectivity Corridors Project will harness relevant information to include in the criteria for the prioritization of the connectivity corridors (Component 1) as well as participatory monitoring techniques (Component 3), linking to the work implemented with universities for corridor monitoring.

Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity within the sustainable use areas of the National System of Protected Areas of Ecuador and its buffer zones
GEF Agency: FAO
Execution Status: Concept approved
Budget: $4,416,210

The project aims to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, as well as to optimize the livelihoods of local inhabitants through the application of an integrated landscape management approach within the State Subsystem of Protected Areas. It will focus on the sustainable use areas within the AP, as well as the adjacent buffer zones, and develop the capacities of decision makers to broaden the SNAP in all aspects. At present, the PIF has been approved and the ProDoc is in the design phase. This project, led by FAO is related to the Connectivity Corridors Project in design through its two components that seek to strengthen the governance of APs and their areas of sustainable use, as well as to improve alternative livelihoods in the Cayambe - Coca, and Sangay APs (GEF, 2019). In the Palora-Pastaza landscape, the Connectivity Corridors Project will coordinate to ensure that the connectivity corridor activities (Component 1) complement the Sangay National Park governance activities and are aligned in Component 3.

Development of an Enabling Environment for Sustainable Businesses Based on the Native Biodiversity of Ecuador
GEF Agency GEF: CAF
Execution Status: in design phase of the ProDoc
Budget: $3,119,266

This project aims to create the necessary conditions to facilitate the development of companies, and the growth of a sector, based on the sustainable use of biodiversity. The MAAE, in

collaboration with other public entities, has been advocating for the development of bioeconomy initiatives for this purpose, with the long-term objective that the national economy relies on the sustainable use of biodiversity. The main barrier to achieving this is a limited enabling environment which restricts the support and development of biodiversity-based businesses. The project includes three complementary components to achieve this: 1) Build institutional arrangements and capacities to support biodiversity-based business development and supply chains; 2) Develop financial instruments and mechanisms to provide funding for businesses and supply chains based on biodiversity; 3) Demonstrations of pilot interventions to generate practical lessons of direct support to three supply chains: mortiño (*Vaccinium floribunum*), (fresh and dehydrated), live animal frogs and guadua cane products (*Guadua angustifolia*). The project will improve the management of 7,000 hectares for the benefit of biodiversity. The Connectivity Corridors Project will coordinate Component 2 with the institutional arrangements component of this project to amplify partnership models and strengthen capacities to support biodiversity-based business development.

Cuencas Sagradas Initiative
Executors: CONFENIAE, Federation of the Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA), Pachamama Alliance, Pachamama Foundation and Amazon Watch
Execution Status: In execution since 2019

This initiative is led by the CONFENIAE, the Inter-ethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Jungle (AIDESEP) and the COICA, together with local allies in Ecuador and Peru: Pachamama Alliance, Amazon Watch and Pachamama Foundation. The project is under development and annual investment projections are around USD 1.2 M. The project activities have been planned until the year 2030. In Ecuador, the project is within the Napo River Basin (Northern Landscape) and in Pastaza (Southern Landscape). The objectives are: 1) To protect indigenous territories in the region, which comprises a mosaic of 30 million hectares of tropical forest and houses around 3.8 billion metric tons of carbon; 2) To promote the governance and bio regional management of these territories, as the most effective strategy to protect the tropical forest and avoid carbon emissions from illegal deforestation; 3) To forge a sustainable path that maintains fossil fuel reserves in the subsoil, starting with the Cuencas Sagradas territories. Especially in the Palora-Pastaza landscape, the Connectivity Corridors Project will collaborate with the Cuencas Sagradas Initiative on advocacy mechanisms with the active participation of indigenous peoples and nationalities for the management of landscapes in the Amazon region and strengthening governance platforms at different levels (Components 1 and 3). It will also collaborate with this Initiative on implementing indigenous community life plans as part of the ILM and align bioeconomy initiatives as part of those life plans (Components 2 and 3).

Plan for the Implementation of REDD+ Measures and Actions for the 2020-2030 period of the Provincial Government of Pastaza
Executors: GAD Pastaza, MAAE
Execution Status: In design phase

The development of the plan will guide the Provincial GADs of Pastaza. This is part of the global initiative of the Governors for Climate & Forests Task Force who, with funding from Norway's International Climate and Forests Initiative (NICFI) and technical assistance from the Nature and Culture International Foundation (NCI), are preparing this Plan for the province. The budget for the initiative has not yet been defined. However, it may complement several activities that are

proposed to be carried out within the corridor in the Palora - Pastaza Landscape, in terms of reducing deforestation under the umbrella of the Plan REDD+ Action Plan of Ecuador that contains four strategic components: i) Institutional management; ii) Transition to sustainable production; iii) Sustainable forest management; and, iv) Forest conservation and restoration. The Connectivity Corridors Project will collaborate with the Pastaza REDD+ Implementation Plan by aligning the corridor activities, bioeconomy initiatives and governance platforms with the priorities established by the Implementation Plan. It will complement current investments to ensure project alignment (Components 1, 2, and 3).

CONFENIAE REDD+ Action and Measures Implementation Plan
Executors: CONFENIAE, MAAE
Execution Status: In execution

This plan, also known as: the "Holistic Management Plan of the Forests, Biodiversity, and Territories of the Amazonian Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador to Battle Climate Change", is the proposal of the CONFENIAE to link and support the implementation of the REDD+ Action Plan of Ecuador. It is not a project. It constitutes a strategy and a great program that contains a number of actions that can eventually turn into independent projects. The plan contains four strategic components: i) Institutional management; ii) Transition to sustainable production; iii) Sustainable forest management; and iv) Forest conservation and restoration. Some activities that are proposed in the Plan such as the development of Life Plans for indigenous organizations, are already being implemented by the CTEA secretariat and by PROAmazonia. Additionally, with funds from the Payment for Results of the FVC, CONFENIAE will directly execute a total of 2.5 million dollars to partially implement its Plan (valued at more than 70 million). The Connectivity Corridors Project will collaborate with the CONFENIAE REDD+ Implementation Plan to identify gaps in the development and implementation of Life Plans and bioeconomy initiatives to complement existing efforts that require additional investment.

Amazonia 2.0
Executors: UICN, Ecociencia and NAWE
Execution Status: In execution

This project works with communities of the Waorani Territory, with the aim of containing the deforestation and degradation of the Amazonian forests as well as the loss of their biodiversity and ecosystem services. The expected results are: i. Establish an interactive regional platform for 6 indigenous and rural territorial units, allowing the registration, analysis, and reporting of information in real time to contribute to the monitoring of deforestation (pressures, threats, and illegal trafficking of wild resources), and with the surveillance of governance processes and validity of REDD+ safeguards; ii. Strengthen the technical and organizational capacities of the key organizations that set up observation missions to implement a system of forest governance indicators, REDD+ of the UNFCCC, mechanisms of surveillance, follow-up and independent monitoring of forests, and of causes related to the violation of rights and forest governance problems, within selected indigenous and community territories; and, iii. Achieve effective participation of local indigenous and community organizations in political advocacy processes, with an emphasis on monitoring national REDD+ strategies, forest governance, and regional policies related to climate change, PAs, forests and the illegal trade of wild resources. The project is active throughout the Amazonian region, in Ecuador, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Guyana, and

Suriname. In Ecuador, the project landscapes are specifically within the Waorani Territory, Yasuní N. P., and Orellana Province. A technological platform will be implemented in each of the project countries to coordinate monitoring efforts, strengthen forest governance, and consolidate planning on the use of community territory. The Connectivity Corridors Project will harness lessons learned, particularly in participatory monitoring and indigenous knowledge management to incorporate into the corridor monitoring systems and land-use planning mechanisms (Component 3).

Forest and Farm Facility Mechanism (FFF)
Implementing Agencies: FAO, MAAE
State of Execution: In execution

This project supports small agricultural and forestry producers, groups of rural women, local communities, and indigenous peoples, by increasing their technical and business capacities. It has a budget of USD 1.4 million for the 2018-2021 period, in the Napo province (Amazon region) and in the Imbabura province (Sierra region). The FFF also collaborates with the MAAE to develop policy instruments and inter - sectoral management mechanisms that support the bio - economy policy. Through the FFF, bioeconomy initiatives are financed in the Napo province and the capacities of producer organizations are strengthened in production, processing, distribution, and marketing. The replication of the FFF's approaches and methodologies, regarding the development of rural and associative bioeconomy initiatives, could contribute to component 2, although the Amazonian landscape where it intervenes is different from that of Connectivity Corridors Project. The Connectivity Corridors Project will collaborate with the FFF to leverage bioeconomy initiatives, harness best practices and lessons learned, and add to the supply of products from the Amazon region which will increase the opportunities of access to local and national markets (Component 2).

SECTION 2: PROJECT EXECUTION STRATEGY

2.1 Project Objective and Theory of Change

The objective of this Child Project is to improve the ecological connectivity of two priority landscapes, the Putumayo – Aguarico and the Palora-Pastaza, in the Ecuadorian Amazon, through the establishment of two connectivity corridors and associated management mechanisms, to ensure the long-term biodiversity conservation of its ecosystems.

The project theory of change aligns with the ASL II Program (see Annex 1 Alignment between the ASL II Program Framework and the Ecuador Child Project strategy), and is built upon the threats, root causes, barriers, and baseline presented in the previous sections. It is based on the logic that the ecological integrity of the landscapes, dependent on the biological connectivity between the existing PAs and other landscape forest remnants, can be maintained if:

- a gender sensitive participatory process, coordinated through interinstitutional and multisectoral governance platforms leads to the identification of two connectivity corridors, consented by involved indigenous peoples and nationalities through an FPIC process, and to the formal designation of the connectivity corridors by the MAAE,
- fragmentation and other agricultural threats to ecological connectivity are reduced through the promotion of SLM practices in key intensive agricultural production areas in and around the two connectivity corridors,
- alternative sustainable livelihoods for the men and women of the corridor communities are promoted via the strengthening of bioeconomy initiatives, that are compatible with the biodiversity conservation of the corridors,
- enabling conditions are created for ensuring the effective integration of the connectivity corridor objectives in territorial planning instruments and capacities of the two landscapes,

During the project preparation phase, a preliminary Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis identified three potential connectivity corridor routes for the Putumayo-Aguarico landscape and two connectivity corridor routes for the Palora-Pastaza landscape, using SNAP, BVP and PSB areas as core habitats. These alternatives were identified considering a preliminary characterization of the landscape conditions based on forest remnants, fragmentation, isolation, and ecosystem services (carbon) in each landscape, as well as pressures and threats from infrastructure (roads), vegetation conversion (deforestation), and extractive activities (presence of timber licensing, mining concessions and oil wells). During project year 1, under Component 1, this analysis will be complemented and validated, to allow key stakeholders and decision makers to select one connectivity corridor option in each landscape. See Annex 2 for more information on the preliminary exercise conducted to identify lowest cost routes for the connectivity corridors in each landscape.

Given the baseline and proposed lines of action, the project's Theory of Change is shown in the figure 9 below:

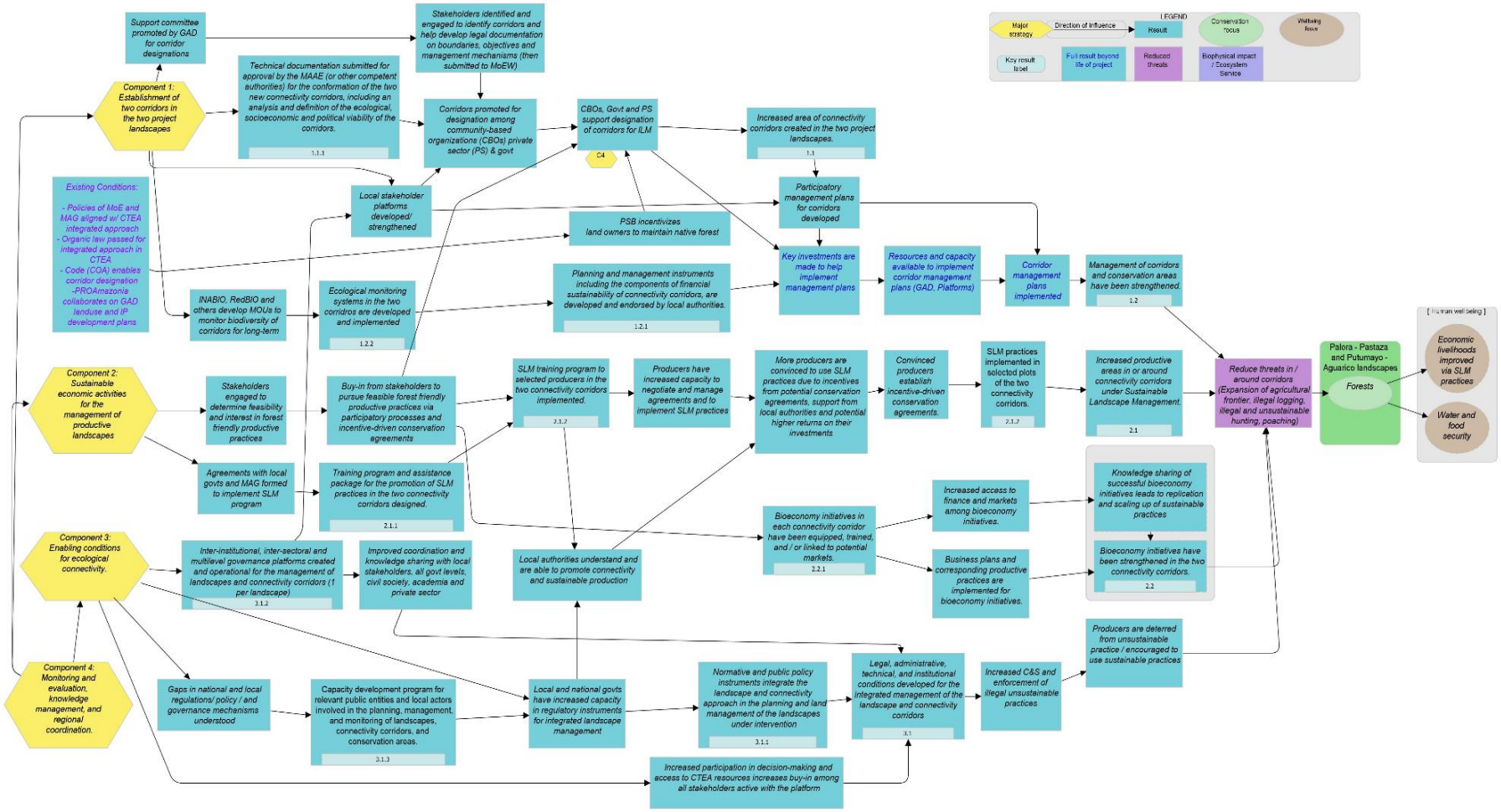


Figure 9: High level Theory of Change representation of project intervention

2.2 Project Components and Expected Outcomes

The project "Connectivity Corridors in two priority landscapes of the Ecuadorian Amazon Region" aims to improve the ecological connectivity of two priority landscapes, Putumayo – Aguarico and Palora-Pastaza, in the Ecuadorian Amazon, by establishing two connectivity corridors and associated management mechanisms, to ensure the long-term biodiversity conservation of its ecosystems. This objective is intended to be achieved during the 5 years of project execution, through the implementation of four interrelated Components:

Component 1: Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes.

Component 1 seeks to implement a technical analysis to select the best connectivity corridor route, based on geospatial, social (including gender and intercultural approaches), economic, cultural, ecological, and political criteria. It will also include activities to fulfill the necessary requirements established in Ministerial Agreement 019 and to submit the technical documentation required for the MAAE to officially designate a connectivity corridor each project landscape. Finally, under Component 1 key planning and management tools for the management of the corridors will be prepared.

Component 2: Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors.

Component 2 seeks to decrease threats to connectivity in the two proposed corridors, by promoting sustainable agriculture production practices in key areas of the corridors, based on the assessments done in Component 1. In those key productive areas, the project will promote land-use planning at a farm level and SLM practices. In the connectivity corridors, the project will also promote alternative bioeconomy initiatives to reduce pressure on native forests and incentivize alternative forest friendly income generating initiatives.

Component 3: Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity.

This component seeks to establish the enabling conditions for effective and participatory corridor management through three strategies: 1. Development of standards, public policy, technical or administrative instruments that contribute to the connectivity and integrated management of sustainable landscapes; 2. Strengthening key stakeholders' capacities for corridor management; and, 3. Establishment of inter-institutional, inter-sectoral, and multi-level governance platforms for the participatory identification and management of the corridors.

Component 4: Monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management, and regional coordination.

Component 4 focuses on developing and implementing a monitoring and evaluation plan that will allow for effective and efficient project management and provide information for effective decision-

making within the adaptive management of the project. It also seeks to promote spaces for dialogue and knowledge exchanges at the national and regional levels, in order to leverage successful strategies and lessons learned from other initiatives. Finally, this component is directly linked to the first three components, ensuring timely communication of key information about the actions and impact of the project throughout its implementation.

All project outcomes, outputs and activities take into account the baseline scenario presented in Section 1.4 and are designed to address the project barriers identified in Section 1.3. A summary of outcomes and outputs by component can be found in Table 4. Please refer to Annex 6 Gender Action Plan, for specific proposed gender mainstreaming activities, under each output.

Table 4: Project Components, Outcomes and Outputs

Components	Outcome	Outputs
Component 1: Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes.	1.1. Increased area of connectivity corridors created in the two project landscapes.	1.1.1. Technical documentation submitted for approval by the MAAE (or other competent authorities) for the designation of the two new connectivity corridors, including an analysis and definition of the ecological, socioeconomic (including gender and intercultural approaches) and political viability of each corridor.
	1.2. Management of corridors and conservation areas have been strengthened.	1.2.1. Planning and management instruments, including the components of financial sustainability of connectivity corridors, are developed and endorsed by local authorities. 1.2.2. Ecological monitoring systems in the two corridors are developed and implemented.

Components	Outcome	Outputs
Component 2: Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors.	2.1. Increase of productive areas, in or around connectivity corridors, under SLM.	2.1.1. Training program and assistance package for the promotion of SLM practices in the two connectivity corridors designed. 2.1.2. SLM training program, including gender and intercultural approaches, to selected producers in the two connectivity corridors implemented. 2.1.3. SLM practices implemented in selected plots of the two connectivity corridors equitably benefiting men and women producers.
	2.2. Bioeconomy initiatives have been strengthened in the two connectivity corridors.	2.2.1. Bioeconomy initiatives, in each connectivity corridor, have been equipped, trained, and / or linked to potential markets, with a gender and intercultural approach.
Component 3: Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity.	3.1. Legal, administrative, technical, and institutional conditions developed for the sustainable management of the connectivity corridors.	3.1.1. Regulatory and public policy instruments integrate the connectivity corridors needs in the planning and land management of the landscapes under intervention. 3.1.2. Inter institutional, inter-sectoral, multilevel governance platforms created and operational for the management of landscapes and connectivity corridors (1 per landscape). 3.1.3. Capacity development program for relevant public entities and local actors involved in the planning, management, and monitoring of landscapes, connectivity corridors, and conservation areas, with a gender and intercultural approach.

Components	Outcome	Outputs
Component 4: Monitoring, and evaluation, knowledge management and regional coordination.	4.1. Project monitoring and evaluation data contributes to efficient decision making and to adaptive project management.	4.1.1. Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan informs the project's adaptive management.
	4.2. Strengthening of national and regional coordination and knowledge management.	4.2.1. Effective coordination at the national level and with the ASL program. 4.2.2. Knowledge management and communication products developed and disseminated.

Consultation, FPIC and Project Strategy

During the project development period, the process of consultation with local government and local community stakeholders, and with indigenous communities, in the two landscapes, was initiated (in person in 2019 and, due to the pandemic, through virtual means from early 2020) by the project development team, including WWF and CI staff, Project Preparation Grant (PPG) consultants, and local and national government staff (including MAAE). There was overall interest and an initial agreement to support the project from indigenous communities' representatives at both landscapes. There was initial indication of support from representatives of producer organizations and indigenous communities, including representatives from the Kofán, Kichwa, Siecoya, Siona, Achuar, Shuar, and Waorani indigenous nationalities, to creating corridors (Component 1), so long as incentives are built in for communities, and that these strategies align to their own goals. IP communities' representatives noted they want to be part of the project, using corridors to secure their areas of conservation, and to bring bioeconomy support to their productive lands, in line with the objectives of their territory Life Plans. Representatives of local and indigenous communities expressed particular interest in the proposed support for bioeconomy initiatives under Component 2.

The initial reviews and consultations at local to national level undertaken in project development suggests that there is scientific rationale to create corridors in the two landscapes, and political support for a corridors approach and an associated enabling legal framework. In year 1-2 of project implementation, geospatial analysis and ecological and connectivity surveys will identify possible appropriate spatial areas for establishing corridors, based on ecological information, location of existing and planned major infrastructure and political and social will to participate in these corridors. During this same time, the consultation and FPIC process will continue more deeply to assess local community and especially indigenous community perspectives on

establishing corridors. If, after these consultations, the project doesn´t obtain FPIC to the formal designation of the connectivity corridors, there will be a revision of the Component 1 strategy, and approaches consented with IPs to maintain ecological connectivity in the two landscapes would be sought. A detailed description of the project Outcomes and Outputs is included below.

COMPONENT 1: ESTABLISHMENT OF CONNECTIVITY CORRIDORS IN THE TWO PROJECT LANDSCAPES. (GEF budget USD 2,134,067 and co-financing USD 16,124,990).

Outcome 1.1: Increased area of connectivity corridors created in the two project landscapes.

The Project proposes to establish a connectivity corridor in each intervention landscape as a conservation area, following the provisions of the recently issued Ministerial Agreement 019 of May 22, 2020, of the MAAE, which incorporates protection mechanisms, sustainable use of biodiversity, and restoration of landscapes with remnants of ecosystems that hold global importance. This outcome is of strategic importance for the conservation of the Ecuadorian Amazon region, especially for the maintenance and recovery of biological connectivity among the natural areas that are part of the SNAP, BVP *(Protective Forests and Vegetation)*, PSB, and of the collective territories of indigenous peoples.

This approach will be complemented with the promotion of bioeconomy initiatives and sustainable agricultural production practices that contribute to the connectivity of the landscape (Component 2) and the strengthening of enabling conditions for integrated landscape management (Component 3). As mentioned in the baseline and national and sectoral context, there are several initiatives underway to design connectivity corridors in the country, of which only the Sangay Podocarpus Corridor has been legally declared based on recently issued regulations. The Project will capitalize on the experience generated by those initiatives and will align to the new legal framework for connectivity corridors. WWF is currently supporting the process of creating the Llangantes-Sangay corridor through a project that started in June 2020 (see section 1.5. Baseline Scenario), which also has as one of its outcomes, the creation, together with the MAAE, of a network of conservation corridors in Ecuador as a space for coordination and exchange of experiences at the national level, between actors linked to created or in the process of being established corridors. This initiative will be an important baseline for the project.

The connectivity corridors to be established in the two landscapes will together add up to at least 40,000 hectares, the conservation of which will help prevent the emission of approximately 212,644 tons of CO2 eq.

1.1.1. Technical documentation submitted for approval by the MAAE (or other competent authorities) for the designation of the two new connectivity corridors, including an analysis and definition of the ecological, socioeconomic (including gender and intercultural approaches) and political viability of each corridor.

During the design phase of this project, a preliminary GIS analysis, based on socio environmental criteria, was carried out in order to identify potential corridor alternatives in both intervention landscapes. The detail of this exercise is presented in Annex 1. Output 1.1.1 will complement and deepen this exercise in order to generate the necessary information to allow decision makers to select one connectivity corridor option in each landscape. This activity, technical in nature, consists of gathering spatial, biological, forestry, social, economic, and cultural information in the territory, in order to characterize and evaluate each of the preidentified connectivity options (3 options in the Putumayo - Aguarico Landscape, and 2 options in the Palora - Pastaza Landscape).

The more detailed analysis to be implemented in the initial phase of the Connectivity Corridors Project implementation, will use an ecosystem services and biological connectivity approach in each landscape. The product will describe the viability of each corridor alternative within the two project landscapes, as well as evaluate the potential of each of the proposed corridors to identify the best and most viable corridor route. This analysis will be based on a multi-criteria prioritization evaluation, which will be implemented in a participatory manner with key stakeholders, especially MAAE, GADs, SCTEA, academia, and indigenous and local communities. The participatory process will be designed with a gender equity perspective. This product must meet the technical requirements established in Article 6 of Ministerial Agreement 019 for the design of connectivity corridors.

Once the connectivity options are defined, Output 1.1.1 seeks to prepare the required technical documentation, in accordance with the guidelines established in Article 8 of Ministerial Agreement 019, for the designation of the connectivity corridors. The required documentation includes: 1) Diagnosis of the connectivity corridor, 2) Feasibility analysis, 3) Participation process of the actors, with gender equality perspective in the process, 4) Description othe limits of the proposed corridor, and 5) Information on the basic and thematic cartography. Under this output, the project will also design the conceptual, legal, and institutional framework related to the connectivity corridors and will secure the agreements and / or letters of commitment of key actors to participate in the sustainable management of the corridor.

Activities:

- Carry out a characterization and connectivity analysis in each landscape of the project (Putumayo - Aguarico and Palora - Pastaza). This multi-temporal analysis, including geospatial, cultural, socioeconomic (including gender and intercultural approaches), ecological[13] and political information, will provide information that allows decision-makers to better understand the fragmentation, conservation gaps, key biodiversity conservation

[13] Based on the spatial distribution of the remaining ecosystems, metrics related to the function, composition and structure of the ecosystems will be used as a proxy to determine the ecological integrity at the landscape scale. Also, information related to provision of ecosystem services (ie. carbon, biodiversity richness, water availability) will be integrated in the analysis.

areas, land use change and soil management, and threats to the core habitat in the landscapes.

- Based on the characterization and connectivity analysis, implement a multi-criteria analysis to define potential cost-effective solutions for the creation of the corridors in each landscape.
- Implement the free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) process when indigenous peoples and nationalities are involved, as a criterion for the selection of landscapes and as an ongoing process throughout the lifecycle of the project. Additionally, local communities will also participate in the consultation processes. More details on the FPIC process can be found in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex 6).
- Based on the selection of the connectivity routes in each landscape, identify and select forest remnants that are unprotected within each corridor and identify additional conservation alternatives, such as new local conservation areas or PSB areas.
- Carry out a feasibility analysis of the incorporation of connectivity corridors in land use planning, especially taking into account the competencies of the GADs, considering the inclusion of corridors in the PDOTs and other complementary plans.
- Implement workshops and meetings with relevant participants for the review, discussion and validation of analyses carried out in each landscape and selection of the connectivity proposals and of new conservation areas to be declared as such. These participatory processes must be with a gender equity perspective and include duly documented with meeting minutes, photographs, lists of participants, among others.
- Generate information with the biophysical, social, economic, and cultural characterization of the selected connectivity corridors, including the following:
    - *Physical aspects:* Characterize the soil, water, and air resources;
    - *Biological aspects:* Describe the state of the ecosystems; the vegetation cover, and land use; flora; fauna; identification of conservation values and environmental services;
    - *Social, economic and cultural aspects:* Describe the situation of the local population, especially in relation to demographic aspects, gender and intercultural approach, economic aspects and the access to basic services, production systems, among others.
    - *Connectivity aspects:* fragmentation, conservation gaps, species migratory patterns, among others.
- Present a map with the geographic location, limits, and surface area of the proposed connectivity corridors, in agreement with the format of the Technical Annex of Ministerial Agreement 019, with their respective shapefiles and alphanumeric database.
- If consent is generated through FPIC process and other stakeholder consultations, submit the complete files with the documentation required for the creation of the connectivity corridors to the responsible authorities (if FPIC is not obtained, as explained aboved, there will be a revision of the Component 1 strategy in order to achieved IP´s consent to ecological connectivity approaches).
- Advocate for the creation of the corridors and monitor the administrative and political process.

- Socialize the process with stakeholders involved in the management of both landscapes and communicate relevant information to the general public in both landscapes, with a gender and intercultural approach.

Related programs and projects: SCTEA; PASNAP; ATPA; PROAmazonia; PSB.

Implementation Mechanism: Directed by the Project Management Unit (PMU), in coordination with corridor platforms in each landscape (established in Component 3) and in coordination with the SPN of the MAAE (has jurisdiction over the establishment of connectivity corridors), the Forest Monitoring Unit of the MAAE (provides information) and the SCTEA. The technical documentation will be prepared with the support of a consultancy, with the supervision and participation of geographers from CI and WWF (through co-financing), as well as with the technical team of the PMU in the landscapes. The socialization, including meetings and workshops within the framework of the platforms for each landscape (component 3), will be led by the technical team of the PMU. FPIC will led and documented by the PMU safeguards specialist.

Outcome 1.2. Management of the two new corridors and conservation areas have been strengthened.

Since May 2018, the Amazon region has had an organic law that articulates the integral planning of the CTEA with the National System of State Planning. This law defines a set of criteria and parameters that are mandatory for the public sector and indicative for the other sectors. Therefore, the establishment and management of the connectivity corridors should be integrated into the formal planning of the territory and public policy cycle.

By mandate of Ministerial Agreement 019, the design of corridors must be a participatory, inclusive process, and agreed upon jointly with the local participants who legitimize their existence in a social, political, legal, and institutional manner.

In a similar way, for adequate management of the corridors, it is important to clarify and have an agreement upon definition of the roles, responsibilities, and commitments of the different social and institutional participants that will participate in the initiative.

This outcome is closely linked to Component 3 of the project where the corridors platforms for the participatorily management of the corridors, as well as the ordinances, resolutions, and agreements necessary to ensure the inter-sectoral articulation of the corridors will be established.

The generation of participatory planning and management instruments for the corridors, in accordance with the requirements of the Ministerial Agreement 019, will need to be linked to priority existing and planned activities and investments in the landscapes, and coordinated with existing territorial planning schemes in the Amazon region.

The outcome is dependent on obtaining FPIC for the formal designation of the connectivity corridors. Consultations during project preparation phase indicated initial agreement from the representatives of Indigenous Populations and local communities in the two landscapes, for the formal designation of the connectivity corridors. Nevertheless, FPIC will be implemented

throughout the different phases of the project, and specially in Component 1, in activities such as the identification of connectivity corridors options and definition of the final connectivity corridors proposal. If, after these consultations, the project didn't obtain FPIC for the formal designation of the corridors, there would be a revision of Component 1 strategy, to include alternative approaches consented with IPs to maintain ecological connectivity in the two landscapes. Outcome 1.2. would need to be reviewed to align to the approaches consented by IPs.

Output 1.2.1. Planning and management instruments including the components of financial sustainability of connectivity corridors, are developed, and endorsed by local authorities.

As established in Ministerial Agreement 019, and once the connectivity corridors have been selected, the project will ensure that the planning and management instrument of the corridor is articulated with the priority actions and investments in the landscapes and corridors. This articulation is multilevel and includes the relationship within the framework of the implementation of the PIA, the PDOT as well as the PUGs of the Life Plans in which the corridors are located. It will also consider the management plans of related conservation areas and the Life Plans of indigenous peoples, which are the institutionalized management instruments of the Amazon territory.

The project will support the MAAE in coordinating with the GADs, the sectoral entities with jurisdiction in the territory, and the public, private, and indigenous community stakeholders that are interested and have influence in the design, establishment, and management of the corridors.

Once the connectivity corridors options have been participatorily defined and consented by Indigenous People, and agreed by all national and local stakeholders, the team will develop the required technical documentation and management instruments, as stated in the Ministerial Agreement 019. The MA requires the connectivity corridors management plans, the annual operation plans and the five years management plans, as part of technical expedient for the designation of the corridors.

Activities:

- Develop participatory management plans for the two corridors, which include:
    - Mapping of stakeholders.
    - An action plan with roles and responsibilities agreed upon by all the involved parties, within the context of the corridor platforms (to be created under Component 3).
    - Prioritization of short (0-4 years), medium (5-10 years) and long-term (11+ years) actions.
    - Identification of activities to be funded and implemented directly through this project and by other available resources.
    - Design and implementation of a participatory mechanism for the monitoring and evaluation of goals, investments, and management outcomes.
    - Design of mechanisms and instruments for operational planning.

    - Identification of strategies and mechanisms for the financial sustainability of management plans.
- Develop the Five-Year Management Plan with programs, projects, and activities considering at least the following aspects:
    - Administrative and financial management including the components of governance, policy and legislation, financial sustainability and strategic alliances;
    - In situ and ex situ conservation, with the components of areas under categories of conservation, ecological restoration, reintroduction of native species and management units;
    - Research on the biotic, socio-environmental, and logistical components;
    - Communication, training, dissemination, and participatory environmental education;
    - Sustainable production alternatives, with the components of incentives, training, ecotourism, agro ecology, and co-responsibility (which will be linked to Component 2 of the project).
- Participatory development of the Annual Operation Plan with goals and indicators that respond to annual management milestones, framed within the Five-Year Management Plan
- Update the planning and management instruments in existing conservation areas within the corridors, to align their conservation objectives with those of the connectivity corridors. This includes:
    - Technical support for the updating of the management and investment plans of the existing conservation areas located within the two corridors and,
    - Capacity building for the operational management of the conservation areas.
- Support the implementation of priority activities defined in the management plans. Special attention will be placed to identify and strengthen ancestral practices of women and elders in relation to biodiversity conservation. Final list of activities to be funded will depend on the final connectivity corridors options and their management plans, and will be selected from the following list of eligible activities, with an emphasis on:
    - Strengthening of control and surveillance processes for conservation areas using a human rights-based approach (training and small equipment acquisition);
    - Strengthening methodologies and processes for the monitoring and reporting on the conservation and threats status (technical assistance);
    - Develop baseline and monitoring of natural resource use (Small equipment's and operational support);
    - Development of tourism and visitor management plans for the conservation areas (technical assistance);
    - Environmental communication and education program activities.
    - Trainings of the management teams of current conservation areas (including PSB, local government conservation areas, private conservation areas, among others).

Implementation mechanism: Directed by the PMU, in coordination with corridor platforms in both landscapes and in coordination with the SPN (competencies in connectivity corridors) of the MAAE. The technical documentation will be prepared by a consultancy. Grants will be provided

to GADs, NGOs and SCOs (to be determined after the corridors have been selected) for the implementation of priority activities defined in the management plans, through a competitive process.

Related programs and projects: SCTEA; PASNAP; PROAmazonia; PSB; Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Heritage / Bio economy Program (GIZ).

Output 1.2.2. Ecological monitoring systems in the two corridors are developed and implemented.

Ecological and socio-economic monitoring is an essential mechanism to guide decision-making for corridor management, ensuring their functionality and efficiency of investments aimed at the conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of the land. The ecological and socioeconomic monitoring that will be promoted by the project will be articulated with the National Biodiversity Monitoring System (SINMBIO, for its Spanish acronym), with the National Biodiversity Institute (INABIO, for its Spanish acronym), the SCTEA (Center for Information Governance), and the MAAE are implementing and will include the active participation of indigenous and local communities (Valdés et al., 2019[14]).

The project will take advantage of the limited experience in monitoring ecological corridors in the country (ex. Podocarpus - Sangay conservation corridor) and will contribute to efforts in order to standardize the use of methodologies and generate a standard information base to enable nationwide comparison.

The INABIO and the National Biodiversity Network (RedBio) bring together the most prestigious and experienced universities and researchers in ecological monitoring within the country, and the project will develop a strong working relationship with these organizations. Due to the temporary nature of the project, this product seeks to design an ecological connectivity monitoring system and to strengthen capacities for its future implementation.

Support through this output will include selection of monitoring tools and indicators especially focused on reviewing the structure of the ecosystems and including connectivity indicators in each of the two selected landscapes. Information will be collected on key aspects such as the deforestation of native forests, dynamics in land use change, connectivity of remnant natural ecosystems, fragmentation processes.

Activities:

- Design of participatory monitoring systems with indicators and methodologies related to the conservation objectives in the corridors, their connectivity relationships, and the social dynamics of the environment, in order to evaluate the impacts of management actions.
    - Develop a conceptual framework for corridor monitoring

[14] Valdés, D.,S., Villamarín, F., Sáenz G., M. y Mena V., P. 2019. Conceptual Framework of the National Biodiversity Monitoring System in Ecuador - SINMBio. Quito: Ministry of the Environment / INABIO / Ikiam Consortium - EcoCiencia

    - Define indicators and the development of their respective technical forms
    - Establish protocols for the data collection and processing
    - Determine minimum requirements for information management
    - Establish mechanisms for the access, use and dissemination of data and relevant information.
- Socialization and validation of indicators and of monitoring methodologies within the corridor platforms, with GADs, universities, indigenous communities, and other local actors.
- The establishment of agreements with INABIO, RedBio, IKIAM, and UEA for the articulation of monitoring systems to the SINMBIO, Center for Information Governance, and that will allow linking the information collected through participatory monitoring with GADs, indigenous and local communities, and other relevant stakeholders. In the same manner, the agreements must include actions to strengthen capacities for sustainability of corridor monitoring (linked to Component 3 of the project).
    - Analysis of the current state and opportunities for cross-operational capacity of existing systems.
    - Define protocols and processes to harmonize and integrate the monitoring systems of the corridors with the platforms managed by INABIO and SCTEA.
    - Pilot the monitoring system to test functionality.
- Implement capacity-building activities related to data gathering and monitoring methodologies (in coordination with Output 3.1.3).
- Implement the first phase of the monitoring system, including:
    - Information gathering, calculation and report of base line indicators in at least two monitoring time periods;
    - Integration of data with the respective platforms (INABIO and SCTEA);
    - Permanent coordination with managers and diverse actors in corridors;
    - Develop the processes for capacity building and training of the managers in the corridors to establish participatory mechanisms and collaboration for the sustainability of the monitoring system in the long-run and for the use of this information in local management.
    - Accompany the dialogue process for the establishment of the monitoring system governance mechanisms.

Implementation mechanism: Implemented through grants to INABIO, IKIAM and UEA.

COMPONENT 2: IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE PROPOSED TWO CONNECTIVITY CORRIDORS (GEF budget USD 2,178,721 and co-financing USD 17,483,280).

Component 2 aims to move productive areas into more sustainable land management, for the purposes of connectivity, in the two proposed corridors. In the case that the two proposed corridors are not agreed through the consultation with IPLCs or by government authorities, the strategy listed under component 2 will be retained, as it still contributes to connectivity and conservation friendly practices in the overall landscape.

Outcome 2.1: Increase of productive areas, in or around the proposed two connectivity corridors, under SLM.

The impact on the ecosystems of intensive agriculture and cattle raising systems present on both landscapes is high, and is reflected in a loss of biological diversity and diminished ecological connectivity, as well as in the degradation of agricultural soils and the pollution of rivers. In this context, it is essential to adopt Sustainable Land Management (SLM) practices that guarantee the permanence of vegetation cover and shade, that protect the soil from the impacts of rain and temperature, that retain nutrients for greater soil fertility, and that do not contaminate water sources. These practices promote ecological connectivity, ensuring the permanence and reproduction of hundreds of plant and animal species. Additionally, these practices combined with market-based strategies (Outcome 2.2) could increase the productivity and profitability of the production systems at the family level, and therefore reduce direct pressures (ex. deforestation, land use change and illegal hunting) upon the native forest within the corridors.

To achieve this outcome the project will promote the adoption of agroforestry and silvopasture practices adapted to the bio-physical and socio-cultural context of Amazonian agroecosystems, and based on the experience developed by other projects such as GEF Napo, PROAmazonía, Climate - Smart Livestock breeding, as well as other NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) initiatives such as Maquita Foundation and Ecuadorian Fund for Peoples Development (FEPP, for its acronym in Spanish). In this sense, the project will work with small and medium producers who currently maintain intensive livestock breeding systems or monocultures, whether perennial (corn, cassava, etc.) or transitory (cacao, coffee, fruit trees, etc.).

The establishment of ECAs in each corridor will strengthen capacities and engage farmers for the implementation of these practices. Then, through the establishment of agreements with local producers, and the implementation of assistance packages, the project will support farmers in the implementation of SLM practices. The project will focus investments in prioritized sites inside the two corridors, elected for their connectivity within the landscape (as determined by the assessments of Output 1.1.1), the willingness of landowners to adopt and maintain good practices, the ability to identify and establish synergies with other projects and investments for potential replication, and the number of beneficiaries.

The specific outputs and activities of this component are described below:

Output 2.1.1.: Training program and assistance package for the promotion of SLM practices in the two connectivity corridors designed.

The intervention will start with the design of a training program to build local capacities and promote SLM practices in selected farms (selected based on potential to contribute to connectivity) inside the two proposed corridors. The design of the training program will be based in the concept of ECAs, which use participatory methods to exchange local knowledge and practical experiences to solve problems related to local production and marketing systems.

In parallel and in coordination with the GADs and the MAG, the project will design assistance packages for the implementation of SLM practices in farms inside the corridors. These packages will consider technical assistance that the project, the GADS and the MAG can provide to farmers, as well the mechanisms to deliver inputs and equipment that the farmers will require for the establishment of the SLM practices. In this sense, nurseries associated with the two landscapes will be strengthened to guarantee the provision of plant species necessary for the development of the practices.

Coordination will be permanent with the provincial and county GADs, the MAG (ATPA), PROAmazonia, WWF DGD Program and CI Amazonia Verde project, in order to replicate their experience and complement planned investments in both landscapes.

Activities:

- Establish agreements with local provincial and / or county governments and the MAG, for the joint implementation of the program within the framework of its competences and initiatives to promote production.
- Design the training program of SLM practices, with an ECA approach. This includes training content, methods, and logistics, as well as the identification of facilitators and technicians for the training and implementation of best practices. The training will be taking in account the differentiated needs and knowledge of men and women.
  The training program will be designed in close coordination with local governments and the MAG, as well as with other agencies that have production development programs for these areas, such as PPD, ProAmazonía, WWF, CI, among others.
- From the analysis and information generated in outcome 1.1, select the specific agricultural areas within the landscapes suitable for the implementation of SLM practices, taking into account the following criteria: contribution to connectivity within the landscape, regularity of land tenure, willingness of land owners to adopt and maintain good practices, synergy with other projects and investments, greater potential for replication, and number of beneficiaries involved.
- Select SLM practices (agroforestry, silvo-pastoral, and soil rehabilitation) to be promoted by the Project in productive areas, to support the restoration of degraded areas and conservation of priority areas, taking into account ecological connectivity, soil conservation, and biodiversity conservation criteria, within the two intervention landscapes.

- Based on the previous assessments, design assistance packages to be implemented in the farms. These packages should include technical support, as well as the inputs and equipment needed to establish the SLM practices.
- Identify non-invasive plant species necessary to implement the selected SLM practices and carry out a mapping and diagnostic of nurseries associated with the corridors regarding their capacity to supply the identified plants.
- Provide training and equipment to the selected nurseries for the reproduction and sale of plants necessary for the implementation of the SLM practices. The equipment may include seeds, planting and gardening tools, materials for the building of nurseries, among the most important.

Implementation Mechanism: The PMU will lead the design of the training program with the support of a consultancy, and in close coordination with local governments and the MAG. Based on the analysis and information of outcome 1.1 of the project, the PMU will carry out the site selection analysis, while coordinating with the local governments, ATPA - MAG, and PROAmazonia. The strengthening of nurseries will be subcontracted to a consultant.

Related projects and programs: Productive promotion initiatives of the provincial and parochial GADs (by competence), ATPA - MAG, PROAmazonia; DGD-WWF, Amazonia Verde - CI.

Output 2.1.2 SLM training program, including gender and intercultural approaches, to selected producers in the two connectivity corridors implemented.

Based on the program designed in Output 2.1.1, and in close collaboration with the GADs and MAG, the Project will implement an ECA in each corridor. The general methodological scheme of an ECA involves a group of producers meeting periodically in a local farm, under the guidance of a trained facilitator[15]. There, the local production system is discussed, focusing on the topic of interest; the effects of two or more alternative practices aimed at solving the problem is observed and compared (one of these following local practices and the other testing the “good practices” being proposed). The participants debate and make decisions after having carried out observations and analysis directly in the plots of land.

At least two groups in each corridor will be trained with the ECA, in two periods: one during the second year of the project and other during the third year.

Activities:

- Develop an agreement with demonstrative farms in the two corridors, to house the ECA programs.
- Provide outreach to local producers in each landscape through workshops, meetings, visits, and promotional material, to gage their interest and work towards participating in the Program.
- Implement the enrollment process and select participants with equity approach. The ECAs will be designed to host between 15 and 30 participants.

[15] ECAs are implemented in the field and do not require traditional classrooms or infrastructure for ”classrooms”.

- Acquire the needed materials for the implementation of the modules (2.2.1)
- Build a baseline of knowledge and attitudes of participating farmers on sustainable production practices.
- Implement the training modules of the ECAs (2.2.1)
- Measure and report changes in knowledge and attitudes of participating farmers on sustainable production practices.

Implementation Mechanism: The PMU, with the support of specific consultancies and subgrants, will lead the implementation of the ECAs, in coordination with the local governments, MAG, and ATPA. Agreements with local farmers will be established, to house the ECA in the field training modules.

Related projects and programs: Productive promotion initiatives of the provincial and county GADs (depending on their competencies), ATPA - MAG, PROAmazonía; DGD - WWF, Amazonia Verde - CI.

Output 2.1.3 SLM practices implemented in selected plots of the two connectivity corridors equitably benefiting men and women producers.

For the implementation of the assistance packages, Farm Conservation Agreements will be signed and implemented with landowners, reflecting land plot plans where the practices are to be implemented, factoring in the current situation of the farm and the capacity of each family. This planning instrument will be the road map and the basis of commitment for the adoption and maintenance of good practices on the farm. Then, the project will implement the assistance packages, for the implementation of committed practices in property design.
Activities:

- Establish conservation agreements with producers who have participated in the training and who are willing to adopt sustainable practices on their farms. These agreements will establish in a general way the contributions that the project will provide, as well as the contributions of the owner for the implementation of the practices thereof.
- Design the land plot zoning in a participatory manner (ensuring the inclusion of women's voices), considering the possible practices to be implemented according to the situation and possibilities of each family. This includes measuring, mapping and establishing areas to incorporate those practices, and their effects on the ecosystem and management of the farm. Once the land plot design is approved by the owner and by the project, it will become a constitutive part of the conservation agreement signed by the owner. The property designs will include all of the information on the area to be implemented, such as materials, supplies, technical assistance, etc. that are required for the operation of the aforementioned and will be accompanied by details of the contributions that each of the parties (owners, the GADs, MAG, and project) will provide for its implementation.
- Provide the technical assistance and materials that are agreed upon in the land plot plan for the implementation of SLM practices on the farms. The materials that the project will provide may include plants and seeds, fertilizers, materials for fences, materials for the building of bio digesters, water troughs, planting, and gardening tools, among others.

Implementation Mechanism: The PMU, with the support of specific consultancies and subgrants, will lead the implementation of the ECAs, in coordination with the local governments, MAG, and ATPA. The actions will also be coordinated and articulated with WWF's DGD projects and CI's Amazonia Verde project, which has sustainable production components to be implemented in other landscapes within the Amazon region.

Related projects and programs: Productive promotion initiatives of the provincial and county GADs (depending on their competencies), ATPA - MAG, PROAmazonía; DGD - WWF, Amazonia Verde - CI.

Outcome 2.2: Bioeconomy initiatives have been strengthened in the two connectivity corridors.

The objective of this outcome is to increase the conservation value of the forests that facilitate the connectivity corridor by strengthening bioeconomy initiatives. The Project will focus on supporting bioeconomy initiatives that are underway and that have the potential to succeed in local, national, and international markets, with the goal of strengthening and improving aspects of value addition and commercialization, particularly focusing on Indigenous Peoples beneficiaries. Existing bioeconomy initiatives in both landscapes, that could be supported are related to the sustainable harvest, process, and commercialization of sweet water fish like paiche (*arapaima gigas*) and cachama (*piaractus brachypomus*); citronella; guayusa (*ilex guayusa*); ungurahua (*oenocarpus bataua*); turmeric, ishpingo (amazon cinnamon); morete (*mauritia flexuosa*); sacha inchi (amazon peanut); and community nature-based tourism. This outcome is based on the assumption that increasing the profitability of sustainable production systems at the family level, will reduce direct pressures (ex. deforestation, land use change and illegal hunting) upon the native forest within the corridors.

For this, previous experiences of the PPD, WWF, and other organizations in the Amazon region, will be taken as a reference, and coordination with projects that are currently implementing similar activities (PROAmazonia, FFF, PSB, ATPA, AIRR, GIZ) (See section 1.5 Baseline) will bring the previous lessons learnt to the two project landscapes.

Output 2.2.1: Bioeconomy initiatives, in each connectivity corridor, have been equipped, trained, and / or linked to potential markets, with a gender and intercultural approach.

As explained in the section on barriers, Amazonian bioeconomy initiatives are in the early stages of development and present multiple weaknesses that limit their inclusion in the market. There are few associated endeavors that have managed to establish productive value chains and even fewer cases of community companies that maintain stable links with national or international markets. However, the demand for goods and services from the Amazon forest is extremely high, mainly from international markets, which provides a big opportunity for Amazon producers.

Several organizations and projects are working systematically in the development of Amazonian bioeconomy initiatives and in their commercial articulation. Therefore, there is a base of information, experiences, and methodologies that the Project will use to evaluate the potential for

the development of bioeconomy initiatives in the landscapes, and select those that have greatest potential within the national and international markets. The bioeconomy initiatives that will be selected to receive support from the ASL Project will have to meet the following criteria: come from sustainable production systems that are located within the connectivity corridors identified in Component 1; be associated with existing conservation areas within the connectivity corridors (like PSB or local government conservation areas, or PA buffer zones); have the potential for linkage with existing markets; be inclusive of women and youth; present complementary financing potential; and, have the opportunity to complement other Amazonian products offered.

The activities under this Output will be implemented in close coordination with other projects and bioeconomy initiatives that are being carried out within the landscapes and other areas of the Amazon region, and will have a special focus on productive activities of women and other vulnerable populations. These activities will be implemented once the corridors have been identified and while the documentation from Component 1 is being developed. Based on methodologies that are already being used to strengthen capacities of bioeconomy initiatives in the Amazon region (ex. methodology growing with your business - PNUD; products with territorial identity - PPD, Indigenous Companies - NESsT - WWF - AIRR) the necessary adaptations will be made so that these tools respond to the approaches and purposes of the Project and realities of the landscapes. Technical and financial assistance will be provided for the formulation and implementation of business plans that will allow producers to have access to opportunities within the respective value chains. This will be complemented with the identification and evaluation of value chains of forest-friendly products / services, identifying responsible markets and strategies to be able to access these markets. The Project will ensure that technical assistance and access to financing favors women, youth, indigenous communities, and associative initiatives, in order to promote fair and supportive production systems and thus achieve equitable access and distribution of the benefits of biodiversity.

Activities:

- Systematization of available information on the demand for non-timber forest products, which will allow the identification of potential markets for bioeconomy initiatives, including a specific analysis in each landscape.
- Evaluation of the potential of existing bioeconomy initiatives within the landscapes, with a special focus on productive activities of women and other vulnerable populations, and selection of bioeconomy initiatives to receive support within the scope of the project in the two landscapes will take into account at least the following criteria: come from sustainable production systems that are located within the connectivity corridors identified in Component 1; have linkage potential with internal and external markets; be inclusive to women and youth; present complementary financing potential; have the ability to complement other Amazonian products; and, do not negatively impact the corridor biodiversity values.
- Evaluation of the value chains of the selected bioeconomy initiatives, including the different activities of the production processes, with the goal of identifying where there is, or may be, added value to the product or service and how to make that company or

production process competitive. Among other things, this aims to increase productivity, or add value to the product or service, increase income and reduce pressure on biodiversity.

- Detailed analysis of the capacities, limitations, and weaknesses of the selected bioeconomy initiatives.
- Development of a strengthening strategy for the selected bioeconomy initiatives, from a value chain approach, which will include one or more of the following aspects: development of business plans, cooperative or association mechanisms, traceability mechanisms, promotion and marketing strategies of products, and the establishment of links with local and international markets.
- Establish alliances with organizations and universities to develop monitoring mechanisms and management plans to ensure that bioeconomy initiatives are sustainable and prevent overharvesting.
- Implementation of the strengthening strategy for each selected bioeconomy initiative, which could include the following activities:
    - Design and implementation of training modules in business, legal matters, accounting, and financial management that will be used to accompany the selected bioeconomy initiatives. Training materials in business management will be designed for the particular context of each of the landscapes (indigenous people, rural workers, youth, women, etc.)
    - Technical assistance provided for the formulation and implementation of business plans for the selected bioeconomy initiatives. The project will support the implementation of business plans, covering operating expenses and small equipment costs.
    - Technical assistance in the search for financing (whether credits, investments, or donations) for the implementation of business plans.
    - Design and implementation of promotion and marketing strategies for products and/or services offered by the selected bioeconomy initiatives.
    - Technical assistance to establish commercial links between suppliers of non-timber forest products and national and international companies (retail companies, networks)

Implementation mechanism: The PMU, in collaboration with the MAG, SCTEA, GADs, and others, will collaborate to identify potential bioeconomy initiatives and, together with consultants such as NESst or others, will implement the evaluations and design and implement the strategy for strengthening capacities and business plans of the bioeconomy initiatives.

Related projects and programs: Initiatives to promote the production of the provincial GADs (by competition), ATPA-MAG, PROAmazonia, German Program for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Heritage (GIZ), AIRR-WWF, Amazonia Verde-CI.

COMPONENT 3: ENABLING CONDITIONS FOR ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY (GEF budget USD 897,542 and co - financing USD 5,838,543).

3.1. Legal, administrative, technical, and institutional conditions developed for the sustainable management of the connectivity corridors.

This outcome seeks to incorporate the approaches of connectivity and integrated landscape management into the main instruments that guide land use planning, and management at the different levels of government. For this, it is essential to coordinate with the governing public entities in matters of national and sectoral planning to develop the normative and public policy instruments that will support the legal provisions related to the management of natural landscapes and connectivity corridors. With this general enabling framework, the project will develop the specific administrative instruments that contribute to an efficient and effective operational management of the connectivity corridors.

Considering the technical and administrative complexity involved in the creation and management of the connectivity corridors within the landscape context, it is necessary to design and execute capacity building activities for officials of the main public entities involved in territorial management, as well as leaders of indigenous peoples and nationalities that have a fundamental role in guiding the planning and management of collective territories. Finally, as mentioned in the 2017-2021 National Development Plan and the PIA, the variety of public and civil society actors, legal regimes, institutional frameworks, jurisdictions, competences, functions, and attributions, among others, evidence the need to strengthen multi-level coordination and governance mechanisms for territorial management.

Output: 3.1.1. Normative and public policy instruments integrate the landscape and connectivity approach in the planning and land management of the landscapes under intervention.

This output is aimed at strengthening the processes initiated from the SPN of the MAAE, to regulate the creation and management of the connectivity corridors, as well as to complement the technical instruments (criteria and guidelines) already developed to incorporate landscape and ecological connectivity approaches in the PDOTs and PUGs of the GADs of both landscapes. Technical assistance will be provided to the MAAE, GADs, and SCTEA for the development, updating, or reform of planning, regulatory and technical instruments, iso that they are aligned with the conservation objectives of the proposed connectivity corridors in each landscape. Furthermore, the project will accompany GADs, SCTEA, and other relevant stakeholders in implementing the regulatory and technical instruments that are developed. A key activity of this product will be to provide support to the MAAE so that these instruments are made official from the government agency responsible for national planning so that their application is binding in the National Decentralized Participatory Planning System (SNDPP). In the same manner, it will support in formally establishing the required mechanisms for the management of the selected connectivity corridors, closely linked to Component 1 of this project.

Activities:

- Based on the information from Component 1 for connectivity corridors in landscapes, conduct a legal and regulatory gap analysis of normative instruments (ordinances and resolutions) and national and local public policies that promote the following: i) the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity (linked to Component 1 of the project); ii) management of the landscape connectivity corridors (including development plans, land use planning, and other sectoral instruments); and iii) The consolidation of sustainable development in the corridor matrix (linked to Component 2 of the project).
- Provide technical assistance to national and local governments and the SCTEA for the development or updating of regulatory instruments and prioritized public policies, to incorporate sustainable landscape management and ecosystem connectivity approaches into their actions.

Implementation Mechanism: The PMU, with specific support of consultants, will be in charge of the legal analysis and will provide technical assistance.

Related projects and programs: PROAmazonia; Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Heritage / Bio economy Program (GIZ); Payment for Results to Ecuador for the Reduction of Deforestation 2014 (PNUD) and SCTEA

Output: 3.1.2. Inter-institutional, inter-sectoral, and multilevel governance platforms created and operational for the management of landscapes and connectivity corridors (1 per landscape).

The success of corridors has been directly linked to the involvement and support of local committees and planning teams. Determining these committees and stakeholders as well as conducting a social assessment in the corridor early on will allow for a unified team to identify potential challenges during implementation and strategies to overcome these challenges, factoring in partner participation (Lombard et al., 2010[16]; Keeley et al., 2018[17]). This approach is integrated by the project with the creation of the inter-institutional, inter-sectoral, and multilevel governance platforms, that will serve as the participatory management mechanisms for the connectivity corridors.

Based on Ministerial Agreement 0019 and on the general definitions established by the MAAE regarding Participatory Management Groups as a valid mechanism to promote participatory management of connectivity corridors, the Project will facilitate the construction of a functional

[16] Lombard, A. T., R. M. Cowling, J. H. J. Vlok, and C. Fabricius. 2010. Designing conservation corridors in production landscapes: assessment methods, implementation issues, and lessons learned. *Ecology and Society* 15(3): 7. [online] URL: http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol15/iss3/art7/

[16] https://www.openspaceauthority.org/system/documents/Making%20habitat%20connectivity%20a%20reality_2018.pdf

[17] Keeley ATH, Basson G, Cameron DR, Heller NE, Huber PR, Schloss CA, Thorne JH, Merenlender AM. Making habitat connectivity a reality. Conserv Biol. 2018 Dec;32(6):1221-1232. doi: 10.1111/cobi.13158. Epub 2018 Sep 13. PMID: 29920775.

governance model relevant to the social cultural context of the landscapes where the corridors will be declared. This output is aimed at the formation of a Participatory Management Group that considers aspects related to the structure, functions, attributes, scope, financing, among others, and that will be defined progressively as the governance model matures. This Management Group will be formalized by means of memorandums of understanding, conventions, agreements, or other legal figures framed in the current legislation. To accomplish this a "core group" will be formed for the creation of the corridors and, through a systematic and formal process of social dialogue, the foundations of participation will be laid for the construction of a more robust long-term governance structure that responds to the requirements and needs of the stakeholders within the corridor.

Activities:

- Conduct an analysis of the different multi-level governance models that have been implemented in Ecuador, with emphasis on those developed in the Amazon region, lessons learned, and recommendations for the creation of an inter-institutional Participatory Management Group with equity and intercultural approach within each landscape.

- Development of rules and regulations for the operation of the Participatory Management Group and other administrative instruments for its institutionalization.

- Coordinate and implement meetings and workshops with equity and intercultural approach to build agreements and monitor the design process, objectives, management, and governance of the corridors in the landscapes of interest to the project.

- Development of operating agreements for the Participatory Management Groups of the corridors, including the activities, responsibilities, and co-financing established under product 1.2.1.

Implementation Mechanism: Directed by the PMU with the support of specific consultancies to implement the analysis of multi-level governance models, the participatory development and validation of rules, regulations, and other administrative instruments.

Related projects and programs: PROAmazonia, Program Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Heritage / Bio-economy (GIZ); Payment for Results to Ecuador for the Reduction of Deforestation 2014 (UNDP); and SCTEA.

Output: 3.1.3. Capacity development program for relevant public entities and local actors involved in the planning, management, and monitoring of landscapes, connectivity corridors, and conservation areas, with a gender and intercultural approach.

As a result of the project socialization and feedback process, the MAAE and project development team identified a knowledge gap regarding connectivity corridors, ILM and monitoring mechanisms. The management of biodiversity and ecosystems at a landscape level requires

knowledge of the fundamentals and basic concepts, as well as the standard, technical, and administrative instruments that connect sectoral and inter-sectoral policies with the abilities, functions, and responsibilities of the GADs, STEA and other actors (ex. the PIA, zonal planning agendas). This integrated view of public management is essential so that the effort to create and manage connectivity corridors exceeds just an analytical or technical exercise and instead provides effective management and land use of the territory. With this objective, this product aims to strengthen the capacities of actors in key public and private entities who will make up the Management Committees of the corridors and participate in managing created corridors.

Activities:

- Evaluation of gaps regarding the capacities of the technical and operational staff of the MAAE, MAG, GADs, SCTEA, and other social actors that make up the platforms, for the management of corridors and sustainable landscapes.
- Implementation of training sessions for the key stakeholders with equity and intercultural approach involved in aspects related to the most significant aspects of the landscape approach such as landscape management, corridors, conservation areas, governance mechanisms, policies and regulations, and land use planning and regulation.
- Multilevel technical assistance in the implementation of technical instruments, regulations and public policies related to landscape management and connectivity corridors.

Implementation Mechanism: Consultancy under PMU leadership.

Related projects and programs: PROAmazonia, Program Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Heritage / Bio economy (GIZ); Payment for Results to Ecuador for Reduction of Deforestation 2014 (UNDP); and SCTEA.

COMPONENT 4: MONITORING AND EVALUATION, KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT, AND REGIONAL COORDINATION. (GEF budget USD 907,652 and co - financing USD 3,422,911).

Outcome 4.1 Project monitoring and evaluation data contributes to efficient decision making and adaptive project management.

The project seeks to promote a process of monitoring and evaluation, generating information that not only serves to monitor the project but also generates data for relevant decision makers in each landscape, including MAAE, MAG, SCTEA and local governments. This outcome will provide tools for adaptive project management for effective and efficient implementation.

Output 4.1.1 Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan informs the project's adaptive management.

This product will be designed and implemented by the PMU, based off the Results Framework, with information from the executing partners of the project. The Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

contains periodic reports to monitor the progress of the project, as well as to identify areas where adaptive management is required.

Activities:

- Submit timely 6-month project progress reports (PPR), annual PPR, basic management indicators, and co-financing data.

- Develop annual work plan with measurable targets at the end of each project year, approved by the PSC and WWF GEF and reported against in each annual PPR

- Collect data and record the achievements against the targets in the Results Framework (yearly, mid-term, project close) and include in each annual PPR
- Launch a call for the hiring of independent consultants to implement midterm and final evaluations of the project.
- Based on the results of the midterm evaluation implemented by independent consultants, incorporate recommendations into the revised project plans.
- Conduct evaluations of all the training activities of Components 2 and 3, using ex post training questionnaires for the participants, to evaluate the impact, inform about the adaptive management of the project, as well as about the lessons learned from the project interventions.
- As part of the activities leading up to the annual PPR, organize annual adaptive management workshops to evaluate the Project Results and analyze whether adjustments to the project strategy are required.

Implementation Mechanism: led by PMU, with the hiring of consultants to carry out midterm and final evaluations of the project.

Outcome 4.2 Strengthening of national and regional coordination and knowledge management.

The project will foster collaboration at the national level, and with the ASL II program at the regional level, based on regular meetings, a continuous flow of information and feedback, as well as the publication and dissemination of communication material to socialize the achievements and lessons learned from the project. This will be done through two products focused on fostering spaces for dialogue, exchange and communication.

Output 4.2.1. Effective coordination at the national level and with the ASL program.

This output seeks to ensure effective communication and coordination at the national and regional levels with the other ASL projects, allowing an exchange of experiences and knowledge, especially of lessons learned and best practices on key issues.

Activities:

- Provide financial and logistical support through travel grants to representatives of the PMU, the national government, and the beneficiaries to participate in the annual meetings coordinated by the ASL.
- Manage travel grants so that representatives of the national and local government, as well as other strategic actors, are able to participate in at least three regional workshops in the project lifetime, field visits, or events, organized by the ASL Program, in order to exchange experiences.
- Participate in face-to-face and virtual ASL meetings.
- Periodically disseminate the information that has been developed under output 4.2.2, as well as the information shared by the ASL at the regional level.

4.2.2. Knowledge management and communication products developed and disseminated.

This output seeks to ensure the management of knowledge of the actions carried out in Components 1, 2, and 3 of the project, with adequate and coordinated communication in order to disseminate the Results, achievements, and lessons learned. In turn, this will allow replicating and scaling-up impact of the project.

Activities:

- Develop a communication strategy, considering the problems, public, products and plan (4P methodology), including the use of logos and other relevant topics for effective communication.
- Establish a repository for the developed products.
- Identify and develop products that systematize information, allow the dissemination of achievements and lessons learned, relevant project knowledge products (for example, best practices manual, brochures, videos / tutorials, among others). These will be shared by identifying the most suitable media, and will include for example:
    - Component 1: Documentation of the corridor creation process; publications of the Five-Year Administration Plans, Annual Operation Plans, management plans; corridor monitoring methodology, among others.
    - Component 2: Case studies on successful experiences in BAP and / or bioeconomy initiative initiatives; training material for ECAs; promotional and marketing material for bioeconomy initiatives.
    - Component 3: Informative documentation on the Participatory Management Group and governance of each corridor; information material regarding the inclusion of landscape management and connectivity corridors.
- Disseminate the products through different media identified for each audience.
- Organize and participate in relevant events, workshops and platforms to disseminate the Results.

Implementation mechanism: PMU generates the information, and the publications are developed through consultancies with PMU leadership.

2.3. Institutional Arrangements

2.3.1. General Project Management Structure

As the Lead Executing Agency, the MAAE selected Conservation International-Ecuador (CI-Ecuador) as the Co-Executing Agency, based on an established partnership and work in biodiversity conservation, multi-stakeholder initiatives for the management of natural resources, and expertise and trajectory of working in the Amazon region in Ecuador. The following section describes the institutional actors that will be involved to ensure the success of the project.

WWF-GEF Agency

WWF-US, through its WWF GEF Agency will: (i) provide consistent and regular project oversight to ensure the achievement of project objectives and Results Framework, and providing other assistance upon request of the Executing Agency; (ii) liaise between the project and the GEF Secretariat; (iii) ensure that both GEF and WWF policy requirements and standards are applied and met (i.e. reporting obligations, technical, fiduciary, monitoring and evaluation-M&E); (iv) approve work-plans and budget revisions, certify fund availability and transfer funds and ensure proper use of GEF funds; (v) organize the final evaluation and review project audits; and (vi) certify project operational and financial completion; and (vii) arbitrate and ensure resolution of any conflicts during implementation that cannot be resolved in first instance by the EA.

Lead Executing Agency

The MAAE, is the Project Lead Executing Agency. It will host the Project Management Unit (PMU) team and will be responsible for the strategic guidance, operational direction, and overall project supervision, ensuring its alignment with national policies, priorities, and regulations. Specifically, the Undersecretary for SPN will provide technical assistance and guidance on its expertise and competencies, including conservation area and connectivity corridors, general management of PAs, biodiversity monitoring, and environmental legislation. It will also ensure that the project is aligned with relevant strategies and policies of the MAAE and has the active participation of the Direction of Protected Areas and Other Conservation Forms and the Direction of Forests. The Lead Executing Agency coordinates directly with the Implementing GEF Agency and is part of the decision-making platforms of the project.

The MAAE will assign a **National Project Director**. The NPD is responsible for the guidance and advisory to the project to align it with the government policies and priorities. This position is responsible for coordination within the MAAE divisions and with the provincial governments when needed.

Co-Executing Agency

At the request of the MAAE, as Co-Executing Agency, CI-Ecuador will be responsible for the administration and execution of GEF funds channeled through WWF-GEF, including the recruitment of personnel and consultancies and procurement of equipment of the PMU, management of third-party contracts, provision of technical expertise and technical advice, and direct execution of the project outputs under their responsibility. CI-Ecuador be responsible for

preparing financial reports and provide relevant information for external audits and present reports according to GEF standards, to WWF-GEF. CI-Ecuador will also provide specific scientific and technical assistance on topics such as biodiversity conservation and monitoring, governance, partnerships, and management of relationships with key actors at national and state level. CI-Ecuador will also ensure that participatory processes are implemented through effective stakeholder engagement in both landscapes and will carry out its work in close coordination with the Lead Executing Agency.

Decision-making platforms:

i. Project Steering Committee

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be the highest decision-making authority for the project, responsible for supervising and monitoring the technical and financial execution of the project, including the fulfilment of project objectives, activities, and goals, for approving annual work plan and budget and project reports, and financial audit reports, among others. It will be responsible for strategic guidance and approving potential major changes needed in project planning or execution in line with adaptive management of project implementation, ensuring alignment with the ProDoc and national priorities and policies. It makes high-level decisions regarding program structure, coordination, and implementation. The PSC will meet at least twice a year and will be chaired by the Minister of Environment and Water or his/her delegate, and will have the participation of the ASL Project Manager (Secretary), the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), the GEF Operational Focal Point (OFP) (Observer), CI-Ecuador, WWF Ecuador and WWF GEF (Observer). As the Secretary of the PSC, the Project Manager prepares meeting minutes and maintains PSC records.

Chair:

- MoEW – Minister of Environment and Water

Secretary:

- ASL2 – Project Manager

Members:

1. MAG
2. CI-Ecuador – Vice President & Executive Director
3. WWF – Project Manager
4. Observer: GEF Operational Focal Point (OFP)

Function, Roles and Responsibilities:

- Highest decision-making authority for the project.
- Supervises technical and financial execution of the project.
- Ensures that the project is aligned with the PRODOC and national priorities and policies.
- Provides overall strategic guidance.
- Approves the Annual Operating Plan, budget, and financial audit reports.
- Makes high-level decisions regarding project structure, coordination, and implementation.
- Approves major changes to the project strategy.
- Evaluates project performance, including the project's mid-term review.
- Project Manager acts as PSC Secretary, preparing meeting minutes, and maintains the PSC records.
- Meets at least twice a year.

ii. Project Technical Committee

The Project Technical Committee (PTC) will have an advisory role in the project and will ensure coordination of project activities in both landscapes. It will be led by the Undersecretary of Natural Heritage through the National Project Director and in close coordination with the PMU project manager. The PTC will also include a representative from the Undersecretary of Climate Change of the MoEW, SCTEA, the Landscape Coordinator and Biodiversity Conservation Technician from each of the landscapes as well as CI-Ecuador and WWF-Ecuador's technical advisors. As observers on a rotational basis, one representative from the Palora-Pastaza Landscape Advisory Committee and one representative from the Putumayo – Aguarico Landscape Advisory Committee will participate. The PTC is in charge with facilitating effective execution and coordination of the project and advises the PSC on: i) alignment with the ProDoc; ii) prompt implementation of activities; and iii) achievement of the targets, outputs and outcomes. It ensures effective and efficient use of the financial resources according to the approved Annual Budget and Annual Operating Plan; and provides technical clearance to the draft Annual Operating Plan and budget and other planning tools of the project, in coordination with WWF-GEF (technical clearance) and prior to the submission to the PSC for final approval. The PTC also approves the Annual Procurement Plan before submitting to WWF-GEF for final approval, prepares recommendations for the PSC to improve project performance or revisions, as necessary;

ensures effective coordination among project partners and alignment between landscapes; reviews ToRs for consultants prior to sending to PSC for approval. The PTC meets twice a year and prior to PSC meetings.

Chair:
- MoEW – National Project Director (SPN)

Secretary:
- ASL2 – Project Manager

Members:
1. MoEW – Delegate of the Undersecretary of Climate Change
2. SCTEA
3. MAG
4. ASL2 – Palora-Pastaza Landscape Coordinator
5. ASL2 – Putumayo-Aguarico Landscape Coordinator
6. CI-Ecuador – Technical Advisor
7. WWF-Ecuador – Technical Advisor
8. Observer: Palora-Pastaza Landscape Advisory Committee Representative
9. Observer: Putumayo-Aguarico Landscape Advisory Committee Representative

Function, Roles and Responsibilities:
- Facilitates effective execution and coordination of the project.
- Advises the PSC on: i) alignment with the PRODOC; ii) prompt implementation of activities; and iii) achievement of the targets, outputs, and outcomes.
- Ensures effective and efficient use of the financial resources according to the approved Annual Budget and Workplan.
- Provides technical clearance to the draft Annual Operating Plan, budget and other key planning tools, in coordination with WWF-GEF (technical clearance) and prior to the submission to the PSC (for final approval).
- Approves the Annual Procurement Plan before submitting to WWF-GEF for final approval.
- Prepares recommendations for the PSC to improve project performance or revisions, as necessary.
- Ensures effective coordination among project partners and alignment between landscapes.
- Reviews implementation progress including the proposed workplan and budget, ToRs for consultants and project prior to sending to PSC for approval.
- Meets quarterly and prior to PSC meetings.

iii. Landscape Advisory Groups

Each landscape will have a Landscape Advisory Group (LAG) with a technical advisory role as guidance for the effective implementation of the project on the ground. The LAG will include the Provincial Directors of the MAAE, Provincial Directors of the MAG, provincial delegates of the SCTEA, representatives from key executing partners, representatives from indigenous organizations and representatives from local governments in each landscape. They will meet at least twice a year to provide feedback with regards to the work plan and activities implemented. One delegate of each LAG will participate as observers in the PTC to ensure effective implementation and to provide input for the technical and financial technical clearance.

Chair:
- ASL2 – Project Manager

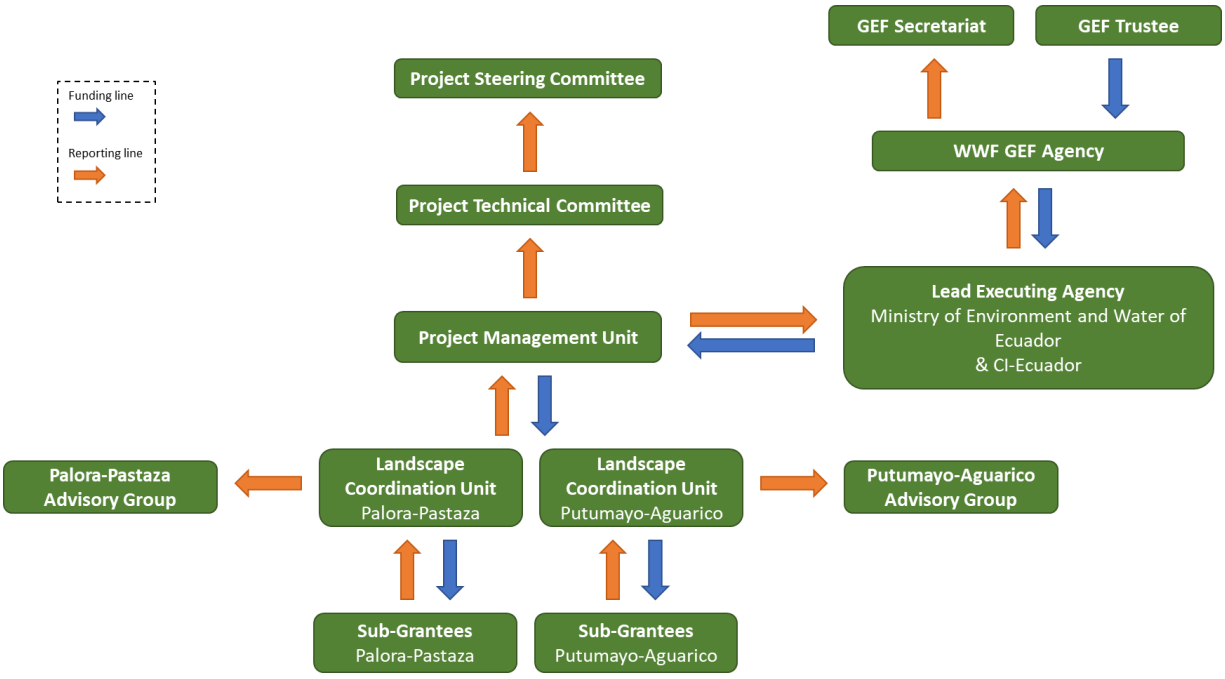
Secretary:
- ASL2 – Landscape Coordinator

Members:
1. MoEW – Provincial Directors
2. SCTEA – Provincial Delegates
3. MAG – Provincial Directors
4. Representatives from key executing partners
5. Representatives from Indigenous Organizations
6. Local Government representatives

Function, Roles and Responsibilities:
a. Provides technical guidance on project implementation in each landscape
b. Identifies potential opportunities for collaboration and complementarity with other projects and initiatives on the ground
c. Provides feedback with regards to the work plan and activities implemented.
d. Meets twice a year

The following diagram illustrates the institutional arrangements of the project, including the PSC, PTC and LAG.

Diagram of the institutional arrangements of the Project:



2.3.2. Project Management Unit

Project Management Unit

The PMU will be based in Puyo (Pastaza) in the southern Landscape to facilitate coordination and collaboration with key stakeholders. Both the MAAE and the SCTEA have offices in Puyo. It has been considered that having the PMU based in the Amazon region will be more strategic for the project. The project PMU will be recruited by the Co-Executing Agency with the support of a Selection Committee composed by one delegate from MoEW, CI-Ecuador and WWF-GEF Agency. The PMU will be responsible for operational planning, implementing and monitoring day-to-day project activities and preparation of technical and administrative reports, follow-up on activities and products of consultants and oversee grant-management. It will be in charge of keeping the strategic oversight of the project, ensure proper coordination between the two project landscapes, perform quality and compliance management, M&E and reporting, and liaise with the MAAE and WWF-GEF Implementing Agency. The structure and reporting line of the PMU is presented in figure 10 below.

The Project will include the following full-time positions: Project Manager, Safeguards and Gender Specialist, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, Knowledge Management and Communications Specialist, Governance and Land-Use Planning Technician, Sustainable Production Technician and one Landscape Assistant per landscape. (See, in the table 5 below, a description of the Project staff responsibilities).

Landscape Coordination Units (Palora-Pastaza and Putumayo-Aguarico Landscapes)

The project will have two Landscape Coordination Units, one in the Putumayo-Aguarico (supported with co-funding from WWF Ecuador) and one in the Palora-Pastaza landscape. The Landscape Coordination Units will have the responsibility of implementing the project activities, in close coordination with the provincial governments and baseline projects, local partners and other project stakeholders. The Landscape Coordination Units will work directly with the PMU core staff and will include a Landscape Coordinator and Biodiversity Conservation Technician and a Landscape Assistant.

National Project Director

The National Project Director (NPD) is a current staff member of the Undersecretary of Natural Heritage of the MAAE which is designated as the Director for the Project within the MAAE as part of their responsibilities. The NPD is responsible for the guidance and advisory to the project to align it with the government policies and priorities. This position is responsible for coordination within the MAAE divisions and with the provincial governments when needed.

Table 5. Project staff to be recruited through a competitive process

Position	Scope of Work	Field Office
1. Connectivity Corridors Project Project Manager	PMU	Palora-Pastaza Field Office
2. Safeguards and Gender Specialist	PMU	Palora-Pastaza Field Office
3. Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist	PMU	Palora-Pastaza Field Office
4. Knowledge Management and Communications Specialist	PMU	Palora-Pastaza Field Office
5. Governance and Land-Use Planning Technician	PMU	Putumayo-Aguarico Field Office
6. Sustainable Production Technician	PMU	Putumayo-Aguarico Field Office
7. Landscape Coordinator and Biodiversity Conservation Technician	Palora-Pastaza Landscape	Palora-Pastaza Field Office
8. Palora Landscape Assistant	Palora-Pastaza Landscape	Palora-Pastaza Field Office
9. Putumayo Landscape Assistant	Putumayo-Aguarico Landscape	Putumayo-Aguarico Field Office

The following project staff will be part of the PMU entirely funded by co-finance:

Position	Co-finance	Scope of Work	Field Office
1. Landscape Coordinator and Biodiversity Conservation Technician	WWF-Ecuador	Putumayo-Aguarico Landscape	Putumayo-Aguarico Field Office

Comprehensive “Terms of Reference” (ToR) for all the staff members will be detailed in the operational manual. Below is the brief responsibility matrix.

Position Title	Summary of Responsibilities
Staff at Project Management Unit, Puyo	
Connectivity Corridors Project Project Manager	Responsible for the successful execution of the project; communication and collaboration within the MAAE divisions and with local governments, SCTEA and executing partners as needed; and will receive direct guidance from the Project Steering Committee and Project Technical Committee. He/She supervises and provides guidance to Landscape Coordinators

	and ensures alignment between landscape interventions and will be responsible of achieving the overall project objective. His/her tasks will include ensuring the integrated landscape management approach and the design of the financial mechanisms, develop the key partnerships with government and private sector partners. The director will also visualize the project not only in the medium term but also in the long term as a mechanism that integrates the multi-stakeholder and multi-sector participation at a landscape scale, and coordinates and articulates investments with local participation and in general will lead the model of biodiversity conservation with a landscape approach.
Safeguards and Gender Specialist	Ensures that safeguards and gender are mainstreamed throughout project implementation. Works in close coordination with Project Manager and technical staff to identify entry points to including a gender and safeguards lens in developing workplan and consultancies, as well as during field implementation and monitoring and budget execution. Ensures safeguard and gender recommendations are in full compliance. Implements capacity-building workshops with essential project personnel and key stakeholders. Conducts mid-term safeguards and gender evaluations and proposes adjustments to ensure the effective implementation of the safeguards and gender action plans. Provides gender and safeguard related technical support to field staff and key partners in both landscapes.
Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist	Provides support to project team in tracking project results and indicators by using project result framework. Ensures database generation, authentication, and management. Provides technical support to project manager and project Technical specialist in maintaining the WWF program standards (PPMS) and contribute to adaptive management practices. Plays a key role in developing annual workplan and updating activities considering the field issues.
Knowledge Management and Communications Specialist	Responsible for developing communication materials for overall project and landscape activities. Contributes to the development of content for public outreach activities. Supports landscape staff in preparing landscape reports for central PMU. Oversees the implementation of Component 4, in coordination with the Project Manager and with guidance from the Project Steering Committee. Works in close coordination with the Project Manager, technical specialists, and field staff to identify success stories and lessons learned and provides technical backstopping in report publication as well as donor reporting.

Governance and Land-Use Planning Technician	Provides technical assistance and ensures that activities related to Component 3 are executed effectively, working with local partners in biodiversity conservation, land-use planning, and participatory processes. With guidance from each landscape coordinator, technically leads the establishment and continuity of the interinstitutional and intersectoral governance platforms in both landscapes and, in collaboration with the Biodiversity Conservation and Landscape Technician, identifies capacity-building needs regarding planning and management of the landscapes, connectivity corridors and conservation areas.
Sustainable Production Technician	Promotes the adoption of best practices with regards to best agricultural practices, collects social, productive, and environmental information as needed. Provides technical and logistical support to the Landscape Coordinator in capacity building activities (workshops and trainings) related to sustainable production practices. Works closely with the Governance and Land-Use Planning Technician and Biodiversity Conservation and Landscape Technician to ensure that the integrated landscape approach is implemented.
Staff at Landscape Coordination Units	
Landscape Coordinator and Biodiversity Conservation Technician (2)	Leads, coordinates, and supervises the effective implementation of all Components in each landscape. Ensures the effective implementation of activities and budget in each landscape. Provides technical supervision of sub-grants to local partners and of external consultancies. Maintains integrated landscape vision and coordination with the PMU. Supervises execution of day-to-day activities in the landscape. Prepares landscape M&E reports for PM/M&E in central PMU. Manages logistics (landscape workshops and trainings) in close coordination with the Landscape Assistant in each landscape. Cultivates and strengthens local alliances to implement the project with local governments and other key partners in each landscape and coordinates meetings with Landscape Advisory groups. Leads the effective implementation of Component 1 in each landscape.
Landscape Assistant (2)	Assists field Financial Manager manage overall budget and financial management of the field office and provides support for submission of budget and financial reports, while ensuring compliance to all legal requirements. Supports day-to-day operations in the respective field offices, including all administrative and human resources role.

In addition, the project will include the participation of the following CI-Ecuador and WWF-Ecuador staff in the project:

Position Title	Organization	Summary of Responsibilities
Vice President and Executive Director	CI-Ecuador	Provides strategic and political guidance for project implementation. Participates in the PSC and represents CI- Ecuador in strategic ASL meetings and events.
Technical Director	CI-Ecuador	Provides technical and strategic input for project development, with special emphasis on Components 1 and 3, and participates in key meetings and events.
Operations Director	CI-Ecuador	Ensures effective and efficient use of project funds. Leads development of operations manual for project and oversees its successful implementation. Oversees budget execution and prepares financial reports, in coordination with Project Manager. Supports the implementation of successful project audits and ensures the incorporation of adjustments/recommendations.
Amazon Program Director	CI-Ecuador	Responsible for contractual and technical oversight of Project Manager and for mobilizing/coordinating local government partners and indigenous groups. Provides guidance and technical assistance to landscape coordinators.
Procurement Coordinator	CI-Ecuador	Ensures that procurement plan is implemented according to policy and timeline. Manages sub-grants to local partners and contracts for consultancies.
Spatial Analysis Manager	CI-Ecuador	Provides guidance and supervises spatial analysis for corridor development. Supervises spatial analysis consultancies and grants for the selection of corridors in the landscapes. Participates in land use planning processes with local governments.
Country Office Director	WWF-Ecuador	Provides strategic and political guidance for project implementation. Participates in the Project Steering Committee in representation of WWF-Ecuador.
Conservation Director	WWF-Ecuador	Provides technical and strategic inputs for project development, with special emphasis on Component 2, and Putumayo Landscape. Participates in the Project Technical Committee and key meetings and events.

Below is the Project Organizational Chart to illustrate the project structure and its link to the Project Steering Committee and Project Technical Committee.

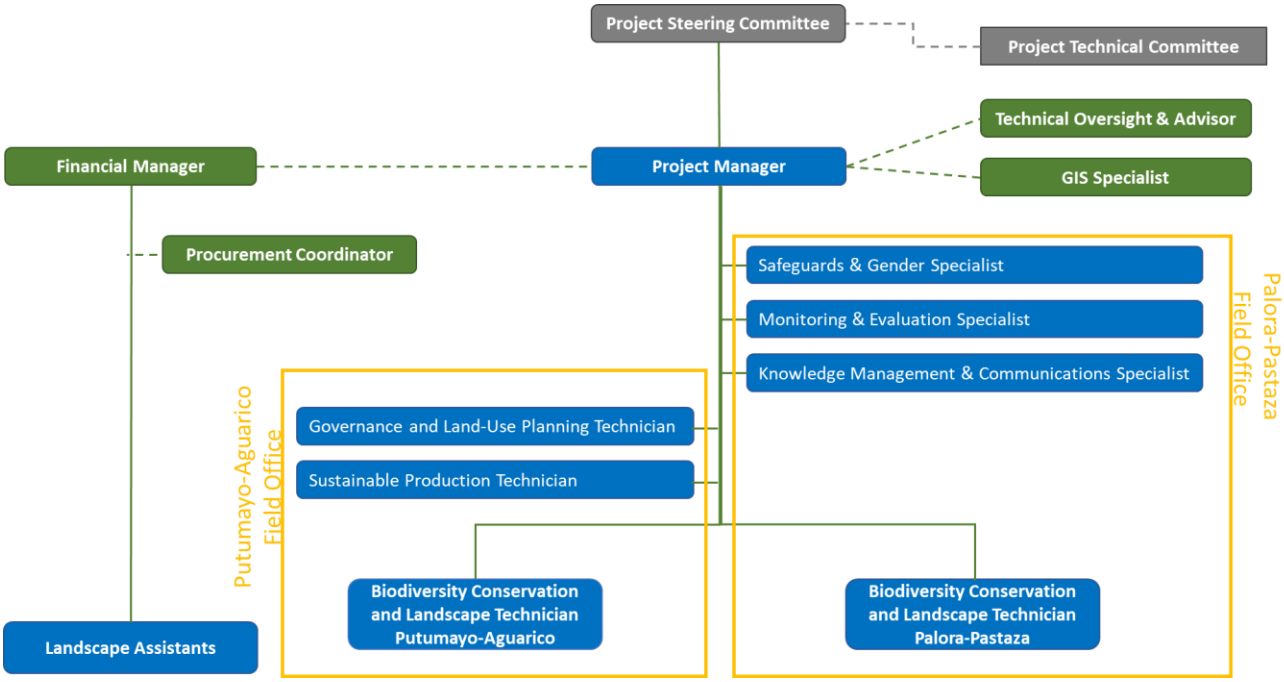


Figure 10. Project Organizational Chart

2.4 Stakeholder Engagement

The project will comply with WWF's Standard on Stakeholder Engagement and with the project-specific Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP – see Annex 7). To be successful, the project will be required to consider the views and perspectives of and to effectively engage with a variety of stakeholders ranging from grassroots organizations and producers, indigenous peoples, NGOs, and the different levels of government (local and national) involved in three key thematic areas: environment conservation, land use planning, and sustainable production.

Stakeholder Engagement during project preparation

At the start of the ProDoc development phase, an assessment of the project stakeholders and a strategy to engage them during the project development phase was developed (see stakeholder analysis table in Annex 7: Stakeholder Engagement Plan).

The project kickoff workshop was held in Quito, on July 26th, 2019, with participants representing sectoral national administration (MAAE, STEA, FIAS, SENAGUA, MAG) national and international civil society organizations (WWF, CI, HIVOS, WCS, FIAS) international development agencies (GIZ), universities, and representatives of indigenous peoples (COICA). Feedback

gathered from the workshop allowed the project team to do the following: (i) refine and adjust the Stakeholder Analysis, (ii) complement the preliminary list of baseline projects, and (iii) gather information to improve the project conceptual model and situation analysis. This kickoff workshop also allowed the project team to engage with key stakeholders and identify strategic bilateral meetings to gather additional information and get feedback for the development of the ProDoc.

In November 2019, a first round of stakeholder consultations was organized in both project landscapes. Staff from CI-Ecuador, WWF-Ecuador, and MAAE, with support from consultants, conducted workshops with local governments (provincial and municipality) and sectoral national government representatives, in Lago Agrio, Sucumbíos; Coca, Orellana; Puyo, Pastaza; and Macas, Morona Santiago. Representatives from indigenous organizations of the two landscapes (NAE, FICSH, FENASH, FCUNAE, FEPCESH-S, AMWAE, FEPNASHO) and representatives from environmental directorates of the local governments were interviewed in separate meetings in each of these cities. The main outcomes of those workshops and interviews were as follows: (a) informed and generated awareness among stakeholders about the project, (ii) presented, discussed, and validated the project situation analysis with local stakeholders, (ii) collected input on the intervention strategies, (iii) compiled socioeconomic data for the gender analysis and for the safeguards assessments, (iv) identified project baseline and potential partnerships at the landscape level. Through these field visits and engagement, all stakeholder showed their general support of the project. Likewise, the team collected recommendations to improve and refine the story line and project strategy to address local needs and priorities, as well as consider specificities of each landscape. Finally, the team interviewed GADs to learn about their progress in terms of local policies related to corridors, production issues, and territorial planning to identify opportunities, gaps, and needs roto better align the project.

In March 2020, the COVID pandemic hit Ecuador, restricting travel, prohibiting meetings and gatherings, and impeded the implementation of planned in-person stakeholder engagement processes. Given the circumstances and limitations, the project team adjusted the engagement strategy and shifted to bilateral virtual meetings, virtual workshops, interviews via phone, and e-mail interactions. While virtual meetings worked effectively with local governments, NGOs, and government organizations (like MAAE, SCTEA, and MAG), in some cases, the project team was unable to secure the participation of some local producer and indigenous organization representatives, because of their limited access to quality internet services. To overcome these challenges, during the first six months of the project execution, the project team with its field staff, will dedicate time and efforts to implementing additional in-person meetings with appropriate biosecurity measures, to ascertain their feedback and comments regarding the project.

Despite the limitations presented during the COVID pandemic, between the end of 2019 and early 2021, an in-depth process of stakeholder consultation was conducted at the national and local levels, (see detail of all workshops and interviews conducted during PPG phase and results obtained, in Annex 7). During 2020 and early 2021, the team organized a series of virtual meetings and workshops with national institutions for the participatory design of the project, including the MAG through the ATPA, SCTEA, MAAE, universities (Ikiam and UEA), and key environmental NGOs (NCI, WCS, FUNDACIÓN ALIADOS, UICN, Fundación Pachamama, Fundación ECOCIENCIA,

FEEP) (see detail in Annex 7). The results of these virtual meetings allowed the project development team to: (i) build a deeper understanding of the project and foment empowerment by relevant stakeholders; (ii) ensure project alignment with national and local priorities and policy frameworks; (iii) gather relevant technical inputs to the project design process; (iv) promote discussions on the project framework and risks, and a means to debate best strategies for intervention; and (v) identify and develop potential partnerships, including aspects related to co-financing.

In January and February 2021, a final round of stakeholder consultations in the project landscapes was organized to share and discuss the second draft of project document, which incorporated inputs from previous consultations. With this purpose, several workshops were organized with representatives of indigenous organizations, producers' organizations, and GADs. As a result of those consultations, the project development team was able to validate the project strategy with the stakeholders, who were able to discuss and provide feedback on the project activities, its implementation arrangements, and the timeline and next steps towards the implementation of the project.

Finally, in February 25th, the project team organized a virtual (due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions) project validation workshop, with participation of stakeholders from the MAAE, MAG, SCTEA, and GADs. The workshop, convened and spearheaded by the MAAE, presented the overall project information, project activities, implementation arrangements, stakeholder consultation process and how the feedback and comments from the stakeholders were incorporated into the final ProDoc prior to its submission.

Stakeholder engagement during project Implementation

The strategy for stakeholder engagement during project implementation is detailed in the project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex 7). The plan may be updated at the start of project implementation, based on the results of the ESMF. The plan will be implemented in an adaptive manner, in accordance with official guidance in regards to social distancing.

The PMU will be responsible for ensuring the implementation of the plan, and that the timetable for engagement is aligned with the project work plan and M&E process. It will also be responsible for monitoring and reporting on stakeholder engagement through the project progress reports. Costs associated with stakeholder engagement have been allocated in the project budget as shown in Annex 8.

The table below summarizes the engagement approach for the main groups of stakeholders who will play a key role in project implementation.

Stakeholder Group	Primary method for consultation and engagement	Means
1 Central Government (MAAE, MAG, STCTA)	At the national level representatives of the organizations in this group will be members of the PSC and Project Technical Committee, the highest decision-making bodies of the project. At the landscape level, they will also participate in the landscape advisory groups, with a technical advisory role to provide guidance for the effective implementation of the project. They will participate directly on the project implementation and will be beneficiaries of project actions, especially under component 3. Representatives of these institutions will also participate in the governance platforms to be created for each of the connectivity corridors. At all levels they will be key targets of project communications and KM products to promote replication and scaling up of lessons learned. Representatives of this organizations will potentially participate in the ASL II Program KM activities.	• Inception workshop. • Annual PSC meetings. • Annual project reflection meetings. • PPRs and Project Implementation Reports (PIR). • Workplans and budgets. • Technical reports. • Face to face and virtual meetings. • ASL II Regional events to exchange knowledge. • Communication and knowledge management products. • Technical reports/project pamphlets. • Consultations, trainings, and workshops. • Connectivity corridors platforms meetings.
2 Decentralized Autonomous Governments (GADs)	Representatives of the local governments will participate in the project landscape advisory groups, with a technical advisory role to provide guidance for the effective implementation of the project. They will participate directly on the project implementation and will be beneficiaries of project actions, especially under component 3. Representatives of the GADs will also participate in the governance platforms to be created for each of the connectivity corridors. At all levels they will be key targets of project communications and KM products to promote replication and scaling up of lessons learned. Representatives of this organizations could potentially participate in the ASL II Program KM activities.	• Inception workshop. • Annual PSC meetings. • Annual project reflection meetings. • PPRs and PIRs. • Workplans and budgets. • Technical reports. • Face to face and virtual meetings. • ASL II Regional events to exchange knowledge. • Communication and knowledge management products. • Technical reports/project pamphlets.

Stakeholder Group	Primary method for consultation and engagement	Means
		• Consultations, trainings, and workshops. • Connectivity corridors platforms meetings.
3 Civil society, Indigenous organizations (FONAKISE, SIEKOPAI, NAE, FICSH, ONWO, NOAIKE, AMWAE), and producers' organizations.	As detailed in Stakeholder Engagement Plan in Appendix 7, IP and local communities will be key stakeholders of the project during the implementation phase. Representatives of this key group will be members of the project landscape advisory groups. Specifically, with indigenous populations, additional consultations will be undertaken at the start of the project and throughout its implementation, with an FPIC approach, to ensure consent on key activities of the project, as defined in the safeguards ESMF and other project safeguards mitigation plans. Participatory approaches and specific activities have been integrated throughout the work plan. Participatory monitoring systems will also be included during project implementation to promote collective assessments of project impacts and build ownership of its actions. Representatives of this organizations could potentially participate in the ASL II Program KM activities.	• Annual project reflection meetings. • PPRs and PIRs. • Workplans and budgets. • Technical reports. • Face to face and virtual meetings. • ASL II Regional events to exchange knowledge. • Communication and knowledge management products. • Focus groups. • Exchange visits. • Trainings and operations support on SLM and bioeconomy initiatives. • Technical reports/project pamphlets. • Consultations, trainings, and workshops. • Communication strategy to target IPLCs. • Connectivity corridors platforms meetings.
4 International and national NGOs (Fundación Ecociencia, Fundación Pachamama, Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano, HIVOS, WCS, NCI, Fundación	International and national NGOs and International Development organizations will be key project partners. Representatives of these organizations with presence in the landscape will participate in the connectivity corridors governance platforms. At all levels, they will be key targets of project communications and KM products to promote replication and scaling up of lessons learned.	• Events to exchange knowledge and experiences on connectivity corridors. • Communication and knowledge management products.

Stakeholder Group	Primary method for consultation and engagement	Means
Aliados) and International development partners.	With those organizations with projects identified in the baseline or in section 1.6 of the prodoc, the PMU will establish direct coordination to ensure synergies between projects, as defined in the prodoc.	• Technical reports/project pamphlets. • Email, phone, virtual and face-to-face meetings (as relevant). • Connectivity corridors platforms meetings.
5 Academia and national research institutions	Representatives of academia and national research institutions with presence in the landscape will participate in the workshops and meetings for the review, discussion and validation of analyses carried out in each landscape for the connectivity corridors proposals. Academia and organizations such as IKIAM and INABIO will participate in the ecological monitoring of the connectivity corridors. They will also be members of the connectivity corridors governance platforms.	• Events to exchange knowledge and experiences on connectivity corridors. • Punctual email, phone, and face-to-face meetings. • Participation in project consultation processes. • Technical reports/project pamphlets. • Communication and knowledge management products.

Engagement of Indigenous peoples and local communities.

This project aims to involve and empower indigenous peoples, rights holders and local communities, including women and youth. Therefore, and in compliance with WWF-US Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework, including the Standard on Access Restriction and Voluntary Resettlement and the Standard on Indigenous Peoples, there will be constant processes of outreach, socialization, consultation, and feedback on the project implementation. The project will also work to promote continuous and open dialogues, including gender and intergenerationally whenever possible, to ensure that IPLCs' views are considered and ensure their participation.

To improve coordination and collaboration, the project will build relationships and work with indigenous organizations and traditional leaders. It will also implement effective communication channels based on local preferences, building on efforts initiated during the project design process. Where necessary, the project will work proactively to identify indigenous peoples and women's associations to be included in project actions. To do this effectively, the project has included in the PMU a full-time staff person specialized in gender and safeguards, with experience working with indigenous peoples.

The gender and safeguards specialist will work closely with the MAAE, as well as in coordination with the technical experts in communication, capacity building, and monitoring and evaluation to ensure that these considerations are mainstreamed throughout the project. The specialist will also focus on addressing the needs and specificities of women in grassroots, producer, and indigenous organizations.

In addition, the project's communication and knowledge management strategy will design communication, awareness raising, and knowledge management campaigns taking into account different demographic groups, and will apply methods/materials specifically designed to target different groups of indigenous peoples and local communities (i.e. women, men, youth, interculturality). This strategy will be simultaneously used to ensure that the needs, perspectives, and concerns of these groups regarding various aspects of corridor management and biodiversity conservation are better understood and made known to the public.

To further promote meaningful participation, the project will identify barriers to stakeholder participation in project actions and seek to address them directly, including ensuring that their knowledge is considered in strategic planning, that they have equal access and opportunities, that training, or skills development strategies are inclusive and gender-sensitive, and that benefit-sharing mechanisms are equitable. Finally, as in the consultation process during project preparation, separate meetings and sessions will be used with these target groups, as deemed effective, to ensure that they remain informed and able to participate meaningfully in the project.

2.5 Gender

In compliance with WWF's Gender Policy, the ASL Ecuador Child Project implemented a detailed gender analysis and developed a gender action plan during the PPG stage. The objective of the gender analysis was to identify the gender gap between men and women within the context of the project. The results of the assessment are documented in the Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan (see Annex 6).

The Gender Analysis was prepared based on the following information: a) desk review of relevant information including WWF Gender Policy, references regarding indigenous people and gender issues, and legal framework regarding women's rights and national policies; and b) focus groups and interviews with indigenous peoples to gather information. In addition, the team conducted interviews with producers in the area to gain a deeper understanding of the gender dynamics and identify possibilities of becoming involved in the project. The complete Gender Review report and Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan is presented in Annex 6.

Summary of conclusions of the Gender Analysis

In the Ecuadorian Amazon, gender inequality has structural causes rooted in society and the economy. While in recent decades there have been significant changes to reduce the gender gap, daily practices that reproduce this inequality, especially in rural areas, continue to exist. The following is a summary of the conclusions of the gender diagnosis in the Ecuadorian Amazon carried out in 2020:

- Ecuadorian legislation has advanced in recognizing the structural problems of gender inequity by creating a framework that guarantees women's rights, as well as links gender and climate change. Despite this progress, it is still necessary for this legislation to have more tangible actions applicable to women's daily lives.
- Gender violence continues to exist in the rural Amazon, is reproduced within families, and is often accepted as “normal”. Considering this context, the project will implement awareness-raising strategies to avoid deepening the causes of violence in especially related to income-generation activities.
- There continues to be a large gap in relation to education and capacity building for participation in productive initiatives, biodiversity conservation and project benefits. The limitations of many young women, especially indigenous women, to finish high school and continue on to university are evident and perpetuate gender inequalities. However, within the non-indigenous rural population, there is broader access to education closer to home, as well as economic resources, and family support to finish school.
- There is a division of labor by gender that reinforces inequalities between women and men. Reproductive work continues to be exclusively the responsibility of women and, frequently, the time spent on these tasks is not considered work. Although this division of labor has flexible spaces where women can participate (for example, product marketing which allows for managing and controlling part of the family's money), in general, they have less access to financial resources and work possibilities outside the communities.
- Women also have less participation in decision-making spaces within their families and their communities. In this sense, empowerment in decision-making and access to activities that represent economic income like those obtained by men is a necessary condition to reduce the gender gap.
- In terms of the link with the landscape, women and men identify and perceive the need to work on biodiversity conservation, as this also has implications for agricultural, livestock and handicraft activities. Women are also in charge of care activities and tasks that are highly affected by excessive rainfall, crop losses, reduction of local food, as well as diseases caused by abrupt climate changes. Men, on the other hand, who are linked more to the productive sphere, mention that the impacts related to the reduction of sowing possibilities or exploitation of resources are related to productive difficulties, lack of work and economic complications.

Summary of recommendations for gender mainstreaming of the Gender Action Plan

Based on the Gender Analysis, the Gender Action Plan incorporates key activities and strategies to not only gather gender-disaggregated data for reporting, but also show women as subjects and agents of change, with high potential and knowledge to maximize biodiversity conservation and sustainable production impacts. Among the key recommendations, are the following:

Component 1:

- Gather baseline information regarding knowledge on conservation, sustainable production and land use, differentiated by gender to harness men and women’s knowledge more

effectively for project implementation and highlight and value women's knowledge and contributions.

- Identify and include differentiated needs from men and women in relation to the participatory management plans for the connectivity corridors.
- Implement awareness processes with local government field staff to show women's potential in contributing to territorial development.
- Identify and implement affirmative actions to address the needs of women, youth and indigenous peoples to more effectively participate in connectivity corridor decision-making processes and in reducing gaps between men and women regarding conservation and production.
- Include gender mainstreaming in all planning and management plans developed in the framework of this project.

Component 2:

- Gather information that includes women's specific needs for training regarding sustainable production systems and include these needs in the ECAs.
- Identify bioeconomy initiatives led by men and women to ensure that women-led initiatives are supported by the project.
- Implement training with field staff to ensure that trainers gather gender-disaggregated information, socialize knowledge differentiated by women and men, in relation to production systems.

Component 3:

- Implement affirmative action strategies to ensure the effective participation of women in planning, management, and monitoring platforms for connectivity corridors.

Component 4:

- Design gender-sensitive indicators and report gender disaggregated data.
- Gather and showcase stories where women are key stakeholders in biodiversity conservation and sustainable production.

These activities seek to strengthen women's knowledge and empowerment of their rights regarding conservation, sustainable production, and participatory platforms of connectivity corridors. These activities will enable women to gain access to decision-making spaces and have the knowledge to contribute to and strengthen them. Finally, the project will implement capacity-building activities so that project technicians can understand gender dynamics and address them appropriately without widening the gaps between women and men.

Roles and Responsibilities

Taking into account the particularities of the project, it has been established the need to incorporate within the team a professional specialized in gender and safeguards who will be in

charge of the particularities of the project implementation, as well as the relationship with the partners and the link with the key actors.

Financial Arrangements

In order to appropriately cater for the implementation of above-mentioned measures, project budget has been allocated for the following:
• Costs for a part time gender specialist (consultant or staff) to work with the PMU and LCUs for the full 5 years of the project period; and
• Budget for travel costs, training workshops and meetings for gender specific consultations.

2.6 Safeguards

In compliance with WWF Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework (ESSF), as detailed in WWF's Environmental and Social Safeguard Integrated Policies and Procedures (SIPP), the Ecuador ASL Child Project was screened according to the Standard on Environmental and Social Risk Management. The Project was categorized as a Category "B" project, given that it is essentially a conservation initiative expected to generate significant positive and durable social, economic, and environmental benefits. Any adverse environmental and social impacts are site specific and can be mitigated.

Since the exact location and nature of potential investments have not yet been determined, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (including an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework [IPPF] and a Process Framework [PF]) is being prepared to conform to WWF's Environment and Social Safeguards Framework. The ESMF will be disclosed by the Implementing Entity in country in a format and language accessible to stakeholders and on the WWF safeguards website (https://www.worldwildlife.org/pages/safeguards-resources) for 45 days before WWF GEF Agency approval.

The proposed project triggered the following standards:

Standard on Natural Habitat: Overall, activities of the project will produce significant conservation benefits and any potential adverse environmental impacts on human populations or environmentally important areas are expected to be very limited. While there shall be no conversion or degradation of natural habitats, this Standard has been triggered as a precaution since there will be site-specific activities relating to productive landscapes under Component 2.

Standard on Involuntary Resettlement: There will be no land acquisition or involuntary resettlement of individuals and/or families under the proposed project. While the proposed project will not cause displacement of people from their homes, the Standard is triggered because designating connectivity corridors may restrict or prohibit the extraction of resources in certain areas of the corridors, thereby restricting access to resources required for the subsistence and

cultural maintenance of the affected populations. A Process Framework will be prepared as part of the ESMF to conform to WWF's Environment and Social Safeguards Framework.

Standard on Indigenous People: This Standard is triggered because indigenous people are found in both project landscapes. The indigenous communities of the Putumayo - Aguarico Landscape include Shuar, Kichwa, Waorani, Secoya, and Siona indigenous nationalities. The indigenous communities of the Palora – Pastaza Landscape include Shuar, Achuar and Kichwa nationalities. As the specific activities and locations of said activities are not yet defined, an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework will be prepared as part of the ESMF to conform to WWF's Environment and Social Safeguards Framework.

Standard on Pest Management: The activities are not expected to trigger the Standard on Pest Management. While the project might support native plant nurseries (under Component 2), it will not support the procurement or use of pesticides or other agricultural chemicals or lead to the increased use of such chemicals. The ESMF will include guidance to this effect.

Standard on Cultural Resources: This Standard is not triggered as the project is highly unlikely to have an impact on cultural resources.

Standard on Community Health, Safety and Security: This Standard is not triggered as the project is highly unlikely to have an impact on community health, safety, and security.

2.7 Monitoring & Evaluation

The Project will be monitored through the Results Framework (see Annex 5). The Results Framework includes 1-2 indicators per Outcome. The baseline has been completed for each indicator along with feasible targets. A methodology for measuring indicator targets is provided. Indicator targets are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound (SMART), and disaggregated by sex where applicable. Relevant Core indicators have been included to provide a portfolio level understanding of progress towards the GEF Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs).

Component 4 focuses on M&E, Knowledge Management, and Regional Coordination. The project Management Unit (PMU) is responsible for ensuring the monitoring and evaluation activities are carried out in a timely and comprehensive manner, and for initiating and facilitating essential monitoring and evaluation activities, such as the independent external evaluations at the midterm and end of the project. An M&E Officer will be recruited as part of the PMU and will be responsible for gathering M&E data for the annual results framework tracking and providing suggestions to the PMU Project Manager to improve the results, efficiency, and management of the project.

The following table presents a summary of project reports:

M&E/ Reporting Document	How the document will be used	Timeframe	Responsible
Inception Report	• Summarize decisions made during inception workshop, including changes to project design, budget, Results Framework, etc.	Within three months of inception workshop	PMU Project Manager and M&E Officer
Quarterly Field Report [optional]	• Inform PMU PM on progress, challenges and needs of activities in field.	Every three months	Field team
Quarterly Financial Reports	• Assess financial progress and management.	Every three months	PMU F&A officer
WWF Project Progress Report (PPR) with RF and workplan tracking.	• Inform management decisions and drafting of annual workplan and budget; • Share lessons internally and externally; • Report to the PSC and GEF Agency on the project progress.	Every six months	PMU Project Manager and M&E Officer
Mid-term Project Evaluation Report	• External formative evaluation of the project; • Recommendations for adaptive management for the second half of the project period; • Inform PSC, GEF and other stakeholders of project performance to date.	Midterm	External expert or organization
Terminal Project Evaluation Report	• External summative evaluation of the overall project; • Recommendations for GEF and those designing related projects.	Before project completion	External expert or organization

Independent formal evaluations have been budgeted by the project and will adhere to WWF and GEF guidelines and policies. The Midterm Evaluation will be conducted within six months of the midpoint of the project and the Terminal Evaluation will be completed before the official close of the project. The evaluations provide an opportunity for adaptive management as well as sharing of lessons and best practices for this and future projects. The Operational Focal Point will be briefed and debriefed before and after the evaluation(s) and will have an opportunity to comment on the draft and final report.

An annual reflection workshop has been budgeted for the PMU and project partners to review project progress and challenges to date, taking into account results framework tracking, work plan tracking, stakeholder feedback and quarterly field reports to review project strategies, risks and the theory of change (ToC). The results of this workshop will inform project decision making (i.e., refining the ToC, informing PPRs and AWP&Bs).

2.8 Budget

2.8.1 GEF Project Budget Overview

The 5-year GEF project funding is USD 6,423,853 with an additional USD 20,000,000 as co-financing from the Ministry of Environment, USD 20,000,000 from the Technical Secretariat of the Amazon Special Territorial Circumscription, USD 770,862 from WWF US, USD 2,000,000 from WWF Ecuador, USD 1,000,000 from CI-Ecuador and USD 1,290,689 from the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, for the project Connectivity Corridors in two priority landscapes of the Ecuadorian Amazon Region, as part of the second phase of the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Impact Program of the GEF.

The budget plans for a 6-month start-up phase, laying the groundwork for clear administrative and operational protocols and processes, as well as the establishment of project offices, hiring staff, and other activities prior to the start of technical implementation. Likewise, in year 5 it incorporates a 6-month project close-out phase for the final evaluation, reports, and other documentation required to successfully close out the project.

The project budget and co-financing is highest for Components 1 and 2, which include substantial, activities on the ground with diverse stakeholders for the direct implementation of conservation and sustainable production actions. Component 3 is more focused on the connectivity of corridor governance mechanisms, institutional capacity building, and planning activities. Component 4 focuses on project Monitoring Evaluation, knowledge management and communications. The Project Management Costs (PMC) have been capped at 5% of the GEF project budget.

The budget was developed considering both the technical and administrative needs and requirements to ensure successful project execution as well as sustainable impact. In addition to harnessing co-financing from relevant organizations implementing key activities on the ground, the budget also includes a large sum for grants, particularly in Components 1 and 2, in order to implement key actions that will be co-executed by partners on the ground.

Summary Project Budget

TOTAL PROJECT		
CATEGORY		PROJECT TOTAL
PERSONNEL	$	1.962.575,94
THIRD PARTY FEES & EXPENSES	$	1.017.500,00
GRANTS & AGREEMENTS	$	2.186.000,00
TRAVEL, MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS	$	670.325,00
OTHER DIRECT COSTS	$	517.215,93
EQUIPMENT	$	70.236,00
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	$	6.423.853,00

Component 1: Establishment of connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes.	
CATEGORY	COMPONENT TOTAL
PERSONNEL	508.267
THIRD PARTY FEES & EXPENSES	300.000
GRANTS & AGREEMENTS	856.000
TRAVEL, MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS	259.835
OTHER DIRECT COSTS	181.917
EQUIPMENT	28.048
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	2.134.067

Component 2: Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors.	
CATEGORY	COMPONENT TOTAL
PERSONNEL	475.060
THIRD PARTY FEES & EXPENSES	312.500
GRANTS & AGREEMENTS	1.100.000
TRAVEL, MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS	187.880
OTHER DIRECT COSTS	82.093
EQUIPMENT	21.188
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	2.178.721

Component 3: Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity.	
CATEGORY	COMPONENT TOTAL
PERSONNEL	290.291
THIRD PARTY FEES & EXPENSES	225.000
GRANTS & AGREEMENTS	200.000
TRAVEL, MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS	110.550
OTHER DIRECT COSTS	61.201
EQUIPMENT	10.500
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	897.542

Component 4: Monitoring, and evaluation, knowledge management, and regional coordination.	
CATEGORY	COMPONENT TOTAL
PERSONNEL	491.565
THIRD PARTY FEES & EXPENSES	210.000
GRANTS & AGREEMENTS	-
TRAVEL, MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS	112.060
OTHER DIRECT COSTS	83.527
EQUIPMENT	10.500
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	907.652

Component 5: Project Management Costs	
CATEGORY	COMPONENT TOTAL
PERSONNEL	197.394
THIRD PARTY FEES & EXPENSES	-
GRANTS & AGREEMENTS	-
TRAVEL, MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS	-
OTHER DIRECT COSTS	108.477
EQUIPMENT	-
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	305.871

Budget summary by outcome and output:

BUDGET SUMMARY by Outcome and Output	
Connectivity Corridors in two priority landscapes of the Ecuadorian Amazon Region	
CATEGORY	**PROJECT TOTAL**
Component 1: Establishment of connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes.	**2.134.067**
1.1. Increased area of connectivity corridors created in the two project landscapes.	**1.105.067**
1.1.1. Technical documentation submitted for approval by the MAAE (or other competent authorities) for the conformation of the two new connectivity corridors, including an analysis and definition of the ecological, socioeconomic and political viability of each corridor.	1.105.067
1.2. Management of corridors and conservation areas have been strengthened.	**1.029.000**
1.2.1. Planning and management instruments including the components of financial sustainability of connectivity corridors, are developed and endorsed by local authorities.	720.000
1.2.2. Ecological monitoring systems in the two corridors are developed and implemented.	309.000
Component 2: Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors.	**2.178.721**
2.1. Increase of productive areas, in or around connectivity corridors, under Sustainable Land Management (SLM).	**1.286.221**
2.1.1. Training program and assistance package for the promotion of SLM practices in the two connectivity corridors designed.	648.221
2.1.2. SLM training program to selected producers in the two connectivity corridors implemented.	638.000
2.2. Bioeconomy initiatives have been strengthened in the two connectivity corridors.	**892.500**
2.2.1. Bioeconomy initiatives in each connectivity corridor have been equipped, trained, and / or linked to potential markets.	892.500
Component 3: Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity.	**897.542**
3.1. Legal, administrative, technical, and institutional conditions developed for the integrated management of the landscape and connectivity corridors.	**897.542**
3.1.1. Normative and public policy instruments integrate the landscape and connectivity approach in the planning and land management of the landscapes under intervention	444.542
3.1.2. Inter institutional, inter-sectoral, and multilevel governance platforms created and operational for the management of landscapes and connectivity corridors (1 per landscape).	74.000
3.1.3. Capacity development program for relevant public entities and local actors involved in the planning, management, and monitoring of landscapes, connectivity corridors, and conservation areas.	379.000
Component 4: Monitoring, and evaluation, knowledge management, and regional coordination.	**907.652**
4.1. Project monitoring and evaluation data contributes to efficient decision making and to adaptive project management.	**236.174**
4.1.1. Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan informs the project's adaptive management	236.174
4.2. Strengthening of national and regional coordination and knowledge management.	**671.478**
4.2.1. Effective coordination at the national level and with the ASL program.	162.266
4.2.2. Knowledge management and communication products developed and disseminated.	509.212
Component 5: Project Management Costs	**305.871**
	305.871
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	6.423.853

2.8.2 Project Budget Notes

Staffing

The Staffing section includes the cost for staff salaries and fringe benefits. Staff salaries are based on the activities required for the development and implementation of the project and reflect the number of days or person-months needed for successful delivery of the project. The daily rate is calculated at the annual salary divided by 260 days; however, the maximum number of working days budgeted for a project year is 230 days. A person-month is calculated as the daily rate times 230 days divided by 12. The remaining 30 days are recovered as a fringe benefit cost. Salaries included in the budget (Table 8.2.1) are in line with CI's compensation policy.

Personnel costs are budgeted with an average annual increase at 3.5% to provide merit and cost-of-living adjustments, in accordance with CI's salaries policy.

Fringe Benefits cover expenses such as health and life insurance premiums, retirement contributions, legally mandated separation and paid leave as required by the Benefits policy and/or local labor law.

Table 8.2.1. Project staff

Position Title	Summary of responsibilities	Average Annual % time	Average annual Budget	Total Project Budget
Component 1. Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes				
ASL 2 Project Manager	Provides technical guidance and oversight in both landscapes in the design of the connectivity corridors and ensures alignment to national and local priorities, policies, and strategies. In coordination with the technical staff, identifies key stakeholders for collaboration. Approves selected consultants and ensures alignment to project goals and objectives.	29.13%	22.765,80	113,829
Palora Landscape Assistant	Provides assistance for the successful logistical implementation of meetings in the Palora-Pastaza landscape and ensures that consultancies and grants are successfully contracted, meeting administrative protocols and agreements for the project. Charged with documenting, drafting meeting and workshop summaries and minutes for activities related to the	93.13%	26,013.60	130,068

	participatory platforms for the creation of the connectivity corridors. Provides technical assistance in facilitating meetings.			
Landscape and Biodiversity Conservation Technician	Leads the implementation of Component 1. Charged with the development of TORs, coordinating the selection process and follow-up on implementation of consultancies and grants in this component. Coordinates meetings related to the design and documentation of the connectivity corridors. Identifies relevant cross-cutting issues and lessons learned.	93.91%	29,662.40	148,312
Safeguards and gender Specialist	Ensures that FPIC process is adequately incorporated and documented in the design and selection of the connectivity corridors. Identifies entry points and mainstreams gender and safeguards where needed; ensures Safeguard recommendations are fully complied.	24.26%	7,963.60	39,817
Spatial Analysis Manager	Provides technical guidance and advises on geospatial information and indicators used to characterize and select the connectivity corridors. Develops maps and provides spatial information when needed. Reviews and provides feedback on geospatial information provided by consultants and participates in relevant meetings with MAAE, GADs, and other key stakeholders.	7.04%	6,688.20	33,441

Amazonia Program Director	Provides technical guidance to both landscapes in the design of the connectivity corridors, and the incorporation of a sustainable landscapes approach, especially when involving indigenous peoples. Participates in relevant meetings with the MAAE and SCTEA.	10%	8,560	42,800
TOTAL COMPONENT 1				508,267
Component 2. Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors				
ASL 2 Project Manager	Provides technical guidance and oversight in both landscapes in linking sustainable production to the connectivity corridors and conservation mechanism, in alignment with the PIA and national strategies like the REDD+ Action Plan. In coordination with the technical staff, identifies key stakeholders for collaboration, including identifying broader market trends that may impact or create opportunities for these synergies. Approves selected consultants and ensures alignment to project goals and objectives. Participates in relevant high-level meetings.	24.35%	19,031.40	95,083
Putumayo Landscape Assistant	Provides assistance to ensure the successful logistical implementation of meetings in the Putumayo-Aguarico landscape and ensures that consultancies and grants are successfully contracted, meeting administrative protocols and agreements for the project. Charged with documenting, drafting meeting and workshop summaries and minutes for activities related to sustainable production. Will have experience in implementing capacity-building	93.13%	26,013.60	130,068

	workshops with producers and will aid in facilitating meetings on the ground			
Safeguards Specialist	Identifies entry points and mainstreams gender and safeguards where needed; ensures Safeguard recommendations are fully complied with in Component 2, and especially in the design and implementation of the capacity-building modules, and in ensuring equitable benefit distribution.	21%	6,928.40	34,642
Spatial Analysis Manager	Provides technical guidance and advises on geospatial information and indicators used to select priority areas for sustainable production and in processing relevant information for impact indicators. Develops maps and provides spatial information when needed. Reviews and provides feedback on geospatial information provided by consultants and participates in relevant meetings with MAAE, MAG-ATPA, GADs, and other key stakeholders.	7.13%	1,385.68	33,797
Sustainable Production Technician	Leads the implementation of Component 2. Charged with the development of TORs, coordinating the selection process and follow-up on implementation of consultancies and grants in this component. Coordinates meetings related to the design and implementation of capacity-building modules. Collaborates with staff to ensure sustainable production practices contribute directly to conservation and the connectivity corridors.	87.83%	27,734	138,670

Amazonia Program Director	Provides technical guidance to both landscapes, particularly in linking actions with other relevant co-finance projects and the incorporation of a sustainable landscapes approach, especially when involving indigenous peoples. Participates in relevant meetings with the MAAE, MAG, and SCTEA.	10%	8,560	42,800
TOTAL COMPONENT 2				475,060
Component 3. Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity				
Amazonia Program Director	Provides political and technical guidance to both landscapes in the development and implementation of participatory governance mechanisms. Participates in relevant meetings in both landscapes.	8.96%	7651.80	38,259
ASL 2 Project Manager	Provides technical guidance and oversight in both landscapes. Participates and, when appropriate, leads relevant high-level meetings especially with local governments.	20.87%	6.845,75	82,149
Governance and Land Use planning Technician	Leads the implementation of Component 3. Charged with the development of TORs, coordinating the selection process and follow-up on implementation of consultancies and grants in this component. Coordinates meetings related to the design and implementation of the participatory governance platforms.	87.83%	27,734	138,670
Safeguards and gender specialist	Identifies entry points and mainstreams gender and safeguards where needed; ensures safeguard recommendations are fully complied with in Component 3, and especially in the design and implementation of connectivity corridor governance platforms.	18.83%	2,600.91	31,213
TOTAL COMPONENT 3				290,291

Component 4. Monitoring and Evaluation, Knowledge Management and Regional Coordination				
Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist Output A4.1 80% / Output A4.2 20%	Supports project team in tracking project results and ensures the database generation, authentication and management. S/he will provide technical support to the project team in maintaining the GEF. Quality assurance and its feasibility will be monitored by MEL officer.	90%	36,879.60	184,398
Amazonia Program Director Output 4.2	Participates in Regional meetings as needed, in an advisory role. Identifies opportunities to collaborate and implement exchanges at a national and regional level. Reviews and approves all communications materials and publications.	7.22%	6,137.8	30,689
ASL2 Project Manager Output 4.2	Responsible for streamlined communication and collaboration within the MAAE divisions and with local governments, SCTEA, executing partners, and regional ASL staff as needed. Coordinates with universities and other key stakeholders to identify knowledge management needs and synergies.	16.52%	13,021.40	65.107
Knowledge Management and Communication Specialist Output 4.2	Supports in document development and design of communication materials for public outreach. Works in close coordination with all staff to identify success stories and capture lesson learned. Provides technical backstopping in report publication as well as donor reporting.	87.83%	35,625.4	178,127

Safeguards and Gender Specialist Output 4.2	Ensures the safeguards plan and gender is mainstreamed and implemented throughout the project, especially in monitoring and evaluation tools. He/She works closely to identify entry point and mainstream gender and safeguards where and when needed; ensures Safeguard recommendations are fully complied.	19.62%	6,488.6	32,443
TOTAL COMPONENT 4				491,565
Project Management Costs (PMC)				
ASL 2 Project Manager	The overall project lead will do major coordination and collaboration between CI, WWF-GEF, Government and local partner(s). Ensures overall project operationalization.	9.13%	7,157.40	35,787
Palora Landscape Assistant	Responsible for field operations support in Palora, logistics, administration, supporting the PMU on the operations needs in the field	2.87%	801	4,005
Putumayo Landscape Assistant	Responsible for field operations support in Putumayo, logistics, administration, supporting the PMU on the operations needs in the field	2.87%	801	4,005
Operations Director	Responsible for the financial monitoring and execution of the project, donor reporting, operations monitoring of policies and procedures under GEF requirements. Assessing PMU in financial issues related to the project.	26.78%	30,719.40	153,597
TOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT COSTS (PMC)				197,394

Third Party Fees and Expenses

The project has budgeted a total of USD 1,057,500 in external consultancies for technical support to complete project assessments, prepare communications materials, management, and sustainability plans, success stories, and complete project monitoring and evaluation (Table 8.2.2). Overall third-party fees and expenses budgeted in the project amount to 16.46% of total project costs.

Table 8.2.2 Professional Services

Consultant Expertise	Summary of responsibilities	Project Year/s	Average annual Budget	Total Project Budget
Component 1. Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes				
Participatory approaches to conservation area design and compliance with legal and technical requirements	Consultancy to prepare the technical and legal documentation for the declaration of the connectivity corridor (Putumayo-Aguarico landscape), with a technical team that includes the following: 1 ecologist/biologist, 1 lawyer, 1 geographer, 1 economist and 1 sociologist/anthropologist). Activity 1.1.1	Year 2	100,000	100,000
Participatory approaches to conservation area design and compliance with legal and technical requirements	Consultancy to prepare the technical and legal documentation for the declaration of the connectivity corridor (Palora-Pastaza landscape), with a technical team that includes the following: 1 ecologist/biologist, 1 lawyer, 1 geographer, 1 economist and 1 sociologist/anthropologist). Activity 1.1.1	Year 2	100,000	100,000
Participatory governance mechanisms and financial sustainability strategies for conservation	Consultancy for the development of a participatory management plan and the financial sustainability plan (Putumayo-Aguarico landscape), with a technical team that includes the following: 1 sociologist/anthropologist (with experience in participatory management of conservation areas), 1 economist (with experience in financial sustainability strategies). Activity 1.2.1	Year 2	50,000	50,000
Participatory governance mechanisms and financial sustainability strategies for conservation	Consultancy for the development of a participatory management plan and the financial sustainability plan (Palora-Pastaza landscape), with a technical team that includes the following: 1 sociologist/anthropologist (with experience in participatory management of conservation areas), 1 economist (with experience in financial sustainability strategies). Activity 1.2.1	Year 2	50,000	50,000
TOTAL COMPONENT 1				300,000
Component 2. Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors				

Development of capacity-building modules for adults in sustainable agricultural production	Consultancy for the development of a capacity-building program for sustainable agricultural production systems: contents, modules and tools. Activity 2.1.1	Year 2	10,000	10,000
Capacity-building in sustainable agricultural production	Consultancy of a team of specialists/capacity-builders for sustainable agricultural production systems, especially including the following components: local land-use plans; best agro-ecological practices; sustainable cocoa production systems; certifications; sustainable agriculture; harvest and post-harvest; commercialization, among others identified. Activity 2.1.2	Year 2 and 3	60,000	120,000
Competitive funds tendering procedures	Consultancy for the development of the terms of the tendering procedure and selection process for the competitive funds of the bioeconomy initiatives. Activity 2.2.1	Year 2	7,500	7,500
Bioeconomy initiative value chains and market linkages	Consultancy to provide technical assistance, monitoring and market linkages for a group of bioeconomy initiatives, with a technical team that includes the following: 1 lead consultant (with experience in sustainable businesses), 2 field technicians (with experience in organizational strengthening and monitoring), 1 specialist in business plans, 1 lawyer, 1 specialist in market linkages (with experience in bioeconomy initiative and sustainable production promotion and communication). Activity 2.2.1	Year 3 and 4	85,000	170,000
TOTAL COMPONENT 2				312,500
COMPONENT 3. Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity				
Conservation legal and regulatory frameworks	Consultancy for the analysis of regulatory gaps and the development of policies and regulations that contribute to connectivity corridor management. Activity 3.1.1	Year 1	30,000	30,000

Multi-stakeholder participatory conservation governance platforms	Consultancy for the analysis of governance models and the development of a proposal for the management of the connectivity corridors. Includes a team with the following: 1 specialist in participatory management of conservation areas; 1 lawyer; 1 sociologist/anthropologist. Activity 3.1.2	Year 2	30,000	30,000
Capacity building with adults on conservation corridors and sustainable landscapes	Consultancy for the development and implementation of the capacity-building process with local stakeholders, that includes the following: trainers/instructors, materials and internet platform for capacity-building. Activity 3.1.3	Years 2,3,4	45,000	135,000
TOTAL COMPONENT 3				195,000
Component 4. Monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management, and regional coordination.				
Project monitoring and evaluation Output 4.1	Midterm and final evaluation of the project	Year 3 and 5	35,000	70,000
Communications and publication development Output 4.2	Consultancy for the development of educational and communications materials and publications for connectivity corridor management, systematization of experiences and lessons learned, and strategic materials for the project (banners, informational materials, etc.)	Year 1,2,3,4 and 5	28,000	140,000
TOTAL COMPONENT 4				210,000
Project Management Costs (PMC)				
N/A				
TOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT COSTS (PMC)				

Grants and Agreements

A total of USD 2,186,000 has been budgeted under grants and agreements (Table 8.2.3) representing 34.02% of the total project budget. These grants are for implementing conservation strategies and priority actions in the priority corridors, to strengthen information management platforms, to implement best agricultural practices and scale lessons learned, and to establish competitive funds for bioeconomy initiatives.

The listed partners will execute activities under the project components, as described in Table 8.2.3 below. The costs included in the Table are fully inclusive of all costs including, staff, travel and workshops.

Table 8.2.3 Grants

Name of Partner	Purpose	Location	Total
Component 1. Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes			
To be determined during project implementation once the corridors have been selected. Various: GADs, NGOs, Academia, CSOs	Grant to implement conservation strategies and other priority actions of the connectivity corridor management plans (including but not limited to governance, participatory processes, monitoring, etc.). Activity 1.2.1	Putumayo-Aguarico	288,000
To be determined during project implementation once the corridors have been selected. Various: GADs, NGOs, Academia, CSOs	Grant to implement conservation strategies and other priority actions of the connectivity corridor management plans (including but not limited to governance, participatory processes, monitoring, etc.). Activity 1.2.1	Palora-Pastaza	288,000
INABIO / SCTEA	Grant for INABIO and SCTEA to align and strengthen information management platforms (SINMBIO and the Information Center for Governance, respectively) and promote them with different users, as well as institutionalize the information generated in the corridors	National (Palora-Pastaza and Putumayo-Aguarico)	100,000
IKIAM / UEA	Grant for IKIAM and the University of the Amazon State (uea) (in coordination with INABIO and SCTEA) for the design and execution of the biological and socioeconomic monitoring system: Experimental design and adaptation of information a corridor level.	National (Palora-Pastaza and Putumayo-Aguarico)	180,000
TOTAL COMPONENT 1			856,000
Component 2. Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors			
To be determined during project implementation once the corridors have been selected. Various: GADs, NGOs, Academia, CSOs	Grant to amplify and scale-up lessons learned from the ECAs at a farm level through “demonstrative projects”. Implementation of 20 model farms per corridor ($20,000/farm). Activity 2.1.2	Putumayo-Aguarico	220,000

To be determined during project implementation once the corridors have been selected. Various: GADs, NGOs, Academia, CSOs	Grant to amplify and scale-up lessons learned from the ECAs at a farm level through “demonstrative projects”. Implementation of 20 model farms per corridor ($20,000/farm). Activity 2.1.2	Palora-Pastaza	220,000
To be determined in competitive fund selection process. Various: CSOs, producer organizations, indigenous organizations	Competitive funds for 5 bioeconomy initiatives selected in the Putumayo-Aguarico landscape: Development of business plans, strengthening of governance models and market linkages, organizational strengthening, added value. Activity 2.2.1	Putumayo-Aguarico	330,000
To be determined in competitive fund selection process. Various: CSOs, producer organizations, indigenous organizations	Competitive funds for 5 bioeconomy initiatives selected in the Palora-Pastaza landscape: Development of business plans, strengthening of governance models and market linkages, organizational strengthening, added value. Activity 2.2.1	Palora-Pastaza	330,000
TOTAL COMPONENT 2			1,100,000
COMPONENT 3. Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity			
To be determined during project implementation once the corridors have been selected. Various: GADs, NGOs, Academia, CSOs	Grant to strengthen capacities of connectivity corridor management. Activity 3.1.3	Putumayo-Aguarico	100,000
To be determined during project implementation once the corridors have been selected. Various: GADs, NGOs, Academia, CSOs	Grant to strengthen capacities of connectivity corridor management. Activity 3.1.3	Palora-Pastaza	100,000
TOTAL COMPONENT 3			200,000
Component 4. Monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management, and regional coordination			
N/A			
TOTAL MONITORING AND EVALUATION			
Project Management Costs (PMC)			
N/A			

TOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT COSTS (PMC)	

The WWF GEF Agency reviews the policies and procedures of all executing organizations to ensure that they meet both GEF, and WWF GEF Agency Minimum Fiduciary Requirements. In addition, it should be noted that Conservation International Ecuador policies and procedures are the same as those of the Conservation International GEF Agency. The recent assessment process for the revised Minimum Fiduciary Standards conducted by the GEF revealed Conservation International to be in full compliance.

Travel

The following travel costs budgeted at **USD 58,325** to fund CI staff to participate and facilitate annual project planning, coordination, monitoring, support, and technical backstopping during program implementation, and for programmatic and financial monitoring (**Table 8.2.4**). The total budget allocation for travel is 0.9% of the total project costs.

Table 8.2.4 Travel

International or Local (state the Destination if known)	**Purpose of Travel**	**Total number of Trips**	**Total Project Costs**
Component 1. Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes			
Local trips	Operations team trips for monitoring activity execution and grants (Putumayo-Aguarico) Hotel - Lodging	48	4,800
Local trips	Operations team trips for monitoring activity execution and grants (Putumayo-Aguarico) Meals	48	2,400
Local trips	Operations team trips for monitoring activity execution and grants (Putumayo-Aguarico) - Vehicle rental /transportation	16	10,400
Local trips	Operations team trips for monitoring activity execution and grants (Palora-Pastaza) Hotel - Lodging	48	4,800
Local trips	Operations team trips for monitoring activity execution and grants (Palora-Pastaza) Meals	48	2,400
Local trips	Operations team trips for monitoring activity execution and grants (Palora-Pastaza) - Vehicle rental /transportation	14	9,100
Local trips	Fuel for field work	10	550
Local trips	Fuel for field work	7	385
TOTAL COMPONENT 1			34,835

Component 2. Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors			
Local trips	Fuel for field work	16	880
TOTAL COMPONENT 2			880
COMPONENT 3. Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity			
Local trips	Fuel for field work	10	550
N/A			
TOTAL COMPONENT 3			550
Component 4. Monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management, and regional coordination			
International trips Output 4.2	International travel (3 people - 4 days) Hotel – lodging	48	12,000
International trips Output 4.2	International travel (3 people - 4 days) Meals and catering	48	3,840
International trips Output 4.2	International travel (3 people - 4 days) International Airfare	12	6,000
Local trips Output 4.2	Fuel for field work	4	220
TOTAL COMPONENT 4			22,060
Project Management Costs (PMC)			
N/A			
TOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT COSTS (PMC)			

Workshops and meeting

The following workshop and meeting costs amounting to USD 612,000 represents the costs associated with holding workshops and planning meetings for the inception of the project, sensitization of relevant stakeholders, planning/review reflection, landscape/national meetings and various trainings (Table 8.2.5).

The total workshop cost was calculated considering the number of participants and the number of days each workshop will be held for. The costs associated with holding workshops and meetings account for 9.53% of the total project budget.

Table 8.2.5 Workshops and Meetings

Location	**Describe who will be participating and the estimated number of participants.**	**Purpose of workshop (include number of workshops planned**	**Total Project Costs**
Component 1. Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes			

Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops to prepare the technical and legal documentation for the declaration of the connectivity corridor: Launch/Presentation of the process and information gathering. (Putumayo-Aguarico) Activity 1.1.1	5,500
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops to prepare the technical and legal documentation for the declaration of the connectivity corridor: Launch/Presentation of the process and information gathering. (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 1.1.1	5,500
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops to prepare the technical and legal documentation for the declaration of the connectivity corridor: Feedback of preliminary results. (Putumayo-Aguarico) Activity 1.1.1	5,500
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops to prepare the technical and legal documentation for the declaration of the connectivity corridor: Feedback of preliminary results. (Palora-Pastaza) Activity 1.1.1	5,500
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops to prepare the technical and legal documentation for the declaration of the connectivity corridor: Validation of the connectivity corridor (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 1.1.1	5,500
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops to prepare the technical and legal documentation for the declaration of the connectivity corridor: Validation of the connectivity corridor (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 1.1.1	5,500
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops to prepare the technical and legal documentation for the declaration of the connectivity corridor: High-level event to present the connectivity corridor (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 1.1.1	5,500

Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops to prepare the technical and legal documentation for the declaration of the connectivity corridor: High-level event to present the connectivity (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 1.1.1	5,500
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop for the launch and preliminary information gathering for the development of the participatory management plan and financial sustainability plans for the connectivity corridors. (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 1.2.1	5,500
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop for the launch and preliminary information gathering for the development of the participatory management plan and financial sustainability plans for the connectivity corridors. (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 1.2.1	5,500
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop to gather feedback on the proposal of the participatory management plan and financial sustainability strategy of the corridor (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 1.2.1	5,500
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop to gather feedback on the proposal of the participatory management plan and financial sustainability strategy of the corridor (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 1.2.1	5,500
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop to validate the final participatory management plan and financial sustainability strategy of the corridor (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 1.2.1	5,500
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop to validate the final participatory management plan and financial sustainability strategy of the corridor (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 1.2.1	5,500

Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop to link the management plans and financial sustainability strategies of the corridors to PDOTs, Life Plans and other local planning tools. (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 1.2.1	5,500
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop to link the management plans and financial sustainability strategies of the corridors to PDOTs, Life Plans and other local planning tools. (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 1.2.1	5,500
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop with experts to conceptualize the corridor monitoring systems: adaptation to SINMBIO and local context. (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 1.2.2	5,500
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop with experts to conceptualize the corridor monitoring systems: adaptation to SINMBIO and local context. (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 1.2.2	5,500
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop to validate the design, protocols and tools for the corridor monitoring system. (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 1.2.2	5,500
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop to validate the design, protocols and tools for the corridor monitoring system. (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 1.2.2	5,500
Quito	30 participants / per 2-day event	National workshop to present the connectivity corridor monitoring system. Activity 1.2.2	7,000
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	50 participants/ event (1 day)	Project launch event in the Putumayo-Aguarico landscape.	7,000
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	50 participants/ event (1 day)	Project launch event in the Palora-Pastaza landscape.	7,000
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	50 participants/ event (1 day)	Project mid-term progress event in the Putumayo-Aguarico Landscape	7,000
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	50 participants/ event (1 day)	Project mid-term progress event in the Palora-Pastaza Landscape	7,000

Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	50 participants/ event (1 day)	Workshop to present the final results of the project in the Putumayo-Aguarico landscape	7,000
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	50 participants/ event (1 day)	Workshop to present the final results of the project in the Palora-Pastaza landscape	7,000
Putumayo – Aguarico	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops to implement FPIC processes in the Putumayo-Aguarico landscape	33,000
Palora-Pastaza	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops to implement FPIC processes in the Palora-Pastaza landscape	33,000
TOTAL COMPONENT 1			225,000
Component 2. Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors			
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop for the design and validation of the capacity-building program for sustainable agricultural production systems (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 2.1.1	22,000
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop for the design and validation of the capacity-building program for sustainable agricultural production systems (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 2.1.1	22,000
Putumayo – Aguarico	30 participants / per 2-day event	Implementation of workshops for ECA in each connectivity corridor (Putumayo-Aguarico). (1 ECA/year x 2 years = 4 ECA; Each ECA = 4 sessions). Activity 2.1.2	44,000
Palora-Pastaza	30 participants / per 2-day event	Implementation of workshops for ECA in each connectivity corridor (Palora-Pastaza). (1 ECA/year x 2 years = 4 ECA; Each ECA = 4 sessions). Activity 2.1.2	44,000
Palora-Pastaza	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop to present the bioeconomy initiative component and competitive funds (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 2.2.1	5,500
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop to present the bioeconomy initiative component and competitive funds (Putumayo-Aguarico) Activity 2.2.1	5,500

Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops for knowledge exchanges on bioeconomy initiatives (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 2.2.1	11,000
Palora-Pastaza	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops for knowledge exchanges on bioeconomy initiatives (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 2.2.1	11,000
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Final workshop to present the results of the bioeconomy initiatives. (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 2.2.1	11,000
Palora-Pastaza	30 participants / per 2-day event	Final workshop to present the results of the bioeconomy initiatives. (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 2.2.1	11,000
TOTAL COMPONENT 2			187,000
COMPONENT 3. Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity			
Quito	30 participants / per 2-day event	National workshop with the MAAE and other authorities to define the interinstitutional governance platforms for the connectivity corridors. Activity 3.1.1	5,500
Putumayo – Aguarico	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops with GADs and key stakeholders in each corridor for the design of the interinstitutional governance platforms. (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 3.1.1	5,500
Palora-Pastaza	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops with GADs and key stakeholders in each corridor for the design of the interinstitutional governance platforms. (Paisaje Palora-Pastaza). Activity 3.1.1	5,500
Quito	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop to present the proposal of policies and regulations for the interinstitutional governance platforms. Activity 3.1.1	5,500
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop for the analysis of alternatives, definition of the structure and regulations, and governance model for the corridors. (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 3.1.2	11,000
Palora-Pastaza (Puyo)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop for the analysis of alternatives, definition of the structure and regulations, and governance model for the corridors.	11,000

		(Paisaje Palora-Pastaza). Activity 3.1.2	
Quito	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop for the effectivity evaluation of the model in each connectivity corridor. (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 3.1.2	11,000
Palora-Pastaza	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop for the effectivity evaluation of the model in each connectivity corridor. (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 3.1.2	11,000
Putumayo – Aguarico (Lago Agrio)	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop for capacity-building in planning, management and monitoring of connectivity corridors. (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 3.1.3	22,000
Palora-Pastaza	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshop for capacity-building in planning, management and monitoring of connectivity corridors. (Paisaje Palora-Pastaza). Activity 3.1.3	22,000
TOTAL COMPONENT 3			110,000
Component 4. Monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management, and regional coordination			
Alternating: Quito, Puyo, Lago Agrio Output 4.2	30 participants / per 2-day event	Annual planning workshop to build on and capitalize on lessons-learned. Activity 4.2.1	35,000
Lago Agrio Output 4.2	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops for effective coordination at a national level and with the ASL Program (Putumayo-Aguarico). Activity 4.2.1	27,500
Puyo Output 4.2	30 participants / per 2-day event	Workshops for effective coordination at a national level and with the ASL Program (Palora-Pastaza). Activity 4.2.1	27,500
TOTAL COMPONENT 4			90,000
Project Management Costs (PMC)			
N/A			
TOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT COSTS (PMC)			

Equipment / Goods

Under this project CI-Ecuador will not procure any equipment greater than $5,000 per unit, all the goods that the project is planning to incur is detailed in the following table. The total budget for this category is **$70.236** that is **1.093%** of the total budget.

Table 8.2.6 Equipment / Goods

Equipment Budgeted	Project Justification for equipment	Location	Total Costs
Component 1. Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes			
Laptops, docking stations and computer equipment.	3 units. Work tools for field staff to draft reports and conduct day-to-day activities.	Field office	7,500
Printer / Copier	3 units. Printers for offices for printing, scanning and copying.	Field office and CI-Ecuador	12,000
InReach service	InReach service. Emergency service for safety of field staff in the field.	Field office	1,248
External hardrive	Backup information.	Field office / CI-Ecuador	1,800
Office equipment	Dividers, shelves, cables and electrical installation of offices in the field for adequate work conditions.	Field office	5,500
TOTAL COMPONENT 1			28,048
Component 2. Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors			
Laptops, docking stations and computer equipment.	3 units. Work tools for field staff to draft reports and conduct day-to-day activities.	Field office	7,500
in focus / projector	Work tool for meetings, workshops and events.	Field office	3,200
GPS	For monitoring, zoning of farms and mapping areas.	Field office	1,840
Inreach service	InReach service. Emergency service for safety of field staff in the field.	Field office	1,248
First Aid Kits	For field staff when implementing activities in the field	Field office	200
Office equipment	Dividers, shelves, cables and electrical installation of offices in the field for adequate work conditions.	Field office	5,500
COVID PCR Tests	PCR Tests to ensure safety and health of project staff.	TBD	1,700

TOTAL COMPONENT 2			21,188
COMPONENT 3. Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity			
Laptops, docking stations and computer equipment.	2 units. Work tools for field staff to draft reports and conduct day-to-day activities.	Field office	5,000
Office equipment	Dividers, shelves, cables and electrical installation of offices in the field for adequate work conditions.	Field office	5,500
TOTAL COMPONENT 3			10,500
Component 4. Monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management, and regional coordination			
Laptops, docking stations and computer equipment. Output 4.2	2 units. Work tools for field staff to draft reports and conduct day-to-day activities.	Field office	5,000
Office equipment Output 4.2	Dividers, shelves, cables and electrical installation of offices in the field for adequate work conditions.	Field office	5,500
TOTAL COMPONENT 4			10,500
Project Management Costs (PMC)			
N/A			
TOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT COSTS (PMC)			

Other Direct Costs

The Other Direct Costs budgeted at USD 517,215.93 includes the required costs associated with the startup and maintenance of project offices located in Quito and Field Project sites (Table 8.2.7). The budgeted costs are based on previous experience and is below 8% of the total project costs.

Table 8.2.7 Other Direct Costs

Description	Project Justification	Total Project Costs
Component 1. Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes		

Internet and Communication Costs	Normal internet and communication costs associated with project implementation.	19,112.89
Office Operating Costs	Regular office operating costs associated with normal project implementation.	9,556.45
Office Rent	Project office rent, Palora and Putumayo	95,564.45
PASC	Costs specific to CI´s Ecuador office (Quito) that support the operation of its portfolio of projects. It includes costs such as local administrative support staff salaries and benefits, rent, utilities, and telephone/internet services for the Ecuador office (Quito). These costs are allocated proportionally to projects based on salary costs charged to each project for staff based in Ecuador.	57,186
Carbon offset	Costs associated with mitigating carbon emissions for project travel and operations.	496,94
TOTAL COMPONENT 1		**181,916.73**
Component 2. Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors		
Internet and Communication Costs	Normal internet and communication costs associated with project implementation.	19,112.89
Office Operating Costs	Regular office operating costs associated with normal project implementation.	9,556.45
Project Administrative Support Costs (PASC)	Costs specific to CI´s Ecuador office (Quito) that support the operation of its portfolio of projects. It includes costs such as local administrative support staff salaries and benefits, rent, utilities, and telephone/internet services for the Ecuador office (Quito). These costs are allocated proportionally to projects based on salary costs charged to each project for staff based in Ecuador.	53,424
TOTAL COMPONENT 2		**82,093.34**
COMPONENT 3. Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity		
Internet and Communication Costs	Normal internet and communication costs associated with project implementation.	19,112.89
Office Operating Costs	Regular office operating costs associated with normal project implementation.	9,556.45
Project Administrative Support Costs (PASC)	Costs specific to CI´s Ecuador office (Quito) that support the operation of its portfolio of projects. It includes costs such as local administrative support staff salaries and benefits, rent, utilities, and telephone/internet services for the Ecuador office (Quito). These costs are allocated proportionally to projects based on salary costs charged to each project for staff based in Ecuador.	32,532
TOTAL COMPONENT 3		**61,201.34**

COMPONENT 4. Monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management, and regional coordination		
Internet and Communication Costs	Normal internet and communication costs associated with project implementation.	19,112.89
Office Operating Costs	Regular office operating costs associated with normal project implementation.	9,556.45
PASC	Costs specific to CI´s Ecuador office (Quito) that support the operation of its portfolio of projects. It includes costs such as local administrative support staff salaries and benefits, rent, utilities, and telephone/internet services for the Ecuador office (Quito). These costs are allocated proportionally to projects based on salary costs charged to each project for staff based in Ecuador.	54,858
TOTAL COMPONENT 4		**85,527.34**
Project Management Costs (PMC)		
Insurance for equipment	Required insurance for project equipment.	25,483.85
Maintenance of Equipment	Required for proper operation of office equipment.	9,540.52
Office Supplies	Basic and necessary office supplies for day-to-day operation of the offices.	10,352.82
Project Administrative Support Costs (PASC)	Costs specific to CI´s Ecuador office (Quito) that support the operation of its portfolio of projects. It includes costs such as local administrative support staff salaries and benefits, rent, utilities, and telephone/internet services for the Ecuador office (Quito). These costs are allocated proportionally to projects based on salary costs charged to each project for staff based in Ecuador.	23,100.01
Annual Audit	Required annual financial audit, $8.000 per year	40,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT COSTS (PMC)		**108,477.20**

2.8.3 Project Management Costs (PMC)

A total of **USD 305,871** has been budgeted for Project Management Costs, which includes the salaries for project management team, consultancies for the fiscal evaluations and office supplies (**Table 8.3**). The budgeted PMC cost is **4.76%** of the total project costs.

Table 8.3 PMC Summary Budget

Line item	**Total**
Salaries and Benefits	*197,394*
Consultants	*40,000*
Grants and Agreements	
Travel	
Workshops	

Equipment	
Other Direct Costs	*68,477*
TOTAL PMC	*305,871*
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	*6,423,853*
% PMC OF TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	*4.76%*

2.8.4 Monitoring and Evaluation, knowledge management and regional coordination (COMPONENT 4)

M&E component has been budgeted with **USD 946,183** for five years (**Table 8.4**), which includes staff time, office running costs, and project planning, review, monitoring & evaluations. The total budgeted cost for Monitoring & Evaluation component is **14.73%** of the total project cost.

Table 8.4 M&E Summary Budget

Line item	**Total**
Salaries and Benefits	*149,754*
Consultants	*70,000*
Grants and Agreements	
Travel & Workshops	
Equipment	
Other Direct Costs	*16,420*
TOTAL M&E	*236,174*
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	*6,423,853*
% M&E OF TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	*3.67%*

2.8.5 Safeguards

Throughout the development of the project strategy, the gender, safeguards, and stakeholder engagement consultant advised on how to appropriately incorporate safeguards especially regarding Indigenous People and FPIC. The project budget includes the following:

- Costs for a full-time gender and environmental and social safeguards specialist (staff) to work with the PMU and field office for 4 years of the project period (included in project staff table above); and
- Budget for travel costs, workshops and meetings for safeguards monitoring (Included in travel and workshops and meetings tables, above)

2.8.6 Project Co-financing

Co-financing to the project (**Table 8.6.1**) comes, in first place, from the MAAE, with USD 20,000,000 of in-kind/recurrent support which is comprised of staff and operational costs for coordination and planning, and for management of the protected areas. The SCTEA will provide grant/investment mobilized co-financing of USD 20,000,000 from the revolving fund of the Amazon, destined towards supporting the implementation of the PIA, that includes grants for GADs and indigenous groups to implement conservation and sustainable production activities, as well as land-use planning and intersectoral governance platforms. This is defined as investment

mobilized as this funds are additional to those received via the national public budget, operationalized via specific grants to local governments, to implement activities related to sustainable development and conservation in the CTEA. . The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock will provide USD 1,290,689 in-kind/recurrent co-finance, to cover staff time and operational costs,for activities related to the ECAs and capacity-building of smallholder producers in Component 2. WWF Ecuador co-finance is comprised of investment mobilized with a total of USD 2,000,000 in grants from xxx which will contribute to work with indigenous peoples, life plans, and bioeconomy initiatives in the Putumayo Aguarico landscape. WWF US co-finance is in-kind and is comprised with a total amount of USD 770,862, which covers staff time as co-finance to the project management costs. CI-Ecuador co-finance is identified as investment mobilized, made up of a total amount of USD 1,000,000, in grants from xxxx, to support field technical and financial activities related to the project, specifically for conservation management strengthening, bioeconomy initiatives, and connectivity corridor governance. The co-finance of the PMC (from MAAE, MAG and WWF) will be used to cover CI-Ecuador, WWF, MAAE, and MAG staff time related to the overall execution and management of the project. In addition, it will be used to cover MAAE and MAG operational costs associated with project management.

Table 8.6.1 Co-financing

Name of Co-financier	Type	Amount
Ministry of Environment and Water (MAAE)	In-kind	20,000,000
Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock	In-kind	1,290,689
WWF-US	In-kind	770,862
CI-Ecuador	Grant	1,000,000
WWF-Ecuador	Grant	2,000,000
Amazon Special Territorial Circumscription (SCTEA)	Grant	20,000,000
TOTAL		**USD 45,061,551**

SECTION 3: GEF ALIGNMENT AND JUSTIFICATION

3.1 Incremental Cost Reasoning and Global Environmental Benefits

Building off a baseline of sectoral-focused and site-specific interventions on connectivity corridors, biodiversity conservation, sustainable agricultural production, and bioeconomy initiatives, the GEF funds incremental value will be to:

a. Establish a connectivity corridor in each intervention landscape as a conservation area, following the provisions of the recently issued Ministerial Agreement 019 on May 22, 2020, of the MAAE. This outcome is of strategic importance for the conservation of the Ecuadorian Amazon region, especially for the maintenance and recovery of biological connectivity among the natural areas that are part of the SNAP, BVP, PSB, and of the collective territories of indigenous peoples.

b. Promote bioeconomy initiatives and sustainable agricultural production practices in strategic locations of the two project landscapes, to decrease fragmentation and threats to the connectivity corridors, and ensure their long-term functionality.

c. Create multi-level coordination and governance mechanisms for the territorial management of the connectivity corridors; strengthen technical capacities of the main public entities involved in territorial management as well as leaders of indigenous peoples; and incorporate ecological connectivity aspects in the existing territorial planning processes in the two project landscapes, and the different levels of government.

Table 6: Summary of Incremental Value and Global Environmental Benefits

Component	Baseline (¨business as usual¨) Scenario	Alternative Scenario (with GEF project)	Global Environmental Benefits
Component 1: Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes.	Under the business-as-usual scenario, PAs, and other conservation areas, in the two project landscapes, will continue to be managed on an approach centered on “site management” with the support of the PASNAP, the socio bosque project and others, and outside of this conservation islands, the amazon forests will continue to suffer degradation and fragmentation processes. The country has recently approved the ecological connectivity model through the Ministerial Agreement No. MAE-2020-019, but under a business-	The GEF project aims at improving the ecological connectivity of the two priority landscapes, Putumayo – Aguarico and Palora-Pastaza, by establishing two connectivity corridors. The project will provide technical assistance to support the implementation of the Ministerial Agreement No. MAE-2020-19, creating technical capacities, and applying the approved connectivity model in two priority landscapes. The project will support development of technical analysis to select the best connectivity corridor routes	Increase area of terrestrial PAs – connectivity corridors-created. HCV amazon forests protected.

Component	Baseline (¨business as usual¨) Scenario	Alternative Scenario (with GEF project)	Global Environmental Benefits
	as-usual scenario, the implementation of this model, in the two project landscapes, faces several institutional, technical, and financial shortcomings.	in the two project landscapes, based on geospatial, social economic, cultural, ecological, and political criteria. The project will also create multisectoral participatory governance platforms and management instruments for the two new corridors to ensure the interinstitutional coordination and integration of connectivity objectives across the territorial governance of the landscapes.	
Component 2: Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors.	Under the current business-as-usual scenario, in the project landscapes, the expansion of agricultural frontier and the unsustainable agricultural practices will continue to create deforestation, habitat loss and habitat fragmentation of amazon forests. There are several initiatives from government and partners to promote SLM in the productive sector of the amazon region (ATPA), but these initiatives have not been able yet to solve barriers such as of lack of technical capacity in SLM agricultural production practices in the project landscapes. Support to alternative sustainable livelihoods, based on the sustainable use of forest resources – bioeconomy initiatives, is still very limited in the two project landscapes (BMZ Bioeconomy program, CI, WWF Ecuador projects), and not specifically oriented to support biological connectivity in the landscapes.	The GEF project seeks to decrease threats to connectivity in the two proposed corridors, by promoting sustainable agriculture production practices in key areas of the corridors, based on connectivity – threats assessments. The project will deliver trainings and operational support to selected producers to implement land-use planning and SLM practices at a farm level. In the connectivity corridors, the project will also promote alternative bioeconomy initiatives to reduce pressure on native forests and incentivize alternative forest friendly income generating initiatives.	Reduced threats to biological connectivity in the two project landscapes. Amazon landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems. Amazon landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity.

Component	Baseline (¨business as usual¨) Scenario	Alternative Scenario (with GEF project)	Global Environmental Benefits
Component 3: Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity.	The recent approval of the Ministerial Agreement No. MAE-2020-019 sets the foundations for the ecological connectivity model in Ecuador. Despite this important achievement, there are still challenges that will difficult the correct implementation of the model. There are insufficient technical capacities across the different levels of government, for the effective implementation of the model, especially with regards to the coordination of relevant stakeholders with territorial management competences. In the two project landscapes there are insufficient resources and capacities for integrating biological connectivity objectives in the regional territorial planning instruments and in the local land use planning instruments (SCTEA PIA, local PDOTs and PUGS).	The project seeks to establish enabling conditions to overcome challenges identified in the baseline. The project will fill gaps in existing policies, technical and administrative instruments to implement and mainstream connectivity corridors in the two landscapes; The project will also create inter-institutional, inter-sectoral, and multi-level governance platforms for the participatory identification and management of the corridors. Increased alignment of territorial planning processes, increase technical capacities, and improved coordination of key local and national stakeholders will enable the sustainable and efficient management of the connectivity corridors.	Increase area of terrestrial PAs – connectivity corridors-created. HCV amazon forests protected.

The project will contribute to the following Global Environmental Benefits:

The project will contribute to improved protection of globally significant forest of the Amazon Biome in the key landscapes of Putamayo-Aguarico and Palora-Pastaza. The management of the landscape with a connectivity approach will protect forest and the habitat of associated species of global importance, such as the tapir and the jaguar that rely on connected forest habitat because they are large range species.

Terrestrial PAs created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use; The project will support the creation of one connectivity corridor in each of the project landscapes (one corridor in the Putumayo – Aguarico with an estimated area of 15,000 ha, and a second corridor in the Palora-Pastaza landscape, with an estimated area of 35,000 ha). Through Component 1, the project will undertake the processes needed to declare these 50,000 ha under protected status, based on the newly established COA and recently approved Ministerial Agreements.

Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding PAs);

Indicator 4.1: Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity: 118,000ha. This indicator captures the landscape area being managed to benefit biodiversity, but which is not certified. 18,000 has correspond to forest areas that will be sustainably managed by the bioeconomy initiatives as a result of project support. In addition, the project will work to mainstream and prioritize conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in each of the connectivity corridors, within local government PDOTs. The project will work to update the PDOTs to include connectivity corridors in their objectives, strategies, and priority investments that will result in an improved management of, at least, additional 100,000 has.

Indicator 4.3: Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems. In the two target landscapes, the project will implement actions related to sustainable production practices in a total of 2,000 ha.

The 120,000 ha reported under this Core Indicator 4 will be located in or around (in the buffer zones) the two new connectivity corridors to be officially designated under Component 1. The Core Indicator targets have been estimated based on a preliminary GIS analysis of potential connectivity corridors options in the two project landscapes (See Annex 2 of Project Document) and taking into account existing productive areas and existing baseline of complementary bioeconomy initiatives.

Greenhouse gas emission mitigated; Indicator 6.1: Carbon sequestered, or emissions avoided in the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector. The calculation of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions according to the official Ecuadorian methodology for the 4 years of project duration is 212,644 tonCO2. This amount considers the two landscapes of intervention and the deforestation rate for the country between 2014-2016.

The connectivity corridors to be established in the two landscapes will together add up to at least 50,000 hectares, the conservation of which will help prevent the emission of approximately 212,644 tons of CO2 eq.

The targets identified here will be delivered in the same area; by the end of the project 50,000 ha of forest will be designated as corridors (if there is stakeholder and IP support) for Indicator 1, and this same area will be counted under Indicator 4 on area under improved management outside of PAs, as it will be delivered before the area is designated as protected area (corridor). Likewise, avoided GHG emissions are estimated for this same area.

3.2 Alignment with GEF Focal Area and/or Impact Program Strategies

The project is aligned with the following GEF 7 Focal Area strategies:

Mainstream biodiversity across sectors and landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors (BD 1-1). The project intends to improve ecological connectivity and biodiversity conservation in two priority landscapes of the Ecuadorian

Amazon. To achieve this objective, the project will bring together multiple stakeholders in coordination platforms and will create enabling conditions to mainstream biological connectivity aspects in the existing territorial planning processes in the two project landscapes. Besides, the project will work with the agriculture sector in both landscapes, promoting the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation approaches in farming practices. The project will also work on strengthening bioeconomy initiatives, which will result in better managed forest areas in the two project landscapes.

Through Component 2, the project will **Reduce pressures on natural resources from competing for land uses and increase resilience on the broader landscape (LD 1-4),** by strengthening forest friendly bioeconomy initiatives that can be sustainable livelihood alternatives to local communities in the project landscapes.

Promoting effective coordination for sustainable forest management (SFM IP). The project is aligned to the ASL Program's Theory of Change of the ASL Program, which is founded on the logic that the ecological resilience of the Amazon biogeographical region can be maintained if:

(a) PAs' size, management and financing are increased so that a representative area of the Amazon is effectively conserved under various regimes (PAs, indigenous lands, Ramsar sites, etc.).

In the case of the Ecuador Child Project, thorught its Component 1, the project seeks to improve the ecological connectivity of two priority landscapes, the Putumayo – Aguarico and the Palora-Pastaza, in the Ecuadorian Amazon, through the establishment of two new connectivity corridors (PAs) and associated management mechanisms, to ensure the long-term biodiversity conservation of its ecosystems. The project seeks to increase a coverage of 50,000 ha of protected amazon forests in the two project landscapes.

(b) management of productive landscapes between PAs is improved, in particular that agriculture, forest and degraded lands and fresh water systems are adequately managed, with zero illegal deforestation tolerance, and increased productivity and adoption of land sparing approaches.

In the case of the Ecuador child project, through its Component 2, the project will seek to reduce threats to ecological connectivity in the landscapes, by promoting SLM practices in key productive areas of the new connectivity corridors. The project will also strengthen sustainable bioeconomy initiatives, to promote alternative sustainable livelihood options compatible with the conservation objectives of the corridors and financially profitable for local communities in the two new connectivity corridors.

(c) governance and incentives for protected and productive landscapes are enhanced though adoption of national policies and strategies which support sustainable development and aim to minimize deforestation and loss of ecosystem services.

In the case of the Ecuador Child Project, the project seeks to establish the enabling conditions for effective and participatory corridor management through three strategies: 1. Development of standards, public policy, technical or administrative instruments that contribute to the connectivity and integrated management of sustainable landscapes; 2. Strengthening key stakeholders' capacities for corridor management; and, 3. Establishment of inter-institutional, inter-sectoral, and multi-level governance platforms for the participatory identification and management of the corridors.

(d) key technical and institutional stakeholder capacity and regional cooperation are strengthened. A collaborative approach that combines these four elements with national and regional action can constitute the foundation of a truly integrated landscape management approach in the region.

In this regard, the Ecuador child project will promote spaces for dialogue and knowledge exchanges at the national level, to leverage successful strategies and lessons learned from other initiatives. The project will participate in the regional coordination and knowledge management spaces facilitated by the ASL Program.

3.3 Socioeconomic Benefits

The project will generate socio-economic benefits by maintaining and enhancing the resource base on which local communities in the two project landscapes rely for their livelihoods. By developing actions that lead to the conservation of biodiversity, the project will benefit the inhabitants of the prioritized landscapes by preserving ecosystem services, such as fresh water, a healthy environment, medicines, and food production (Component 1). As well-being of indigenous local communities in the two project landscapes largely depends upon natural ecosystems, indigenous populations in both landscapes (approximate 40% of the total population in the Putumayo-Aguarico landscape and 70% in the Palora-Pastaza landscape) will benefit from the conservation of their remaining forests, in line with their Life Plans and other land-use planning tools. Through an inclusive approach, the strategy of this project will benefit vulnerable groups, in particular indigenous peoples, women, and youth, strengthening their participation in formal decision-making platforms for connectivity corridor management (Component 3).

The project will strengthen existing bioeconomy initiatives, in the two project landscapes, that have the potential to succeed in local, national, and international markets, with the goal of strengthening and improving aspects of value addition and commercialization, resulting in inclusive socio-economic benefits for the involved communities. The project will support producers to strengthen market-driven value chains for bioeconomy initiatives, linked to biodiversity conservation, contributing to increasing their incomes as they follow a value chain approach with a market orientation. Existing bioeconomy initiatives in both landscapes, that could be supported are related to the sustainable harvest, process, and commercialization of sweet water fish like paiche (*arapaima gigas*) and cachama (*piaractus brachypomus*); citronella;

guayusa (*ilex guayusa*); ungurahua (*oenocarpus bataua*); turmeric, ishpingo (amazon cinnamon); morete (*mauritia flexuosa*); sacha inchi (amazon peanut); and community nature-based tourism. Increasing the profitability of sustainable production systems at the family level, will reduce direct pressures (ex. deforestation, land use change and illegal hunting) upon the native forest within the corridors.

3.4 Risks and proposed Mitigation Measures

Table 7 presents an overview of the identified risks that may impact the ability of the project to achieve its objective. Each risk has been rated as high (H), moderate (M), or low (L) based on (1) its probability of occurrence and (2) its potential impact on the success of the project. Measures to mitigate these risks have been integrated into project design and indicated in the table below. Given the importance of current risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, a separate analysis of risks and opportunities related to this global health crisis has also been included in Table 8 and Table 9. Lastly, a climate risk assessment has been conducted for the project and the results are presented in Table 10.

Table 7: Project risks and proposed mitigation measures

RISKS	RATING	MITIGATION MEASURE
Relevant national and local government institutions, with competences over project landscapes, have inadequate capacity or resources for supporting connectivity corridors, SLM and bioeconomy practices.	M	Capacity building activities to relevant stakeholders have been included in each of the project Components. Moreover, a dedicated Component on learning and sharing of experiences, at the national level, and with other ASL countries, has been included in Component 4. The project will strengthen capacities and collaboration with local governmental entities to establish cooperation mechanisms for connectivity corridors within their jurisdictions. The project will also establish work plans with NGOs and civil society organizations, to develop and implement project activities and harness current experience and investments to provide medium and long-term sustainability for the actions. The project will strengthen the collaboration and link with existing initiatives in the landscapes, like ATPA, PSB, PROAmazonía, to create synergies in creating institutional capacities at all levels and complement existing productive initiatives. The project will also strengthen capacities and emphasize role of GADs and indigenous and local communities in the implementation and monitoring of project activities.

RISKS	RATING	MITIGATION MEASURE
Lack of political will and commitment from institutional stakeholders for their effective participation in the different activities of the project, especially in the governance platforms of the connectivity corridors.	L	MoEW is the Lead Executing Agency of the project, and will chair the Project Steering Committee. It will also be represented in the Technical Committee and the Landscape Advisory Groups. The key public and private stakeholders at the national and local levels, will be represented in these advisory and decision-making bodies of the project (as described in Section 2.3. Institutional Arrangements) to ensure dialogue at political, managerial and technical levels as well as coherence in planning and implementation of Project interventions. Early on, during project execution, the project will establish collaboration agreements with governmental organizations at various levels to implement coordination platforms and involve various stakeholders to ensure more empowerment and sustainability over time. Through these participatory platforms, the project will ensure involvement of key landscape public and private sector and articulation with priority actions and investments in landscapes and corridors.
Insufficient interest from landowners and communities to adopt sustainable land management practices and activities to strengthen bioeconomy initiatives.	M	The project will focus, during the first year, on providing outreach to local producers in each landscape through workshops, meetings, visits, and promotional material, to gage their interest and work towards participating in the Program. Dialogue mechanisms will contribute to raise awareness on the need for sustainable interventions in the landscapes. Incentives will contribute to adoption of best practices. Gender and inter-cultural mainstreaming in training and technical assistance programs will also help raise awareness in a more inclusive way and gage interest from a broader variety of landscape stakeholders. Strengthening of value chains and improved market access for sustainable bioeconomy products will help encourage producers through improving their incomes.

RISKS	RATING	MITIGATION MEASURE
Lack of national or international demand for sustainable amazon products promoted by the bioeconomy initiatives strengthened by the project.	M	Selection of bioeconomy initiatives to be supported by the project will be based on preliminary feasibility assessments, that will include aspects as international and national potential markets. Systematization of available information on the demand for non-timber forest products, will allow the identification of potential markets for bioeconomy initiatives, including a specific analysis in each landscape. Based on those analysis, the bioeconomy initiatives to be supported by the project, will be selected, considering their potential linkages to internal and external markets. The support that the project will provide to the initiatives will be very focused on increasing business and marketing skills. The project will provide technical assistance to identify responsible markets and strategies for the bioeconomy initiatives to be able to access these markets.
Target groups, including indigenous peoples, women and youth are not adequately represented, able to participate or equitably benefit from project activities.	M	Indigenous peoples in the two project landscapes have been consulted and have provided their initial agreement to the project strategy. During the PPG consultation activities were undertaken in the two project landscapes presenting the Project proposed interventions and receiving inputs from local stakeholders (see stakeholder engagement section). During the project execution, an FPIC process will continue to ensure free, prior and informed consent to the project activities. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan during project execution will ensure that the project stakeholders are adequately engaged and fully participate and benefit from project activities. The Project mainstreams gender and inter-cultural approaches to encourage participation of indigenous peoples, women and youths and includes specific activities to ensure that this vulnerable groups can participate and benefit from project activities in an equitable manner.

Table 8: COVID 19 Risk analysis

Risk category	Potential Risk	Mitigations and Plans
Availability of technical expertise and capacity and changes in timelines	Ecuador has introduced and generalized containment and physical distancing measures, as well as implemented restrictions on population movement due to the COVID-19 pandemic (such as travel and meeting restrictions) which are likely to remain during project implementation and can limit travel, field activities and on-the-ground data collection. Project start-up period may be delayed beyond the usual time frame due to COVID-19 impacts and the use of remote technologies for consultation, decision making, and reviews.	The project annual work plan will be built with this in mind, for example, prioritizing local experts and consultants in each landscape, over international experts. Local consultants and local partners will be engaged for the implementation of project activities, and technology will be used to connect virtually, when face to face meetings and workshops are not an option. The PMU will discuss a strategy for project start-up that is effective, timely, and in accordance with the policies and restrictions of COVID-19. Timelines may need to be flexible to allow for quality and compliance.
Stakeholder engagement process	Travel and meeting restrictions limited face to face consultation at the sub-national and community levels during PRODOC development, which is likely to be the case in project implementation.	Local-level consultations, workshops, meetings will only be undertaken if they comply with national to local government guidelines and WWF guidelines, and follow COVID-19 safe protocols. Given the particularities that currently exist due to the pandemic, the use of virtual technologies and methodologies for remote stakeholder consultations will be available, reflecting each area's specificities and actor's particularities, to ensure that if face to face meetings are not possible, the project can advance implementation effectively with the use of remote meetings, as much as possible.

Risk category	Potential Risk	Mitigations and Plans
Enabling Conditions	It is anticipated that the Ecuadorian government will prioritize COVID-19 containment or recovery, and this may delay government and other partners' participation and inputs in the project.	The economic, social, environmental, and cultural conditions of the pandemic, COVID 19, and the associated assumptions, will be monitored by the project, for an early identification of related risks, and to adjust the project intervention accordingly, with mitigation measures that ensure achievement of desired impact. During the start-up of the project, the Project Steering Committee will discuss and monitor measures to ensure government and project partner ownership and timely participation. The landscape advisory groups will be platforms that will allow coordination between different government sectors around activities of the project and will allow for an early identification of risks and associated mitigation measures.
Financing	Changes in baseline and potential co-financing sources due to changes in government/project partner priorities, reduced funding availability, or due to delays until implementation.	Most of the co-financing identified for this project is relatively stable, but this will be monitored and additional co-financing will be sought where possible, if needed.
Impacts on project strategy	COVID-19 may impact access to markets for small-scale producers if travel restrictions remain in place in the implementation phase, which would affect the project strategy to increase market linkage.	The project will undertake a supply chain mapping exercise to see if and where COVID-19 risks are and identify specific mitigations based on that.
Future risk of similar crises	It is not anticipated that this project will have adverse impacts that might contribute to future pandemics; for example, there will be no focus on increasing the human-wildlife interface or any actions that cause degradation.	This will be closely reviewed in the ESSF screening (when sites are selected) and safeguards analysis and documentation.

Table 9: COVID-19 Opportunity Analysis

Opportunity Category	Potential	Project Plans
Can the project do more to protect and restore natural systems and their ecological functionality?	The project objective is to promote ecosystem biological connectivity in two key landscapes of the Ecuadorian Amazon, increasing the area of natural ecosystems protected, and limiting forest fragmentation and degradation.	The project will focus on two priority landscapes of the Ecuadorian Amazon, that have significant Global Environmental values under threat. To preserve the environmental services of the landscapes and ensure the protection of their biological connectivity processes and biodiversity, the project will create two “connectivity corridors”, following the national regulations. The project will work with stakeholder platforms, in a participatory process, to ensure involvement of key landscape public and private sector. Through these participatory platforms, the project will ensure that the corridor's planning and management instrument is articulated with priority actions and investments in landscapes and corridors.
Can the project include a focus on production landscapes and land-use practices within them to decrease the risk of human/nature conflicts?	Yes. The project will Increase, in both landscapes, the areas under sustainable land management practices in productive systems.	Component 2 seeks to decrease threats to connectivity in the two proposed corridors, by promoting sustainable agriculture production practices in key areas of the corridors, based on the assessments done in Component 1. In those key productive areas, the project will promote land-use planning at a farm level and SLM practices. In the connectivity corridors, the project will also promote alternative bioeconomy initiatives to reduce pressure on native forests and incentivize alternative forest friendly income generating initiatives. The project will provide technical and financial assistance in the formulation and implementation of business plans that allow producers to access opportunities in the respective value chains.

Opportunity Category	Potential	Project Plans
Can the project innovate in climate change mitigation and engaging with the private sector?	Greenhouse gas emissions can be mitigated. The project has a specific focus on working with private sector (IPs and small agriculture producers) in both landscapes.	According to the official Ecuadorian methodology for the 4-year duration of the project, the calculation of GHG emissions is 212,644 tons of CO2 avoided, and 50,000 ha under different conservation and sustainable use mechanisms 212,644 tons of CO2 eq avoided.

Table 10: Climate Risk Analysis

Putumayo – Aguarico and Palora – Pastaza Landscapes	Climate Risk	Climate Impact	How is the project addressing this risk?
Increasing Temperatures	Between the years 1960 and 2010 mean temperatures in Ecuador have increased as well as spatial and seasonal precipitation variations. A trend toward rising temperatures was identified based on data from 14 weather stations located in different geographical regions of Ecuador.18 30 years from today the mean temperature across Ecuador will be 1°C -3°C warmer than the mean temperature today.[19]	The increasing temperatures in the Ecuadorian Amazon Forest have affected some plants' and animals' life cycles, which could contribute to biodiversity loss. For example, now it is more common to find the chytridiomycosis pathological fungus in toads, which fatally affects them. The indigenous communities observe that the seasons for harvesting and hunting have changed, which has affected their dietary customs.	By increasing the coverage of PAs and the biological connectivity of the landscapes, the project will increase resilience of the landscapes forest ecosystems and local populations to climate change impacts by maintaining healthy ecosystems. The project further promotes new bioeconomy initiatives compatible with the conservation of the Amazon forest, ensuring viable and environmentally sustainable livelihood alternatives for the communities in the project's landscapes.

[18] Republic of Ecuador, 2019. First Contribution Determined at The National Level For The Paris Agreement Under The United Nations Framework Convention On Climate Change.
[19] Harris et al., 2014: Updated high-resolution grids of monthly climatic observations – CRU TS3.10: The Climatic Research Unit (CRU) Time Series (TS) Version 3.10 Dataset, Int. J. Climatology, 34(3), 623-642, doi: 10.1002/joc3711; updated from previous version of CRU TS3.xx (most recent use in CCKP: TS3.24).

Putumayo – Aguarico and Palora – Pastaza Landscapes	Climate Risk	Climate Impact	How is the project addressing this risk?
Flooding	Flooding is the most common climate event in Ecuador and is exacerbated by fluctuations in precipitation patterns. Serious, long-term flooding occurs in the Aguarico region particularly around the Napo river. Data has demonstrated that flooding is expected to increase, predicting that by 2050 precipitation will increase by 3%, causing more flood events in the area.[20]	Increased precipitation is expected to lead to an annual increase of 90.35mm of rainwater by 2040 which will lead to more flood events. Floods are responsible for most of the landslides that occur in Ecuador. Flooding events and landslides lead to severe socioeconomic and environmental impacts by damaging infrastructure and agricultural assets. Some communities located in the low amazon basin have lost their agriculture (caffe, cacao) products due to flooding.	The project will improve the management of agricultural production areas through the implementation of sustainable land management practices in key productive areas of the landscapes, that will increase resilience of agriculture systems to negative impacts of climate change. The project will create governance platforms that will facilitate the internal coordination of local communities and local governments. This coordination mechanism could facilitate an effective response to climate change negative impacts. The project will promote sustainable livelihood options for the corridor communities via the strengthening of bioeconomy initiatives, that are compatible with the biodiversity conservation of the corridors and that will improve the adaptive capacity of the local population.
Landslides	Landslides are the second most frequent climate disaster in Ecuador. The mountainous regions in central Ecuador are at a low to medium risk of	96% of the urban population of Ecuador live within the coastal and mountainous regions of the country.22 Some regions in the Amazon forest are more susceptible to	Landslides in the project landscapes have, primarily, occurred next to deforested areas. By tackling threats to deforestation in the project landscapes, and increasing coverage of protected

[20] Harris et al. 2014.
[22] Ministry of Environment. 2000.

Putumayo – Aguarico and Palora – Pastaza Landscapes	Climate Risk	Climate Impact	How is the project addressing this risk?
	landslides, with part of the Pastaza province being affected.21 The more Northern Aguarico region is less susceptible to landslides, with a moderate to low risk.	landslides which can result in lives lost and infrastructure damages that impact the economy.	forested areas, the project will be contributing to increased resilience to this potential climate impact. The project will create governance platforms that will facilitate the internal coordination of local communities and local governments. This coordination mechanism could facilitate an effective response to climate change negative impacts.

3.5 Consistency with National Priorities or Plans

The proposed project, *Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of two priority landscapes in the Ecuadorian Amazon Region* is consistent with the provisions of the current political and regulatory instruments, including, among others: *the Constitution of the Republic of Ecuador (2008); the national objectives*, general strategies and priorities established in *the National Plan for Good Living 2009 - 2013*; in various sectoral policies and agendas; and in various presidential decrees, without excluding the international political context around climate change, where the UNFCCC[23] and its subsidiary bodies are the most important referent.

Ecuador has taken essential steps towards forest conservation and the reduction of greenhouse emissions, establishing critical goals and objectives regarding the environmental problem in concrete instruments such as *the National Development Plan 2017-2021[24], the Territorial Strategy National[25], the National Strategy for Climate Change,* and *the REDD + Action Plan.*The project is fully aligned to these instruments, the national priorities for biodiversity and forests, and contributes directly towards Ecuador's implementation of international conventions, especially *the Convention on Biological Diversity[26] (CBD)*.

[21] UNEP's Global Risk Data Platform, Columbia University Center for Hazards and Risk Research (CHRR), and Columbia University Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN) and Instituto Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología – INAMHI.
[23] https://unfccc.int
[24] https://observatorioplanificacion.cepal.org/es/planes/plan-nacional-de-desarrollo-2017-2021-toda-una-vida-de-ecuador
[25] https://observatorioplanificacion.cepal.org/es/marcos-regulatorios/estrategia-territorial-nacional-de-ecuador
[26] https://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=ec

The project will contribute towards *the National Development Plan 2017*-2021 and its Goal 1: guarantee a dignified life with equal opportunities for all people; Goal 3: Guarantee the rights of nature for current and future generations and Goal 5: Boost productivity and competitiveness for sustainable economic growth in a redistributive and supportive way; through improving biodiversity conservation and sustainable economic activities. In this context, the project will organize its intervention in the landscapes of Putumayo - Aguarico (north) and Palora - Pastaza (south) of the Ecuadorian Amazon using six strategies: territorial management, multilevel governance, production chain, technical support and training, associativity and institutional strengthening.

The project is consistent with *The National Territorial Strategy* and its objectives to enhance the territories' capacities, articulate interventions to national goals, and define concrete guidelines for decentralized and decentralized public action. This means harmonious coordination between national and sub-national planning through multilevel governance; and effective, participatory, and permanent mechanisms for monitoring, evaluation, and accountability.

The proposed project and Component 2: Developing sustainable economic activities for the productive management of landscapes will contribute to *The National Strategy for Climate Change* and its commitment to reducing vulnerability and GHG emissions. This national strategy aims to strengthen the capacity of social, economic, and environmental systems to face climate change impacts and create favorable conditions for the adoption of measures that reduce GHG emissions and increase carbon sinks in strategic sectors.

The project will contribute towards the REDD+ Action Plan and its work promoting climate change mitigation actions that point to the convergence of the country's environmental and development agendas, with a territorial focus. This action plan is part of the National Strategy on Climate Change, which guides the implementation of measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the country, create favorable conditions to adopt them in priority mitigation sectors, and promote carbon capture and storage.

The present project will support the strengthening of three pillars of the CBD, namely conservation, sustainable utilization, and benefit-sharing through national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Ecuador's principal policy to conserve its biodiversity has been establishing the PANE[27]. This project supports this strategy through the improvement and protection of corridors and the conservation of biodiversity.

The proposed project will support the implementation of priority actions linked to the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans[28] to meet the Aichi Targets. Among the Aichi Targets, this proposed project will contribute to the progress of the following: Aichi Target 5, loss of natural habitat, including forests; Aichi Target 7 concerning sustainable management of agriculture and forests to ensure the conservation of biodiversity; and Aichi Target 14 related to maintaining ecosystem services to contribute to livelihoods.

The project is based on the priorities of *The Organic Law for Integrated Planning of the Special Territorial Circumscription (2018)*[29] and directly supports the implementation of this strategy. This project is aligned with the objective of the Ecuadorian Government of promoting a new legal and institutional framework that seeks to develop a new development model for the CTEA, prioritizing

[27] https://www.ambiente.gob.ec/proyecto-pane/
[28] https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/
[29] http://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC183778/

biodiversity conservation and natural resource management as strategic sectors and establishing collective rights so that local populations primarily indigenous peoples, can benefit from the environment. Also, the project is aligned with *The National Environmental Policy of Ecuador*[30]and its main objective to determine the economic value of strategic renewable resources (air, water, soil, and biodiversity) to prior low impact productive activities and accurate, sustainable mechanisms. The project will help address urgent conservation priorities, improve ecological connectivity, biodiversity conservation, and forest friendly production activities.

Other national-level priorities and policies this project will work in parallel with and build upon include the following: The National Biodiversity Policy and Strategy: 2015-2030[31] which includes themes that are interconnected with the objectives of the proposed project, including strengthening the SNAP, sustainable agriculture, and the rehabilitation of degrading areas. It also identifies connectivity corridors as opportunities to meet Ecuador's target of reducing terrestrial habitat loss by 15 percent. The project is also aligned with The Forest Partnership Program[32], focuses on ensuring the protection of the forest, and their economic, ecological, and cultural values; the reduction of deforestation rates; and the improvement of the living conditions.

Ecuador has also directly aligned each Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) with the objectives, policies, and National Development Plan goals. The proposed project follows these objectives and aims to strengthen national planning exercises, monitoring, and evaluating two natural PAs. The Ecuador Government sees in the 2030 agenda an opportunity to generate synergies between various actors for genuinely sustainable development at the economic, social, and environmental levels.

3.6 Innovativeness, Sustainability & Potential for Scaling up

Innovativeness

The project is the first one in Ecuador that will implement the newly approved connectivity model (Ministerial Agreement 2020 – 019) by creating two connectivity corridors through a science based, inclusive, and participatory model for biodiversity conservation in the two key project landscapes. Through the connectivity corridors, the project will demonstrate how to implement an integrated landscape management approach in a diverse mosaic, integrating conservation with sustainable production areas to decrease threats to native vegetation and its ecosystem services.

In addition, with the more traditional agricultural products, this project will not only promote agrobiodiversity and best agricultural practices, but it will also directly link those practices with conservation agreements to ensure conservation and production benefits. Through the connectivity corridors, the project will integrate innovative governance strategies for diversified and inclusive conservation platforms: a) multi-stakeholder and inter-institutional platforms where agreements are generated at various levels for land management, conservation priorities, production practices and use of natural resources, using a sustainable landscapes approach focused on biodiversity conservation; b) inter-institutional coordination in and between the MAAE, MAG, SCTEA and local governments, as well as with local stakeholders; and c) participatory

[30] The National Environmental Policy Approved in December 2009, the national environmental policy of Ecuador is based on three main areas: institutional management of environmental issues, consideration of the physical limits of ecosystems and social participation.

[31] https://plataformacelac.org/politica/531

[32] https://www.ambiente.gob.ec/programa-socio-bosque/

approaches that implement FPIC to safeguard indigenous peoples' rights, demonstrating how social participation will be strengthened in a newly established conservation mechanism.

Sustainability

The project will design and implement a connectivity model that will go beyond the life of the project, strengthening capacities at the national level to implement the newly developed public policy instrument (Ministerial Agreement 019) related to connectivity conservation mechanisms in Ecuador outside of traditional PAs. By integrating diverse stakeholders in the design and management of the connectivity corridors, including but not exclusively the MAAE, this project seeks empowerment of diverse local stakeholders to sustain the corridors beyond the project lifetime. Embedding the corridor approach in local level planning will contribute to the long-term protection of the landscapes, after project close. Furthermore, the active participation of key stakeholders in planning, decision-making, and workshops to strengthen their capacities for sustainable production and to understand the benefits of biodiversity will ensure acceptance of the corridor-wide land-use strategies and management plans. By increasing knowledge on best agricultural practices and bioeconomy initiatives, the project seeks to ensure that communities and local stakeholders will commit to conserving existing forests, understanding the importance of these vital ecosystems to thrive. Financial sustainability is a key element of Component 1 in this project, aiming at ensuring the long-term implementation of the connectivity corridors. Innovative financial mechanisms will be developed with support from key stakeholders and decision makers, including the following: leverage co-financing of sustainable production programs and mainstreaming conservation initiatives; harnessing conservation financing mechanisms; seeking sustainable landscape partnerships for connectivity corridor management; among other.

Potential for Scaling up

This project will implement the two first connectivity corridors that will follow the guidance from the recently approve Ministerial Agreement, using an integrated landscape approach in the two key Amazonian landscapes. The experiences and lessons gained with the project can be adapted and scaled up to other regions in Ecuador with cultural and biological diversity, especially where connectivity and biodiversity-friendly landscapes are needed for ecological processes and wildlife with large ranges or dispersal needs. This project will also provide MAAE and SCTEA with tools to better integrate programs and public policies and it will directly contribute to the sustainability goals of Ecuador as well as national amazon priorities. Additionally, by linking field-level interventions with national-level policy dialogue and capacity building at local and national level, this project will build the necessary building blocks that can be used for scaling up, including the following:

- Capacity building on connectivity corridors and landscape approaches to key government and non-government stakeholders.
- The development and implementation of guidelines and training packages on best agricultural practices linked to biodiversity conservation.
- The design, implementation and documentation of multi-stakeholder and inter-sectoral platforms for conservation management.

3.7 Lessons learned during project preparation and from other relevant projects.

The project design considered several key lessons learned from GEF and non-GEF projects and programs related to integrated landscape management, biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, bioeconomy and biological corridors in Ecuador. During project preparation, an extensive review of projects documents[33,34,35] was done, and lessons learnt from those experiences were integrated into project design. Additionally, the almost 2 years of implementation of the ASL I Program left emerging lessons that were incorporated in the proposed project design and that will continue to guide the project in its execution phase (see Annex 8 for a list of Lessons Learnt from the ASL I Program). Those lessons, together with the lessons learnt by the project preparation team during the project preparation phase, are summarized below:

- There is some evidence that projects within bio corridors increase coordination efforts amongst the various projects. At present, however, most projects in Ecuador still operate as isolated projects, even though they participate in broader-scale (Biocorridor and territorial) planning exercises and have benefited from understanding, and being part of, the bigger picture. It will be essential to build further on coordinated efforts between projects if ecological connectivity is to be achieved.
- The adoption and implementation of a connectivity corridor requires a strong coordination and integration with a series of existing territorial management instruments and planning tools such as the PUGs at the cantonal level; the PDOT at the provincial level; and the PIA at the Amazon level as a special territorial constituency, in charge of the SCTEA (more detail is presented in Section 1.5 of the Baseline).
- Parish-level GADs associate easier to field-level project management units than to “high”-level government agencies, because of their more closeness with people and field practices, their shorter communication lines and decision-making processes.
- For the adoption of local practices which are positive for the management of wildlife it is important to secure and demonstrate the direct benefits for the communities at the same time or even before environmental benefits.
- Ensure all the production-oriented activities supported by projects are strategic and that they can indeed be expected to result in the decreased pressure on target ecosystems. And that the production-oriented activities are aimed strategically at the stakeholders who present the greatest threat to the target ecosystem and who have the most significant

[33] Mid-term Review: Sustainable Development of the Ecuadorian Amazon: Integrated management of multiple-use landscapes and high-value conservation forests (March 2020). https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/evaluations/detail/12449#

[34] Terminal Evaluation: Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme Ecuador. GEF, 2015. https://sgp.undp.org/all-documents/country-documents/658-op5-gef-sgp-ecuador-terminal-evaluation/file.html

[35] Terminal Evaluation: Advancing landscape approaches in Ecuador’s National Protected Area System to improve conservation of globally endangered wildlife (February 2019). https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4831/213591/1721473/1737417/PIMS%204831%20Ecuador%20BD%20Wildlands%20Terminal%20Evaluation%20March%202019.docx

potential for conserving it. Considering the gender dimension in the selection of diverse agricultural practices can create more social and environmental co-benefits.

- It is important to include appropriate scientific expertise in biodiversity conservation projects. Apply greater scientific rigor in pursuing the conservation objective. This includes developing a stronger ecological monitoring system, providing more scientific input and direction regarding ecological connectivity activities to be undertaken at the individual project level and between projects within the same bio corridors, and developing a refined strategy for achieving ecological connectivity.

- Pursue collaboration with other relevant larger-scale conservation and agroecology projects (many of which are GEF projects) & programs to enhance impact and sustainability. Do not expand into new territories except when linkages to other larger-scale conservation or agroecology efforts compel such an expansion.

- Strengthen the relationship between GEF projects and the Ministry of Environment, MAAE, the environmental authority of Ecuador, to ensure a continued coordinated approach to further developing bio corridors and permit greater collaboration with other projects.

- Stakeholders should be more effectively informed by different means about the objectives and results achieved. They must have a communication and dissemination strategy for program information. Autonomous entities must be involved from the beginning to make greater ownership that contributes to achieving the expected results.

- When working with associations and communities, clear rules of participation and involvement of a critical mass of partners must be established where gender-based participation is promoted and should not be limited to the organization's leadership.

- Having a comprehensive Information Collection System does not guarantee that the M&E function is effective. Every right M&E System must have a clear round-trip route for information dissemination and feedback. Every project starts a learning curve, which can be better exploited if the management is results-oriented, and if the information is shared promptly supported by a good M & E system.

- The Inception Workshop is an excellent practice to start making the Program visible. Still, it has the risk of being isolated if it is not part of a program promotion/visibility strategy.

- All training activity is always well received, better if it is part of a strengthening plan, and must have quantitative indicators and qualitative indicators. It is also necessary to include one or more indicators to assess the effects/results they generate, attributable to training/strengthening.

- The dissemination of appropriate information to each partner institution's counterparts is key to strengthening the commitment and ownership of each project. Awareness and promotion materials must be tailored to the audience (participants with different education levels, languages, etc.).

- Government conservation programs such as Socio-Bosque appear to be having a significant positive impact on the conservation of ecosystems. Although there are a few – Small Grants Program supported projects involving communities who are also engaged in

Socio-Bosque, there does not appear to be a strong collaboration between them. Closer cooperation at the individual project level and between the programs may help enhance the impact and sustainability of both efforts.

SECTION 4: TECHNICAL APPENDICES

Annex 1: Alignment between the ASL II Program and the Ecuador Child Project strategies

ASL Program Components	Ecuador Child Project Components and Outcomes
Component 1 - Integrated Protected Landscapes. This component will increase the conservation of biodiversity through the implementation of initiatives for PAs creation, improved management and sustainable financing at the system-wide level with a view to contributing to the establishment of a representative, effective and climatically resilient network of Amazon PAs at subnational, national and regional levels. Approaches will include support to: (a) create new PAs, increasing the area of globally significant forest and freshwater ecosystems under legal protection, including inter alia national/regional PAs, heritage sites, RAMSAR sites, and indigenous lands; (b) strengthen the management effectiveness of existing terrestrial and wetland PAs and their respective buffer zones throughout the region; and (c) enhance the long-term financial sustainability of national Protected Area Systems.	Component 1: Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes. Component 1 seeks to implement a technical analysis to select the best connectivity corridor route, based on geospatial, social (including gender and intercultural approaches), economic, cultural, ecological, and political criteria. It will also include activities to fulfill the necessary requirements established in Ministerial Agreement 019 and to submit the technical documentation required for the MAAE to officially designate a connectivity corridor each project landscape. Finally, under Component 1 key planning and management tools for the management of the corridors will be prepared. The component will be implemented through the following Outcomes: 1.1. Increased area of connectivity corridors created in the two project landscapes. 1.2. Management of corridors and conservation areas have been strengthened.
Component 2 - Integrated Productive Landscapes. This component aims to promote integrated landscape management with an emphasis on standing forest and watersheds located around PAs, with a view to reducing deforestation, maintaining and restoring ecosystem connectivity, improving livelihoods and strengthening climate resilience. The component will support complementary strategies to: (a) increase the area of forests and watersheds brought under sustainable land and water management (SLWM) practices; (b) increase capacity for and participation in sustainable forest- and freshwater-friendly production chains; and (c)	Component 2: Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors. Component 2 seeks to decrease threats to connectivity in the two proposed corridors, by promoting sustainable agriculture production practices in key areas of the corridors, based on the assessments done in Component 1. In those key productive areas, the project will promote land-use planning at a farm level and SLM practices. In the connectivity corridors, the project will also promote alternative bioeconomy initiatives to reduce pressure on native forests and incentivize alternative forest friendly income generating initiatives. The component will be implemented through the following Outcomes:

ASL Program Components	Ecuador Child Project Components and Outcomes
increase the area under restoration or regeneration schemes.	2.1. Increase of productive areas, in or around connectivity corridors, under SLM. 2.2. Bioeconomy initiatives have been strengthened in the two connectivity corridors.
Component 3 - Policies/Incentives for Protected and Productive Landscapes. This component will seek to strengthen the enabling environment and tools for integrated management in both protected and productive landscapes, reinforcing the implementation of the on-the-ground actions supported under Components 1 and 2 aimed at sustainably reducing pressures on forests, watersheds and biodiversity, decreasing GHG emissions and restoring ecosystems in the respective child-project areas. To this end, the component will support the following key areas: (a) strengthening policy and regulatory enabling environment; (b) integrated landscape planning and governance; (c) technical support and financial incentives for SLWM; and (d) environmental and social monitoring.	Component 3: Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity. This component seeks to establish the enabling conditions for effective and participatory corridor management through three strategies: 1. Development of standards, public policy, technical or administrative instruments that contribute to the connectivity and integrated management of sustainable landscapes; 2. Strengthening key stakeholders' capacities for corridor management; and, 3. Establishment of inter-institutional, inter-sectoral, and multi-level governance platforms for the participatory identification and management of the corridors. The component will be implemented through the following Outcome: 3.1. Legal, administrative, technical, and institutional conditions developed for the integrated management of the landscape and connectivity corridors.
Component 4 - Capacity Building and Regional Coordination Knowledge management and coordination will be fostered in the ASL Program, aiming to: (a) strengthen implementation capacity among national project stakeholders; (b) strengthen capacity for regional cooperation to manage terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems; (c) increase stakeholder knowledge on conservation and sustainable land and water management practices in the Amazon; and	Component 4: Monitoring, and evaluation, knowledge management and regional coordination Component 4 focuses on developing and implementing a monitoring and evaluation plan that will allow for effective and efficient project management and provide information for effective decision-making within the adaptive management of the project. It also seeks to promote spaces for dialogue and knowledge exchanges at the national and regional levels, in order to leverage successful strategies and lessons learned from other initiatives. Finally, this component is directly linked to the first

ASL Program Components	Ecuador Child Project Components and Outcomes
(d) strengthen a program level monitoring and evaluation system.	three components, ensuring timely communication of key information about the actions and impact of the project throughout its implementation. The component will be implemented through the following Outcomes: 4.1. Project monitoring and evaluation data contributes to efficient decision making and to adaptive project management. 4.2. Strengthening of national and regional coordination and knowledge management.

Annex 2: Preliminary assessment of connectivity options for the two priority landscapes

This Annex presents an exploratory connectivity assessment carried out during the Project Preparation Phase by the project development team, to identify potential connectivity routes within the two project landscapes. The assessment, implemented through a spatial analysis using geographic information system tools, considered ecological criteria, rather than specific species.

The first stage of the assessment was the characterization of the conditions of the landscapes, according to two fundamental aspects: 1. Ecological conditions that favor connectivity (ecological integrity), and 2. The pressures and threats surrounding those areas (Ulloa 2013). These aspects were represented by using a set of variables derived from existing cartographic information.

Four variables were used to estimate ecological integrity: remanence, fragmentation, isolation, and ecosystem services (Figure 1). Local remanence determines the proportional surface area that has native vegetation cover in a 1km radius. This radius corresponds to the distance at which natural vegetation remnants find neighboring natural vegetation. The size of the patch corresponds to the surface area of each patch of remnant native vegetation. The surrounding ecosystems are linked to the number of ecosystems present in a 1 km radius. These three variables are derived from the official ecosystem and vegetation cover maps of the MAAE (MAE 2013 y 2018).

The fourth variable of ecosystem services is represented by carbon content present in aerial vegetable biomass. Its value was obtained from the global map of live above-ground timber biomass density (WRI 2018).

To calculate pressures and threats, five variables in the following three categories were used: infrastructure, vegetation conversion, and natural resource extraction (Figure 1). Proximity to road systems was measured by linear distance between a determined area and the closest road. Information was taken from current available road cover maps at a 1:50,000 scale (IGM 2013). Proximity to deforested areas was established by linear distance between a determined area and areas where deforestation occurrences were identified in the las 30 years. National historic deforestation maps were used for this analysis (MAE 2018). Forestry land use corresponds to the presence of plan and programs of commercial timber extraction. It was represented through density (in volume) of extracted timber registered in the Forest Administration System (SAF for its acronym in Spanish) (MAE 2016). Mining concessions correspond to the presence of mining activity according to the mining concession extensions, their state (registered or underway) and their phase (exploration or exploitation) (ARCOM 2018). Oil activities are represented by the density of oil wells according to their geographic distribution (Secretary of Hydrocarbons, 2011).

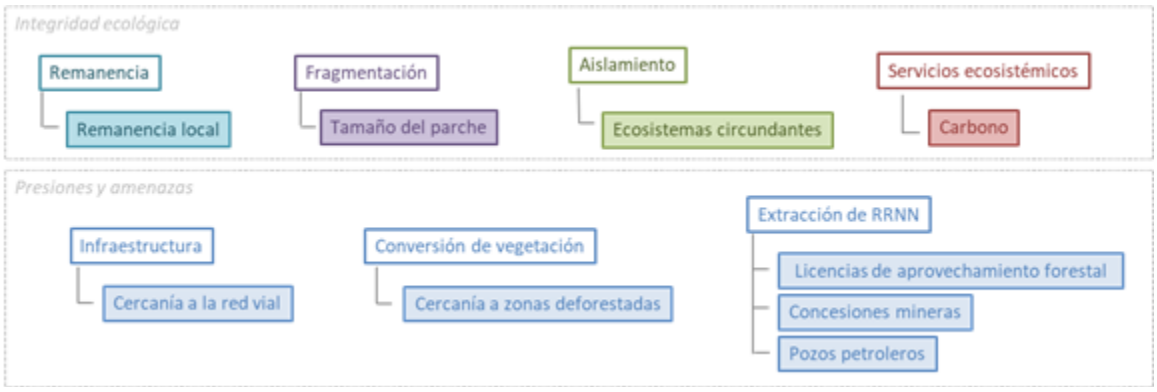


Figure 1. Variable used to characterize the ecological integrity, pressures, and threats in each landscape.

These variables were standardized using a numeric scale between 0 and 1, relative to its ecological integrity condition or of pressures and threats. In both cases, the variables were integrated using a simple linear additive model that was expressed as an average value, without assigning specific weights for each variable. Thus, the ecological integrity and pressures and threats were geographically represented, by implementing this methodology (Figure 2).

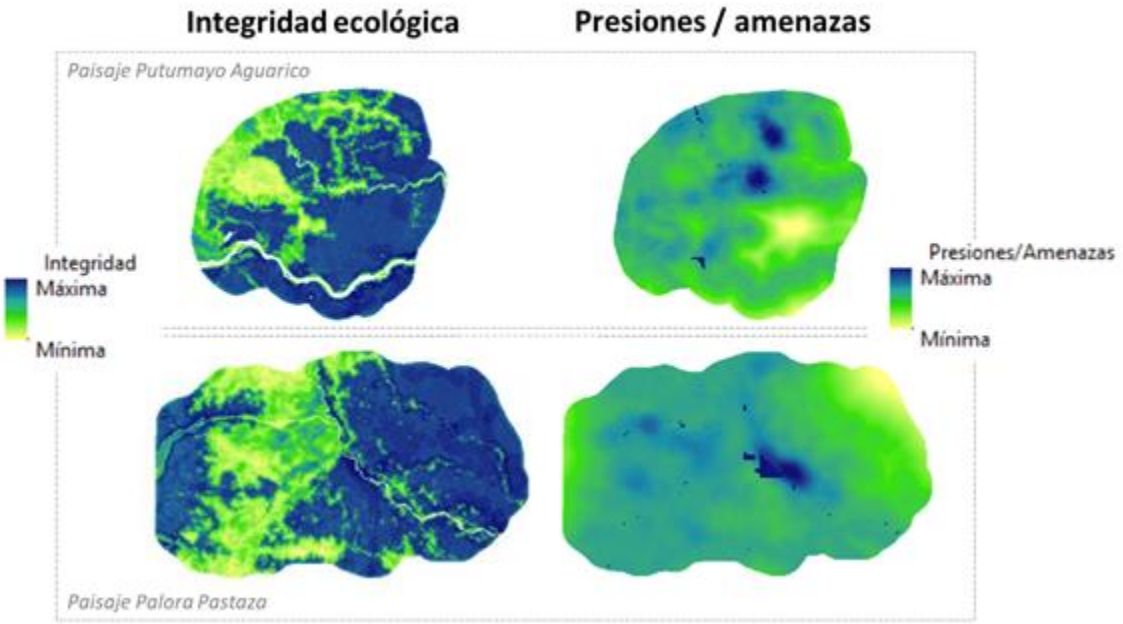


Figure 2. Conditions of ecological integrity and pressures/threats for each prioritized landscape.

The second stage of this process was the evaluation of connectivity by identifying optimal routes that connect specific elements in each landscape (core habitats), using area cost as a reference. The area cost is a reference of the difficulty or limitation that is presented on the ground to establish connectivity. The best route is that which successfully connects core habitats along the path of least accumulated cost. For each landscape, an area cost was developed, integrating the

maps of ecological integrity and those of pressures and threats, taking into consideration that higher cost with higher pressures and threats and lower levels of ecological integrity (Figure 3).

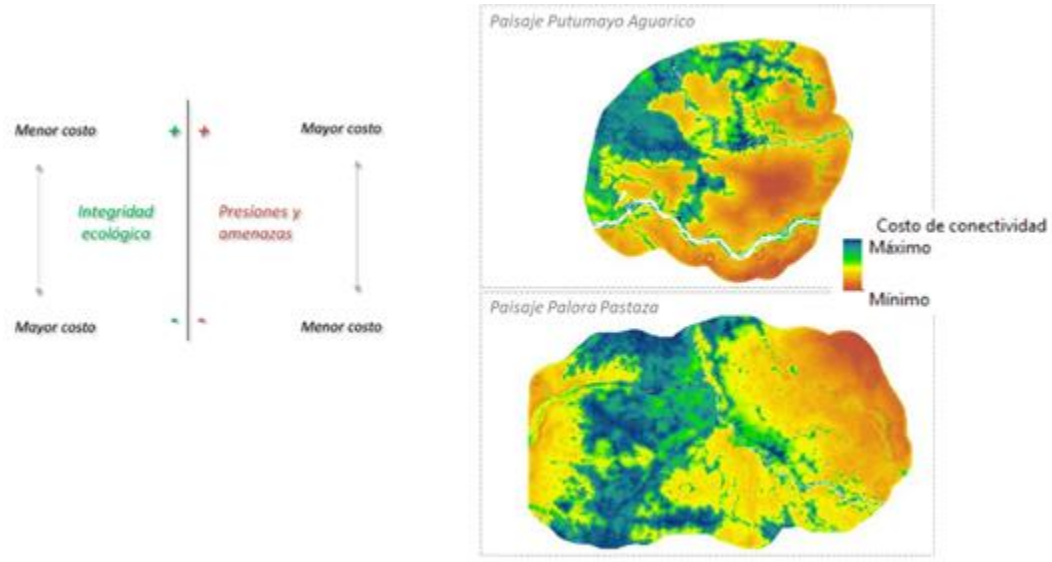


Figure 3. Area cost of connectivity with respect to ecological integrity and pressures and threats for each landscape.

Using this information, the best connectivity routes were identified based on three alternatives for each landscape: 1. Connectivity between areas in the SNAP; 2. Connectivity between SNAP and BVP; and finally, 3. Connectivity between SNAP, BVP and PSB (Figure 4). In the case of the Palora-Pastaza landscape, the first alternative was not viable because there is only one area in the SNAP.

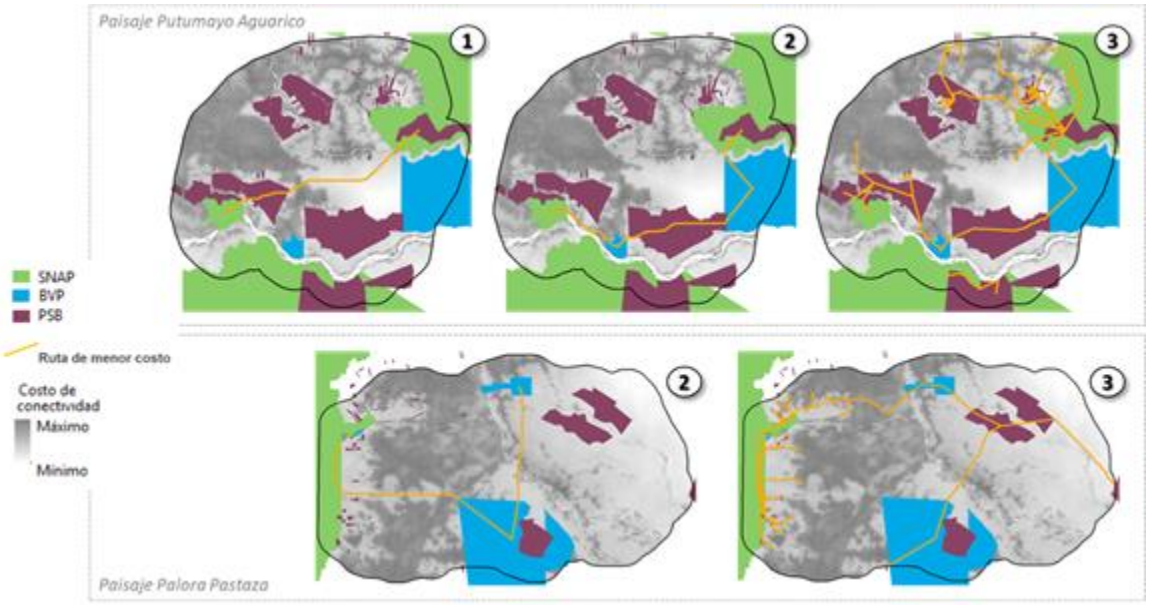


Figura 4. Lowest cost routes considering the following connectivity alternatives: 1) SNAP, 2) SNAP+BVP y 3) SANP+BVP+PSB.

The third stage was the characterization of the connectivity options by overlapping this information with other criteria and corridor alternatives were defined by using a 2.5 km buffer area around each optimal route. These corridors were characterized according to their surface area, level of protection, land use, influence of road, local governments, population, indigenous nationalities, national conservation priorities, and restoration priorities. This analysis led to the modification of the Palora-Pastaza landscape, extending it to the East to include the Achuar Nationality territory and modifying its southern limit with a river system.

To complement the analysis of this initial phase, the following recommendations are proposed. With regards to the variables used in the characterization of the ecological integrity of each landscape, additional metrics can be incorporated, including number of patches, fragmented habitats inside the fragmented areas, contact border with transformed zones, among others. In the case of pressures and threats, additional metrics like road density, accessibility, probability of deforestation, climactic changes, among others. Regarding the ecological approach of the landscape that was used for the analysis, it is possible to access specific information regarding one or various objective species, the connectivity analysis could include consideration of the ecology of these species and define the corridors according to the habitat necessities of these species. Additionally, other variables could be used, including demographic and socioeconomic conditions and projections of the populations. Finally, the results of these analysis must be complemented by a local context and vision, which requires a sustained participatory approach.

References

ARCOM (Agencia de Regulación y Control Minero). 2018. Catastro Minero Nacional. Quito.

IGM (Instituto Geográfico Militar). 2013. Base Nacional escala 1:50.000.

IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature). 2019. IUCN Red List. Species Mapping Tools.

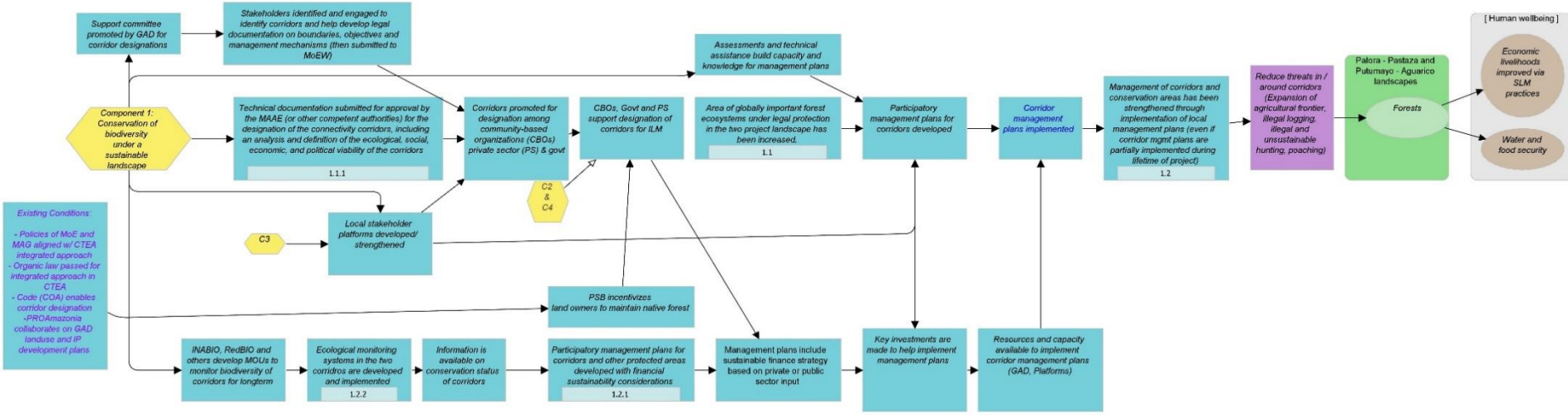
MAE (Ministerio del Ambiente del Ecuador). 2013. Sistema de clasificación de los ecosistemas del Ecuador Continental. Subsecretaría de Patrimonio Natural. Quito.

MAE (Ministerio del Ambiente del Ecuador). 2015. Base de datos geoespacial [Cobertura y uso de la tierra, Mapa histórico de deforestación y Sistema de Administración Forestal] del Sistema Único de Información Ambiental – SUIA. Quito.

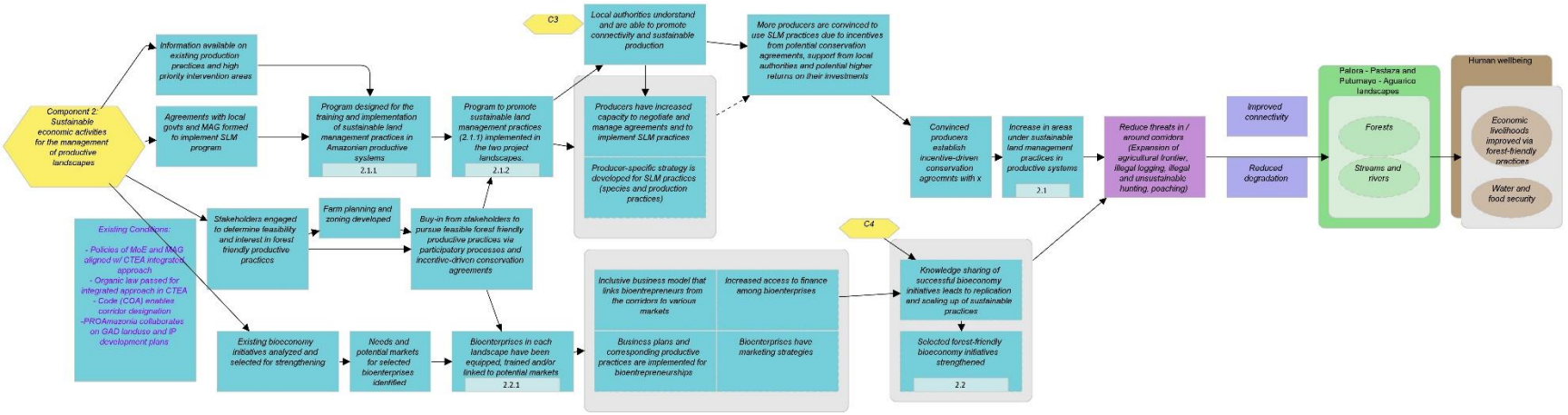
Ulloa, R. (Editor). 2013. Biocorredores: una estrategia para la conservación de la biodiversidad, el ordenamiento territorial y el desarrollo sustentable en la Zona de Planificación 1 (Carchi, Imbabura, Esmeraldas y Sucumbíos). Dirección Provincial del Ambiente de Imbabura–Coordinación Zonal 1. Mesa Técnica de Trabajo de Biocorredores. Ministerio del Ambiente del Ecuador. Conservación Internacional Ecuador y Fundación Altrópico. Ibarra, Ecuador.

WRI (World Resources Institute). 2018. Aboveground live woody biomass density. Global Forest Watch Open Data Portal.

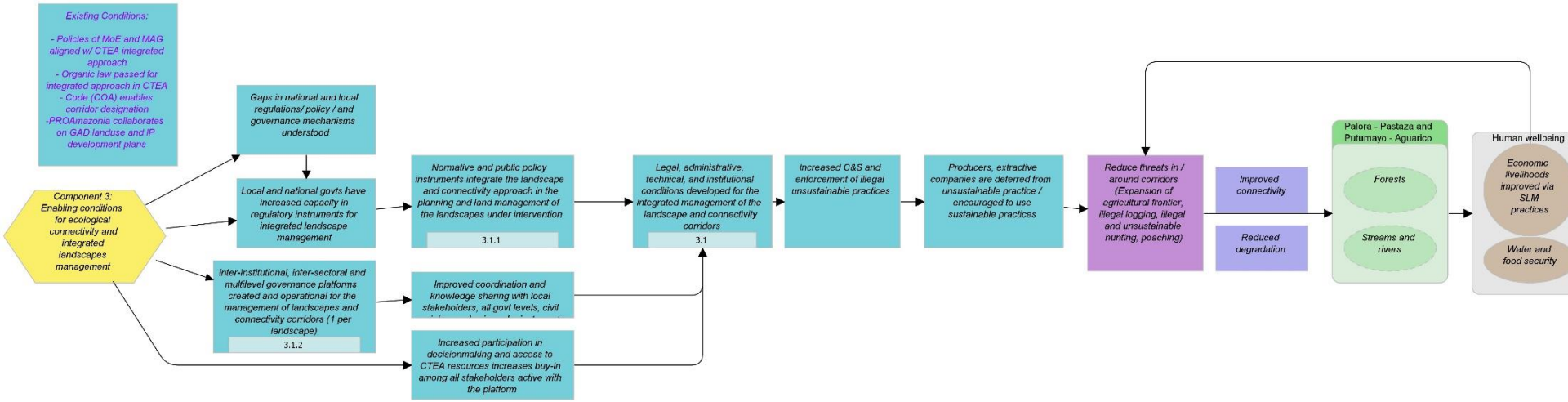
Annex 3: Results Chains



Results Chains Component 1



Results Chains Component 2



Results Chains Component 3

Annex 4: Project Implementation Schedule

COMPONENT / OUTCOME / OUTPUT	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
COMPONENT 1: Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes																				
Outcome 1.1 Increased area of connectivity corridors created in the two project landscapes																				
1.1.1. Technical documentation submitted for approval by the MAAE (or other competent authorities) for the designation of the two new connectivity corridors, including an analysis and definition of the ecological, socioeconomic (including gender and intercultural approaches) and political viability of each corridor.																				
Outcome 1.2 Management of corridors and conservation areas have been strengthened.																				
1.2.1. Inclusive and gender sensitive planning and management instruments, including the components of financial sustainability of connectivity corridors, are developed and endorsed by local authorities.																				
1.2.2. Ecological monitoring systems in the two corridors are developed and implemented.																				
COMPONENT 2: Development of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors																				
Outcome 2.1 Increase of Productive areas, in or around connectivity corridors, under SLM																				
2.1.1 Gender sensitive training program and assistance package for the promotion of SLM practices in the two connectivity corridors designed.																				
2.1.2 SLM training program, including gender and intercultural approaches, to selected producers in the two connectivity corridors implemented																				
2.1.3 SLM practices implemented in selected plots of the two connectivity corridors (e.g. cover																				

cropping, crop diversification, conservation agriculture, and soil and water conservation practices) equitably benefiting men and women producers.																				
Outcome 2.2 Bioeconomy initiatives have been strengthened in the two connectivity corridors																				
2.2.1 Bioeconomy initiatives, in each connectivity corridor, have been equipped, trained, and / or linked to potential markets, with a gender and intercultural approach																				
COMPONENT 3: Enabling Conditions for ecological connectivity																				
Outcome 3.1 Legal, administrative, technical, and institutional conditions developed for the sustainable management of the connectivity corridors.																				
3.1.1 Regulatory and public policy instruments integrate the connectivity corridors needs in the planning and land management of the landscapes under intervention.																				
3.1.2 Inter institutional, inter-sectoral, multilevel governance platforms created and operational for the management of landscapes and connectivity corridors (1 per landscape).																				
3.1.3 Capacity development program for relevant public entities and local actors involved in the planning, management, and monitoring of landscapes, connectivity corridors, and conservation areas, with a gender and intercultural approach.																				
COMPONENT 4: Monitoring and Evaluation, Knowledge Management and Regional Coordination																				
Outcome 4.1 Project monitoring and evaluation data contributes to efficient decision making and to adaptive project management.																				
4.1.1. Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan informs the project's adaptive management																				
Outcome 4.2 Strengthening of national and regional coordination and knowledge management.																				
4.2.1. Effective coordination at the national level and with the ASL program.																				
4.2.2. Knowledge management and communication products developed and disseminated.																				

Annex 5: Results Framework

Indicator / unit	Definition	Method	Who	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	Notes/ Assumptions
GEF Core Indicators										
Objective Indicator 1: Terrestrial PAs newly created. (Hectares) **(GEF Core Indicator 1.1)**	Non-cumulative. This indicator refers to the area (ha) newly placed under legal protection status as a result of project support, and management to achieve that status. Area proposed for the new Connectivity Corridors in both landscapes is 50,000 ha. Stepwise progression to submission of proposal captured under Outcome 1.1. Indicator targets will be reported disaggregated per landscape.	Verify designation of PA creation by the Government of Ecuador. Administrative records/documentation of the creation of PAs or declaration of the corridors. Maps of the corridors that are created.	PMU LC[36]	0	-	-	-	-	50,000	Assumptions: The MAAE and local governments prioritize and have the political will to create conservation corridors in each landscape; civil society organizations, local communities and property owners participate and support, and indigenous peoples consent, to conservation corridors designation. In the case of non-consent to corridors, this indicator will be revised
Objective Indicator 2: Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity. **(GEF Core Indicator 4.1)**	Non-cumulative. This indicator captures the landscape area being managed to benefit biodiversity, but which is not certified. This corresponds to forest areas that are sustainably being explored by the bioeconomy initiatives as a result of project support and to forest areas that are going to have an improved management as a result of updated PDOTs in which the conservation and sustainable use	GIS files will be provided to show extend of land under improved management, including areas that have mainstreamed connectivity corridors in their PDOTs. Qualitative descriptions of	PMU (Sustainable Production Technician and Governance and Land-Use Planning	0	-	-	25,000	50,000	118,000	Assumptions: Local governments are willing to mainstream connectivity corridors, conservation, and sustainable use of biodiversity in their PDOTs and their respective budgets. Target communities are interested participating in the project activities in receiving support to improve forest

[36] PMU LC (Project Management Unit Landscape Coordinators)

Indicator / unit	Definition	Method	Who	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	Notes/ Assumptions
	of biodiversity of the connectivity corridors has been mainstreamed as a result of project support. Indicator targets will be reported disaggregated per landscape.	the benefit provided to biodiversity through a change in forest management.	Technician)							management and strengthen their bioeconomy initiatives. Some bioeconomy initiatives in the landscapes could be ready to receive support from the project after the first year of the project's execution. 18,000 ha could be part of the connectivity corridors proposed to be officially designated at the end of the project.
Objective Indicator 3: **Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems. (Hectares)** **(GEF Core Indicator 4.3)**	Cumulative. This indicator captures the area in production and whose soil, air, and water are managed in a sustainable manner, benefitting the proposed connectivity corridors. In the two landscapes, in or next to the connectivity corridors, the project will implement sustainable production practices in a total of 2,000 ha. of existing agriculture and livestock production systems to benefit the connectivity corridors. SLM practices are those that ensure the maintenance of environmental functions, connectivity, and the long-term productive potential of land resources (including soil, water, animals, and plants). Indicator targets will be reported disaggregated per landscape.	Using the geographic information generated in component 1, and field reports, map farms / production units where the sustainable practices are implemented.	PMU LC	0	-	-	-	-	2,000	Assumptions: Target producers are interested in receiving support to improve their production practices.

Indicator / unit	Definition	Method	Who	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	Notes/ Assumptions
Objective Indicator 4: Carbon sequestered, or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector. **(GEF Core Indicator 6.1)**	Cumulative. The calculation of GHG emissions according to the official Ecuadorian methodology for the 5 years of project duration is 212,644 tonCO2. This amount considers the two landscapes and the deforestation rate for the country between 2014-2016 Emissions reduced from avoided deforestation and degradation by implementing conservation activities, best agricultural practices outside of native areas and bioeconomy initiatives. Indicator targets will be reported disaggregated per landscape.	Estimate of reduced emissions from avoided deforestation or degradation, by establishing new conservation areas and implementing best agricultural practices and bioeconomy initiatives with investment from the project.	PMU and MAAE.	0	0	60,000	110,000	160,000	212,644	Assumptions: The MAAE and local governments have the political will and there is a commitment to create conservation corridors. Civil society organizations, local landowners and indigenous communities are interested and support the connectivity corridor designation.
Objective Indicator 5: **Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment.** **(GEF Core Indicator 11)**	Cumulative: Direct beneficiaries include people and communities within the connectivity corridors who depend on their ecosystem services provided; government personnel who will benefit from project-supported trainings; government agency staff who will be empowered with capacity building and data; local producers in the productive landscape who will have access to trainings and support to implement best practices, and sustainable production and communities leading bioeconomy initiatives supported by the project. Indicator targets will be reported disaggregated per landscape and gender.	The total number of direct beneficiaries will be tracked during project implementation through mid-term and end of project reporting. Mid-term targets will be defined by the PMU when preparing detailed annual workplans.	PMU: PM, M&E Specialist and Landscape coordinators.	0	-	-	TBD	-	4,000 (at least, 40% are women)	Assumptions: In general, less than 30% of participants in trainings and workshops in rural areas are women, particularly when dealing with productive topics. This project will work to increase that participation by at least 10%, so that women can increase their benefits from bioeconomy initiatives.

Indicator / unit	Definition	Method	Who	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	Notes/ Assumptions
COMPONENT 1: Establishment of two connectivity corridors in the two project landscapes.										
Outcome 1.1 Indicator: Required documentation for the creation of the two conservation corridors, submitted to MAAE: 1 Characterization and connectivity analysis completed. 2 FPIC process (for officially proposing connectivity corridors) completed and documented. 3 Stakeholder consultations completed and documented. 4 Map with geographic location, limits and surface area of conservation corridors developed. 5 Documentation for the creation of the corridors submitted to the MAAE.	Cumulative, with various components needed for the connectivity corridors documentation proposal. Outcome and indicators will follow the legally defined process for connectivity corridors creation in Ecuador. FPIC documentation and stakeholder consultations will be reported disaggregated per gender.	Verify completion of steps by tracking periodical project reports.	PMU: reported by the Project Manager with input from landscape coordinators	0	1	2, 3	4, 5	-	-	Assumptions: Indigenous communities provide FPIC for the official designation of conservation corridors. Local governments will prioritize conservation corridors in their broader land use and development plans. In the case of non-consent to corridors, this indicator will be revised

Indicator / unit	Definition	Method	Who	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	Notes/ Assumptions
Outcome 1.2 Indicator: Required tools for the effective management of the connectivity corridors: **1) Corridor participatory management plans;** **2) Five-Year Management Plan;** **3) Annual Operation Plan;** **4) Management plans of existing conservation areas within the corridors updated;**	Cumulative: The proposed conservation corridor management plans and tools will be developed over the course of the project, culminating in the final version presented to the MAAE in the proposal documentation. Indicator targets will be reported disaggregated per landscape.	As part of annual reporting, PMU will assess progress on preparation of management plans for the proposed conservation corridors, relying on consultant reports and MAAE and local government input.	PMU	0			1	2,3	4	Assumptions: Indigenous communities will provide FPIC for conservation corridors being created adjacent to their territories. The MAAE and local governments have the political will and there is a commitment to create conservation corridors.
COMPONENT 2: Implementation of sustainable productive activities in the two connectivity corridors.										
Outcome 2.2.a Indicator: Number of beneficiaries (indigenous peoples and local communities' members) with increased monetary income from bioeconomy initiatives supported by the project.	Cumulative. Indicator measures number of beneficiaries with increased income (of at least 10%), from bioeconomy initiatives supported by the project. Indicator targets will be reported disaggregated per gender and landscape.	Baseline survey at the start of the project and follow up survey years 3-6 for self-reporting on income increase.	Sustainable Production Technician	0	0	0	450	1,000	1,500	Note: These beneficiaries will overlap with total number of direct beneficiaries under Core Indicator 11. Assumes strengthening of bioeconomy initiatives will lead to increase in income generation opportunities. There is a risk that it is hard to get quantitative information on the benefits participants see from the project, or those benefits mostly accrue after the project ends and are hard to predict.

Indicator / unit	Definition	Method	Who	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	Notes/ Assumptions
Outcome 2.2. b Indicator: # of Bio-bioeconomy initiatives that have strengthened their technical, financial, and/or commercial capacities, attributed to the project.	Cumulative. This indicator refers to the Bioeconomy initiatives that receive support from the project to improve any technical, financial of commercial aspect. According to MAAE Ministerial Agreement 034 "Guidelines for the promotion of bioeconomy initiatives", these are entrepreneurships that, through the sustainable use of native biodiversity and its valuation, implement a strategy for the conservation of natural heritage to promote a sustainable economy - bioeconomy initiatives. See section 1.4 of Prodoc for characteristics of bioeconomy initiatives. Indicator targets will be reported disaggregated per landscape.	From project reports and field verification, identify the bioeconomy initiatives that have received support from the project to overcome assessed limitations and weaknesses.	Sustainable Production Technician	0			4		10	
COMPONENT 3: Enabling conditions for ecological connectivity.										
Outcome 3.1 - Indicator 3.1.a: Number of legal instruments, public policies, regulations, or technical guidelines developed to	Non cumulative. During the implementation of the project, the PMU - with support from consultancies and local stakeholders in each landscape- will identify gaps in legal, administrative, and technical instruments of the connectivity	Administrative records/official documentation of Ministerial agreements, provincial and municipal ordinances,	PMU reports with information from landscape	See foot note [37]	-	2	3	3	2	Assumptions: There is political will to establish new legal instruments, public policies, regulations, or technical guidelines to strengthen the implementation of

[37] Organic Environmental Code and its regulation; Organic Law for Territorial Planning, Use and Land Management; Organic Code of Territorial Organization, Autonomy and Descentralization; Organic Code of Public Planning and Finance and its regulation; Ministerial Agreement 105 (MAE-2013); Technical Guidelines for the design, establishment and management of connectivity corridors for conservation; Provincial PDOTs: Pastaza, Sucumbíos and Orellana; Municipal PDOTs Shushufindi, Cuyabeno, Francisco de Orellana, Joya de los Sachas, Palora, Huamboya, Pablo 6to, Taisha and Pastaza.

Indicator / unit	Definition	Method	Who	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	Notes/ Assumptions
support the creation and management of the two new connectivity corridors.	corridor framework, and will provide assistance for the development or strengthening of instruments such as: 1. Amendments to local government land use and development plans (PDOT) and plans for the sustainable land use and management (PUGS) to incorporate objectives and provisions from the two proposed connectivity corridors. 2. Provincial and municipal ordinances to implement key activities included in PDOT or PUG related to connectivity corridors; 3. Local government resolutions (provincial, municipal or parish) to promote connectivity corridors; 4. Ministerial Agreements with the MAAE to fill gaps regarding the legal and technical framework for connectivity corridors; among others.	local government resolutions, and amendments to PDOTs, PUGs.	coordinators, MAAE, and GADs.							connectivity corridors or make amendments to local government land use plans. Throughout the project implementation and with information gathered from Component 1, the PMU will determine exactly which instruments need to be developed taking into consideration the key stakeholders involved and priorities in each corridor.

Indicator / unit	Definition	Method	Who	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	Notes/ Assumptions
Outcome 3.1 - Indicator 3.1.b Percentage of staff from public institutions with responsibilities on the two new connectivity corridors (MAAE, GADs, SCTEA) that have participated in project supported training on connectivity corridors and ILM related subjects.	% staff Cumulative The indicator measures the percentage of staff from MAAE, MAG, GADs and the SCTEA with responsibilities on the designation and management of connectivity corridors that have participated in project supported training and technical assistance on connectivity corridors management. The capacity gaps assessment of key staff from MAAE, MAG, GADs, SCTEA during the first year of project execution will determined the staff to target by the trainings. Indicator will be reports disaggregated per gender	Project reports from training activities.	PMU	See foot note [38]	-	25	50	75	100	
COMPONENT 4: Monitoring, and evaluation, knowledge management and regional coordination.										

[38] Definiciones contempladas en los instrumentos normativos y de política pública existentes: COA, RCOA (Reglamento del Código Orgánico del Ambiente) LOOTUGS, COOTAD, LOPCTEA, COPFP, RCOPFP, Acuerdo Ministerial 105 de 2013 del Ministerio del Ambiente, Propuesta de norma técnica para el diseño, establecimiento y gestión de corredores de conectividad con fines de conservación en el país (en elaboración).

Indicator / unit	Definition	Method	Who	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	Notes/ Assumptions
Outcome 4.1 Indicator: Percentage of M&E plan implemented/ completed (implemented = reports produced against the M&E plan, including annual reflection exercise, project progress reports, quarterly financial reports, midterm evaluation, and terminal evaluation).	ASL Program requires M&E reports for all projects.	Verify that all required M&E reports are submitted to ASL program.	PMU	0	100% (7) 2 PPR; 4 QFR; 1 RE.	100% (7) 2 PPR; 4 QFR; 1 RE.	100% (8) 2 PPR; 4 QFR; 1 RE; 1 MTE.	100% (7) 2 PPR; 4 QFR; 1 RE.	100% (8) 1 PPR; 1 CR; 4 QFR; 1 RE; 1 TE.	PPR: Project Progress Report QFR: Quarterly Financial Report RE: Reflection Exercise MTE: Mid Term Evaluation TE: Terminal Evaluation
Outcome 4.2 Indicator: # of learning briefs and /or best practice white papers completed and disseminated	Best practices related to financial mechanisms for PAs, integrated land use and PA creation and management effectiveness documented transparently and disseminated widely with relevant stakeholders. Target: Annually produced best practices and lessons learned products are shared and uploaded to program website once /year and widely promoted to relevant partners.	M&E reports, other documentation on project progress and lessons learned, and annual reflection exercises form basis for knowledge sharing and regional cooperation. PMU will engage a consultant to compile synthesis each year. Relevant stakeholders will include members of	PMU	0 lessons learned syntheses available online	1	1	1	1	1	

Indicator / unit	Definition	Method	Who	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	Notes/ Assumptions
		other Child Projects in the larger ASL program.								

Annex 6: Gender Action Plan

SECTION I: INTRODUCCIÓN

El Proyecto busca un manejo integrado del paisaje que articule las actividades de conservación de la biodiversidad con la promoción de prácticas productivas sostenibles, con un enfoque de conectividad ecológica a través de dos corredores de conservación que cubren una superficie de 50.000 ha.

Los dos paisajes son el Paisaje Putumayo–Aguarico y el Paisaje Palora – Pastaza. El Paisaje Putumayo-Aguarico se encuentra integrado dentro del gran humedal de la Amazonía ecuatoriana, el sitio Ramsar Cuyabeno – Yasuní. Tiene una extensión de 144.915 ha, abarca 2 provincias, 4 cantones y 9 parroquias. Tiene una población de 10.993 personas, de las cuáles 4.458 personas son indígenas (RAISG, 2017). La mayor parte del paisaje (78%) es bosque, mientras que el 24% corresponde a mosaico agropecuario en el que destacan pastizales (5%) y cultivos (11%) (Ministerio del Ambiente, 2018). El 58,5% del paisaje se encuentra bajo alguna categoría de conservación. El Paisaje es una fuente de abundantes recursos de subsistencia para las personas que lo habitan, entre ellas comunidades de las nacionalidades indígenas Shuar, Kichwa, Waorani, Secoya y Siona. Este paisaje conecta las tres áreas protegidas (APs) más importantes de la Amazonía ecuatoriana: la Reserva Biológica Limoncocha, la Reserva de Producción de Fauna Cuyabeno y el Parque Nacional Yasuní (WWF, CI, 2019).

El Paisaje Palora-Pastaza comprende de 2 provincias, 4 cantones y 6 parroquias, y cubre una extensión de 178,129 ha, de las cuales 86% son bosques, 9% pastizales y tan solo 0,4% cultivos (yuca, caña de azúcar, plátano y pitahaya) (SIGTIERRAS, s.f.). La población a interior del paisaje es de 10.137 personas, de las cuales 7.737 son indígenas (RAISG, 2017). Bajo alguna figura de conservación se encuentra el 38% del paisaje (1,4% Sistema Nacional Áreas Protegidas-SNAP, 14% Proyecto Socio Bosque-PSB, 23% Áreas de Importancia para la Conservación de Aves-AICAS) (Ministerio del Ambiente, s.f.). El Paisaje Palora-Pastaza alberga bosques de tierra firme que se encuentra en las estribaciones de la cordillera de los andes, incluyendo bosques colindados de la Amazonía, los cuales se caracterizan por ser muy diversos y con alto endemismo. Este Paisaje se ubica en una zona con baja presencia de áreas protegidas del SNAP, y ofrece la oportunidad de fortalecer la conectividad entre los andes y la Amazonía, conectando al Parque Nacional Sangay con Bosques Protectores y comunidades beneficiadas por el PSB (WWF, CI, 2019).

Los componentes del proyecto son:

- Conservación de la biodiversidad y conectividad ecológica bajo un enfoque de gestión integral de paisajes
- Actividades productivas sostenibles bajo un enfoque de gestión integral de paisajes
- Condiciones habilitantes para la conectividad y gestión integrada de paisajes.
- Monitoreo y Evaluación, Gestión del Conocimiento y Coordinación Regional

Objetivo:

El Proyecto busca promover la conservación de la biodiversidad, favorecer la conectividad ecológica, y fomentar actividades productivas económicas sostenibles, con un enfoque de gestión integrada del paisaje.

Metodología propuesta:

El análisis de género es un instrumento de gestión que permite, identificar información clave sobre roles, actividades, necesidades, oportunidades y derechos/prerrogativas afectan a hombres, mujeres, niñas y niños en ciertas situaciones o contextos. Así también permite evidenciar las brechas existentes entre mujeres y hombres especialmente relacionados con el ambiente, la conservación y con el cambio climático.

En este sentido, la metodología prevista para esta consultoría se enmarcó en el recojo de información sobre género en la Amazonía con el fin de caracterizar las relaciones de género y sus particularidades especialmente con relación a la participación efectiva de mujeres y hombres, el acceso y el control sobre la gestión de los recursos naturales, los tipos de recursos y los beneficios incurridos por estos recursos; y el acceso a la tierra por mujeres y hombres en el área del proyecto.

Esto nos permitió atender las particularidades y garantizar los beneficios de las mujeres y hombres de manera equitativa en las distintas actividades planteadas para el proyecto.

Se trabajó en 4 fases:

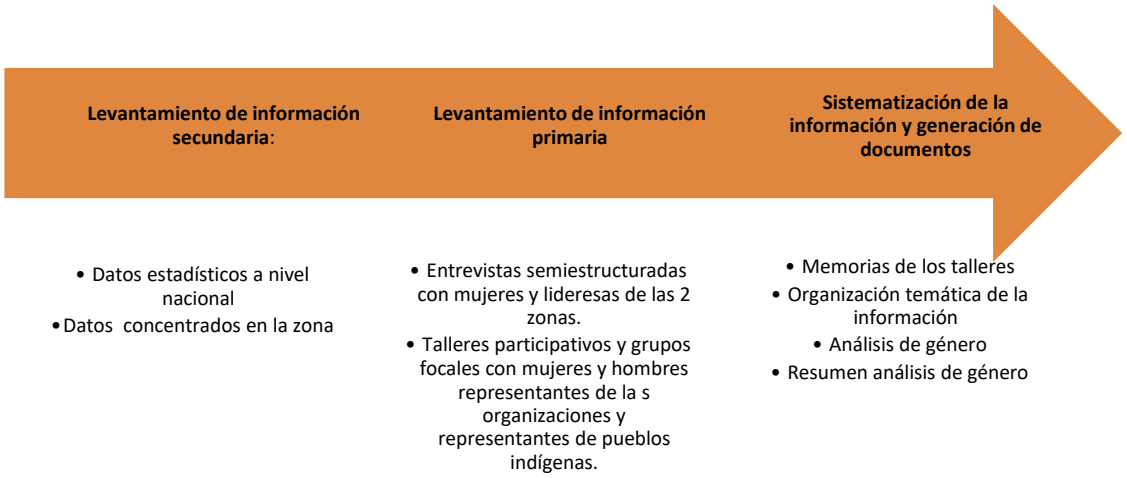
a. **Recopilación y revisión de información secundaria**. Se hizo un levantamiento de información secundaria disponible a nivel nacional, incluyendo lo siguiente: estadísticas, investigaciones e información de otros proyectos que hayan generado datos claves con relación a género. Este proyecto tiene injerencia en la Amazonía ecuatoriana, por lo que se buscó información específica sobre las particularidades de los distintos pueblos y nacionalidades indígenas que tienen incidencia y vínculo con la zona.

b. **Levantamiento de información en campo** en los dos paisajes de intervención. Para complementar la información secundaria y obtener información más específica respecto al proyecto, se realizaron grupos focales y entrevistas a representantes del gobierno sectorial, organizaciones de la sociedad civil y pueblos y nacionalidades indígenas, con quienes se buscó identificar información clave para el desarrollo del documento análisis de género.

c. **Sistematización de la información y generación de documentos** en función de los requisitos planteados por el Fondo del Medio Ambiente Mundial (GEF por su sigla en inglés). Con base en lo establecido en los términos de referencia, se buscó realizar un análisis que permita identificar las “acciones necesarias para garantizar la capacidad de respuesta de género en los proyectos: resultados, productos, actividades, presupuesto, indicadores y la recopilación de metas desglosadas por sexo y datos de género.” Además, la información permitirá integrar un enfoque de género en las actividades del proyecto, así como las herramientas de seguimiento y evaluación del Marco de Resultados, “para asegurar la capacidad de respuesta de género”.

Una vez finalizada la sistematización de la información, se generó el documento análisis y plan de acción, los mismos que tienen vinculación directa con la generación del PRODOC y que permitirá contar con un plan de género que recoja las particularidades evidenciadas, así como atender riesgos y potenciar beneficios identificados en el proceso de desarrollo del proyecto.

Gráfico 1: metodología usada



Fuente: Elaboración propia

En octubre 2019 se realizó el lanzamiento oficial de la fase de preparación del proyecto en Quito y en noviembre de 2019, se realizaron talleres iniciales de socialización y consulta. En los eventos de socialización realizados en Quito y uno en cada paisaje (Putumayo-Aguarico y Palora-Pastaza), se presentó de manera general el proyecto, así como la metodología para la construcción del ProDoc. Asimismo, se establecieron acuerdos de colaboración y trabajo con las organizaciones clave.

Se realizaron entrevistas semiestructuradas con actores claves, incluyendo organizaciones de pueblos y nacionalidades indígenas, productores y Gobiernos Autónomos Descentralizados (GADs) para valorar el interés de participar en el proyecto, sus potencialidades y amenazas, en la semana del 24 - 30 de noviembre de 2019 en Coca en la provincia de Orellana y Lago Agrio en la provincia de Sucumbíos (Paisaje Putumayo-Aguarico) y Puyo en la provincia de Pastaza (Paisaje Palora-Pastaza).

Además, en enero 2020 se realizaron entrevistas semiestructuradas con representantes de ONGs nacionales que tienen vínculo o potencial vínculo con el proyecto o que implementan programas en las zonas de interés para el proyecto, para conocer los retos actuales y las lecciones aprendidas en su gestión.

Se mantuvieron reuniones periódicas con instituciones del Estado entre el 2019 y el 2020, pero debido a la paralización del trabajo causado por la pandemia de COVID – 19, hubo retrasos recogiendo una parte de la información. En estos meses se realizarán otro grupo de entrevistas con actores calificados del Estado para conocer las capacidades las aptitudes y las potencialidades de cada instancia, así como su rol específico para cada componente y actividad.

SECTION II: DIAGNÓSTICO DE GÉNERO EN LA AMAZONÍA DEL ECUADOR

La región amazónica presenta una marcada desigualdad entre mujeres y hombres en educación, salud, empleo, y representación política, entre otros aspectos de la vida social; y además existen índices elevados de violencia contra la mujer. Todo esto enmarcado dentro de un contexto regional de transformación que a continuación se describe.

Datos demográficos. - La región amazónica ha crecido enormemente, y junto con Galápagos, son las dos regiones que más crecen en el país. En el período 1950–2010, la población aumentó

de 46.000 a 739.831 habitantes. La proyección que brinda el Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas y Censos (INEC) es que para el 2020 la población alcance 959.699 habitantes, de los cuales 497.203 serían hombres, y 459.496 mujeres. Este crecimiento se explica en gran medida por la migración de zonas rurales de la costa y sierra del país, principalmente a partir de la década de 1960 con la apertura de varias carreteras que unieron el Oriente con el resto del país. A esto se suma la alta natalidad, 26,16 por cada mil habitantes para el 2010, y la llegada de migrantes colombianos, especialmente a Sucumbíos. Según varios estudios, la tasa de fertilidad es bastante alta en las zonas rurales amazónicas, entre 4,4 y 5,5 por mujer, y que se eleva aún más entre la población indígena a 8,3 por mujer (Jarrin et al. 2017, citando a Bremner et al. 2009). A continuación, la **Tabla 1.** Se resume las estadísticas del crecimiento poblacional en las provincias de cada paisaje.

Tabla 1: Evolución poblacional de las provincias amazónicas dentro del proyecto

Paisaje	Provincia	1990	2001	2010	Proyección 2020
Putumayo-Aguarico	Sucumbíos	76.952	128.995	176.472	230.503
	Orellana	NA	86.493	136.396	161.338
Palora-Pastaza	Pastaza	41.811	61.779	83.933	114.202
	Morona Santiago	84.216	115.412	147.940	196.535

Fuente: elaboración propia con datos del INEC al 2020 en base al censo del 2010.

La **Tabla 1** evidencia que la población en las provincias del proyecto se ha casi triplicado en los últimos 30 años. Es importante destacar que, según las proyecciones del INEC para el 2020, la población es un poco más rural que urbana: 57% (545.452 habitantes) en zonas rurales, mientras que el 43% (411.247 habitantes) son urbanos. Asimismo, es importante mencionar que ciudades como Lago Agrio, Puyo y Macas están creciendo rápidamente y es el destino de muchos jóvenes de zonas rurales que migran a esas ciudades en busca de mejor educación y oportunidades laborales.

Indicadores educativos. - Aunque no se muestra diferencias significativas entre mujeres y hombres en la región amazónica en los indicadores educativos, sus indicadores de a nivel general son los peores del país. Por ejemplo, en 8vo de educación básica, la deserción a nivel nacional es de 4.5% para hombres y 3.2% para mujeres, mientras que en la Amazonía es 6.4% y 4.8% respectivamente. Mientras en el país el 20.7% de hombres y el 24.7% de mujeres tiene estudios terciarios, en la región Amazónica sólo el 10.4% de hombres y 15.7% de mujeres (Páez, 2019). En la tasa de analfabetismo, sin embargo, si hay una diferencia significativa entre hombres y mujeres en la amazonia: el 4.77% de los hombres son analfabetos, pero casi el doble de las mujeres también lo son: 8.23%.

Indicadores de salud. - La región amazónica enfrenta varios desafíos que inciden en la salud de la población, teniendo menor acceso a servicios estatales que se consideran básicos. La tasa nacional de acceso a servicios de salud (públicos y privados) es de 4,03, mientras que en la Amazonía es de 2,01. Asimismo, mientras a nivel nacional la tasa de abastecimiento de agua por red pública es del 58%, para la Amazonía es del 40% (Montalvo 2019). Esto indudablemente afecta los indicadores generales de salud.

Respecto a la maternidad adolescente, en la Amazonía la tasa es bastante superior a la media nacional: en Ecuador el promedio es 44,75 %, mientras que en la región Amazónica la tasa asciende a 70,1 %. Esto refleja en gran medida una sociedad donde las adolescentes no tienen autonomía para decidir sobre sus vidas, no tienen acceso a educación sexual y reproductiva, y no tienen los medios para prevenir el embarazo o interrumpirlo.

Indicadores económicos y actividades laborales. - La región Amazónica también tiene índices de pobreza más altos en relación al promedio nacional. Según el censo de 2010, el índice de pobreza por necesidades básicas insatisfechas (NBI) era del 60,1% en todo el país; sin embargo, en Sucumbíos este índice fue el 87%, en Orellana 85%, en Pastaza 69,7%, y en Morona Santiago 75,6%. Esta pobreza por NBI además tiene índices mayores en las zonas rurales (Villacís y Carrillo, 2012).

La economía local en la Amazonía rural es de agricultura de subsistencia; complementado con caza y pesca, o ganadería a pequeña escala, y dependiendo del acceso a estos recursos. También existe producción orientada hacia el mercado de algunos productos de consumo masivo y que proveen de ingresos en efectivo a los hogares rurales. El dinero en efectivo es necesario para cubrir necesidades básicas como ropa, útiles escolares, medicinas, transporte, entre otras. Es frecuente también que los hombres se empleen cómo jornaleros en el campo o la ciudad para complementar el dinero que necesita la familia; mientras que las mujeres tienden a quedarse cerca del hogar porque ellas dedican más tiempo del día a la crianza y cuidado de los hijos.

Hombres y mujeres en la Amazonía han tenido acceso y uso diferenciado de los recursos. La vida de las mujeres tradicionalmente ha girado en torno a la preparación de alimentos, cuidado del huerto, recolección, aseo, limpieza de la vivienda, agricultura de subsistencia y artesanía. Mientras los hombres han desarrollado actividades que los obliga a viajar a lugares más lejanos del poblado, usualmente para cazar o para comerciar; mientras las mujeres se dedican a actividades cercanas al hogar porque ellas están al cuidado de los niños, niñas, y ancianos.

También hay actividades que mujeres y hombres realizan de manera conjunta, como la agricultura y la pesca. Ambos, además, suelen trabajar complementariamente en la siembra y cosecha. Sin embargo, a pesar de que el trabajo puede ser complementario, a la hora de toma decisiones respecto a asuntos comunitarios, es decir en el espacio público, han sido generalmente los hombres quienes han sido protagonistas como jefes y dirigentes.

Respecto al tiempo de trabajo de mujeres y hombres, en la región Amazónica la dinámica del uso del tiempo es, de acuerdo con información estadística nacional, diferente y desigual para mujeres y hombres: las mujeres trabajan más que los hombres. Entre el trabajo remunerado y el no remunerado, ellas trabajan 78 horas a la semana, mientras los hombres 60 horas. Es decir, ellas trabajan 18 horas más que los hombres (Montalvo, 2019).

Es importante notar que en el Ecuador el trabajo reproductivo no es reconocido ni contabilizado. El trabajo de las mujeres en la reproducción de la vida; el cuidado de los hijos, o padres, o abuelos, y el trabajo del cuidado de la casa, no es considerado trabajo. Las mujeres dedican mayor tiempo que los hombres a las diferentes actividades de sustento del hogar, lo que les significa jornadas de trabajo más largas que van en detrimento de su salud, participación en el mercado de trabajo, participación ciudadana, actividades de capacitación y recreación.

Propiedad y violencia de género. - Es necesario mencionar que la propiedad individual de la tierra es mayoritariamente masculina. De las tierras individuales, el 88,2% de los propietarios son hombres, y sólo el 11,8% son mujeres. Cuando la tierra es comunitaria, y la propiedad por tanto ha sido otorgada por la comunidad, esta se otorga mayoritariamente a hombres (Páez, 2019). Estas diferencias reflejan un orden social en el cual los hombres ocupan el espacio público, toman decisiones, mientras que las mujeres son relegadas al espacio doméstico y la economía del cuidado de la familia, siendo además vulnerables a varios tipos de violencia.

Este tipo de violencia estructural, patrimonial y económica se está explorando con mayor atención en los últimos años, pero aún faltan estudios cualitativos y cuantitativos. Se puede decir

que estas violencias son recurrentes, e invisibilizadas y traen como consecuencias la poca presencia de las mujeres en procesos de toma de decisiones, así como en la imposibilidad de decidir sobre los recursos naturales, y en la distribución de beneficios. Dichas dinámicas, siguen siendo una brecha mayúscula que afecta particularmente la participación de las mujeres en espacios de toma de decisiones y de gobernanza. Así también es una de las razones por las cuales la vida de las mujeres se ve impactada negativamente ya que no permite que ellas se involucren en actividades productivas, iniciativas de generación de capacidades, generación de ingresos, entre otros.

Adicionalmente, se evidencia una dificultad con relación a la propiedad de la tierra en manos masculinas, pues las mujeres se quedan en total vulnerabilidad a consecuencia de la falta de control sobre los recursos es paralelo a su poca participación en la toma de decisiones a nivel privado, comunitario y en el espacio público. Una muestra de esto es la poca participación femenina en cargos políticos. En la región Amazónica solo el 17% de los prefectos son mujeres, el 2,4% de los alcaldes, y en las concejalías, son el 29,6% (Montalvo, 2019).

Así también, este tipo de violencia, tiene implicaciones en la vida de las mujeres, pues está relacionada con la violencia de género, por la imposibilidad de ser independientes económicamente y depender de los recursos naturales, se ven en situaciones de violencia sin posibilidad de tomar decisiones u otras opciones. Este es un fenómeno que se reproduce en las esferas públicas y al interior de los hogares, dejando un impacto negativo en la vida de mujeres y hombres en la región amazónica. La violencia de género merma la calidad de vida de las poblaciones, pues la violencia intrafamiliar hacia las mujeres es un problema presente en la sociedad ecuatoriana amazónica. En la Encuesta Demográfica y de Salud Familiar del 2017, las mujeres en edad reproductiva que respondieron afirmativamente haber sido agredidas alguna vez por el esposo o compañero representaban el 63,2% (INEI, 2018a: 20).

Finalmente es importante mencionar que, de acuerdo con las entrevistas realizadas en cada paisaje, se evidenció que un elevado número de casos corresponden a violencia psicológica, seguido por violencia física, muchas veces naturalizada por los agresores, y en tercer lugar violencia patrimonial. Siendo el mayor número de incidencias de violencia de género en mujeres en edad reproductiva.

Se estima, que hay muchos casos sin denunciar. Por otro lado, cuando se denuncian los casos de violencia de género, las autoridades muchas veces no acuden porque no tienen los medios o no reciben las denuncias por parte de las personas afectadas (en mayor parte mujeres).

Particularidades étnicas de la zona de implementación

Como se mencionó anteriormente, la dinámica sociocultural de cada una de las zonas incluye una diversidad cultural importante en donde conviven varios grupos étnicos, mestizos y una cantidad menor de afroecuatorianos. A continuación, una breve descripción de las nacionalidades que habitan en los dos paisajes. Es importante mencionar que hay otros pueblos indígenas en las provincias, pero que no se mencionan en este reporte porque sus territorios no están involucrados en el proyecto.

a) Paisaje Putumayo-Aguarico

En el Paisaje Putumayo-Aguarico viven los pueblos indígenas A'i Kofán, Siekopai, Kichwa de Sucumbíos, y Waorani, junto con mestizos y algunas poblaciones afrodescendientes. Los pueblos indígenas son propietarios de territorios ancestrales delimitados de acuerdo con cada comunidad, mientras los mestizos (quienes son la mayoría de la población) y afrodescendientes suelen ser pequeños propietarios distribuidos a lo largo y ancho de cada cantón del proyecto.

En Sucumbíos, la nacionalidad A'i Kofán tiene 14 comunidades, con alrededor de 1.200 personas, esparcidos a lo largo de la provincia. Son representados por su propia organización política, la Nacionalidad Originaria A'I Kofán del Ecuador (NOAIKE), que tiene sede en Lago Agrio. Su territorio reconocido abarca alrededor de 500.000 hectáreas de la provincia de Sucumbíos, y sus comunidades se vinculan con el manejo de las áreas protegidas Cuyabeno, La Bonita, Cofán Bermejo, y Cayambe Coca.

La nacionalidad Siekopai, también llamado Secoya, vive cerca de la frontera con Perú, con una población del alrededor de 700 personas. Son representados por la organización política SIEKOPAI (lleva el mismo nombre que el termino usado para la nacionalidad Siona), con sede en Lago Agrio. Su territorio reconocido abarca alrededor de 40.000 hectáreas de la provincia, y sus comunidades se vinculan con el manejo del área natural Cuyabeno.

Los Kichwa de la provincia de Sucumbíos, con alrededor de 18.000 personas, son representados por su propia organización política, la Federación de Organizaciones de la Nacionalidad Kichwa de Sucumbíos del Ecuador (FONAKISE), que tiene sede en Lago Agrio. Su territorio reconocido abarca alrededor de 51.000 hectáreas de la provincia de Sucumbíos, pero están en búsqueda de que se les reconozca 68.910 hectáreas adicionales.

La Nacionalidad Waorani, agrupa a los y las mujeres waorani que viven en Orellana, Pastaza y Napo, su territorio es de alrededor de 800.000 hectáreas. Son alrededor de 3500 personas, viven en las provincias de Pastaza y Napo incluyendo parte del Parque Nacional Yasuní.

La Nacionalidad Waorani del Ecuador (NAWE), cuenta además con una filial conocida como Organización de la Nacionalidad Waorani de Orellana (ONWO), que es de manera explícita con quien se vincularía el proyecto. Así también existe una organización de mujeres Waorani, Asociación de Mujeres Waorani de la Amazonía Ecuatoriana (ANWAE). Esta organización tiene su sede en Puyo, fue creada para defender los derechos de las mujeres Waorani, así como para lograr proyectos que puedan aportar en el mejoramiento de la calidad de vida de la población y de manera explícita de las mujeres. Las mujeres de la ANWAE han logrado gestionar, implementar y lograr proyectos de artesanías, procesamiento de cacao, entre otros.

En los cantones donde trabaja este proyecto los mestizos son la mayoría de la población, pero a diferencia de las nacionalidades indígenas, no cuentan con territorios colectivos, sino son pequeños propietarios. En Sucumbíos hay también algunos poblados con población afrodescendiente.

b) Paisaje Palora-Pastaza

En el Paisaje Palora-Pastaza viven las nacionalidades indígenas Shuar y Achuar, y algunas poblaciones Kichwa del Pastaza, Waorani, y un grupo pequeño de Sáparas/Záparas. Al igual que en el Paisaje Putumayo-Aguarico, hay una población mestiza mayoritaria en el territorio. Sin embargo, el territorio más extenso pertenece a los pueblos y nacionalidades indígenas, quienes son propietarios de territorios ancestrales colectivos. Como sucede en el paisaje Putmayo-Aguarico, los mestizos suelen ser pequeños propietarios distribuidos a lo largo y ancho de cada cantón del proyecto.

En Pastaza y Morona Santiago, la nacionalidad Achuar cuenta con cerca de 8.000 personas en más de 679.300 has de su territorio ecuatoriano. Su organización política es la Nacionalidad Achuar del Ecuador (NAE), la cual tiene sede su sede principal en Puyo y una subsede en Macas. Es un pueblo binacional ya que cuenta con una parte de su población y territorio en Perú. Son

aproximadamente 10 mil habitantes, distribuidos en 50 comunidades, ubicadas en ambas provincias[39].

La población Shuar en cambio, se política de encuentran en Morona Santiago, tanto demográficamente como por su participación en la vida la provincia. Actualmente los Shuar reivindican un territorio de 900.688 ha. Según estimaciones de los Shuar, su población es de 110000 habitantes (1998), asentados en aproximadamente 668 comunidades. Actualmente el Estado ha declaró en una parte de su territorio, la creación del Parque Nacional Sangay, territorio que en cierta manera está protegido igual que los territorios ubicados también en la zona de influencia del Parque Nacional Podocarpus y de la Reserva Faunística del Cuyabeno[40].

La Federación Interprovincial de Centros Shuar (FICSH) es la representación política de esta nacionalidad, siendo la organización indígena amazónica más antigua del país, con su sede en Sucúa.

La nacionalidad Sápara/Zápara se encuentra en Pastaza y cuenta con una población de alrededor de 360 personas en un territorio de aproximadamente 380.000 has., viviendo en relativo aislamiento, Su territorio está a 45 minutos de vuelo desde Puyo.

En estas zonas, las dinámicas de acceso, las vías de comunicación son limitadas y reducidas. Muchas veces, la mejor forma de acceso son vías fluviales. Dicha situación dificulta la comunicación y la interlocución con las instancias organizativas y de gobernanza.

De manera similar al Paisaje Putumayo-Aguarico, en los cantones donde trabaja este proyecto los mestizos son la mayoría de la población, pero a diferencia de las nacionalidades indígenas, no cuentan con territorios colectivos. Ellos son pequeños propietarios.

Las dinámicas de género en las zonas de implementación

El área prevista para la implementación del Proyecto se encuentra en las provincias de Sucumbíos, Orellana, Pastaza y Morona Santiago, de la Amazonía ecuatoriana, esta es un área diversa, geográficamente extensa y que tiene dinámicas similares para mujeres y hombres de la zona donde las mujeres y hombres de las zonas rurales, urbanas, indígenas y mestizas viven en la dicotomía de lo productivo y lo reproductivo. Difícilmente se habla de tareas compartidas o de roles compartidos, y no se discute abiertamente la igualdad de género. Pero en espacios menos públicos, y en conversaciones de confianza, el tema de género sí es mencionado, y se cuestiona que exista la brecha de oportunidades entre hombres y mujeres.

En términos generales, tradicionales y esquemáticos, las mujeres han estado relegadas a la esfera privada de la vida, dedicadas a los trabajos de crianza y cuidado de la familia; mientras los hombres han participado en la esfera pública, en la toma de decisiones que conciernen a la comunidad y a la familia, y en los negocios con los actores externos. Esta división de género está presente en los dos grupos mayoritarios que componen la zona rural: población de origen ancestral y población mestiza colona.

[39] Ver: Indígenas Achuar (guiapuyo.com)
[40] Ver: Shuar - CONAIE

En los talleres se buscó identificar y conocer los roles y tareas destinadas para mujeres y hombres, situación que permite evidenciar los roles de género. A continuación, un breve resumen de la información obtenida en los talleres[41]:

Tabla 2: Cuadro resumen de roles y tareas diferenciadas por género			
Actividad	**Mujeres**	**Hombres**	**Ambos**
Actividades reproductivas / Tareas del cuidado	Mujeres rurales y urbanas indígenas y mestizas		
Actividades agrícolas para la comercialización		Hombres mestizos: palma, plátano, yuca, café, cacao	Comercialización
Actividades agrícolas para la subsistencia	Mujeres rurales: cultivos de ciclo corto, maíz, fréjol, piscicultura		
Actividades de cacería, pesca		Hombres indígenas: cacería	Hombres indígenas: pesca
Recolección de frutas	Mujeres y niños indígenas		
Actividades de turismo sostenible, de artesanías a pequeña escala	Mujeres urbanas y rurales, indígenas y mestizas: vinculadas con temas de servicios	Guías	Administración
Ganadería		Hombres campesinos rurales: crianza y cuidado de ganado para carne	

Este modelo tradicional, sin embargo, se ha resquebrajado en las últimas décadas debido a una serie de factores y agentes de cambio que van desde la construcción de carreteras, el arribo masivo de migrantes de otras regiones, y la llegada de instituciones estatales (sistema educativo, de salud, judicial, medios de comunicación, etc.). El Estado asumió un rol protagónico para reducir la brecha entre mujeres y hombres, y procuró la expansión de la educación formal en la amazonia, la implementación de servicios de salud que estén más cerca de las comunidades, realizó campañas por relaciones de género más justas, y promovió servicios que velan por los derechos de las mujeres.

En este contexto, si bien esta estructura social en donde las mujeres indígenas y mestizas están confinadas a la casa y la reproducción existe y aún es fuerte, no debe asumirse que no es cuestionada y a veces superada. Ahora hay voces -cada vez más públicas- de mujeres indígenas y mestizas amazónicas que se alzan contra este esquema, especialmente desde las nuevas generaciones. En los talleres y entrevistas realizadas para este trabajo se mencionó las marcadas diferencias entre las generaciones, siendo las personas más jóvenes quienes tendrían mayor acceso a posibilidades de estudiar, y de eventualmente de ocupar puestos técnicos y políticos, en contraste con las mujeres de mayor edad que no contaron con esas opciones.

[41] Las dinámicas de género en ambos paisajes, son bastante similares, es por esto que se presenta de ésta manera la información.

La participación de mujeres en la esfera pública, toma de decisiones y la organización comunitaria

Como mencionamos anteriormente, tradicionalmente se excluyó a las mujeres de la esfera pública (sea toma de decisiones comunitarias, representación, discusiones sobre los viene comunes), pero debido a una serie de transformaciones sociales y económicas, ahora se encuentra que mujeres indígenas y mestizas se han podido abrir camino en este mundo público (el que aún es bastante masculino).

En este contexto diverso, se pueden resaltar algunas dinámicas comunes entre las comunidades indígenas:

a. Las organizaciones a nivel rural, como las comunidades indígenas cuentan con una dinámica interna de gobernanza bastante clara en la cual cuentan con una directiva, que se elige generalmente entre 2 o 5 años, dependiendo de su conformación. Con frecuencia, debido a peleas internas, las directivas no alcanzan a terminar su periodo y se tienen elecciones antes. Dicha directiva, cuenta con un/a presidente, un/a vicepresidente, un/a sindico, un/a tesorera, un/a secretaria y al menos 5 comisiones en las cuáles se incluye una de la mujer y la familia. Estas últimas dirigencias mencionadas generalmente son femeninas, mientras que las comisiones de territorio y desarrollo usualmente recaen sobre dirigentes hombres.
b. El peso de las comisiones dentro de las comunidades, y específicamente el peso de la comisión de la mujer y familia, usualmente varía. De acuerdo con investigaciones previas realizadas por esta consultora, la existencia de un proyecto externo, gracias a una ONG o el Estado, con el consiguiente potencial acceso a los recursos de ese proyecto, es el principal factor para determinar el peso de la comisión. Si hay un proyecto de género, la comisión de la mujer cobra importancia dentro de la comunidad porque es a través de ella que las familias pueden acceder a otros recursos. Si es un proyecto de protección del territorio, y es la comisión de territorios la encargada, esa comisión tendrá mayor peso en la comunidad.
c. Las organizaciones comunitarias son independientes y responden a las necesidades de la comunidad; pero son parte de una estructura política indígena. Las comunidades eligen y son representadas ante el Estado por las federaciones como la NOA'IKE, NAE, FICSH, etc. A su vez, las federaciones son independientes, y responden a los intereses de su nacionalidad, pero son representadas ante el Estado por la Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas de la Amazonía Ecuatoriana (CONFENIAE).
d. En los espacios de participación, aun cuando los estatutos de la comunidad suelen señalar igualdad de participación, las mujeres tienden a ser excluidas debido a una serie de razones. Primero, muchas veces los estatutos de las comunidades establecen que cada familia tiene "un socio" para los votos en las asambleas, esta persona generalmente es el "jefe de hogar", es decir, el hombre mayor de la familia. Si bien hay algunas mujeres que participan en las asambleas, ellas son representantes de sus familias y de los socios; "en las asambleas comunales no se habla de las mujeres como representantes de familia, pese a que el esposo o papa ha fallecido, cuando se toma lista a todos los miembros de la comunidad. Generalmente, las mujeres, no son socias de la comunidad, no son vistas así, se ignora a la mujer y se piensa solamente en la titulación de los socios, aun cuando el esposo o los hijos han migrado a la ciudad y la única que continúa trabajando en la tierra es la mujer" (Entrevista a dirigente de la FONAKISE).
e. En segundo lugar, al ser confinadas al espacio de la reproducción, atención de los hijos, la comida, las mujeres no tienen tiempo libre para atender diversas actividades de la comunidad.

f. Sin embargo y a decir de los líderes hombres, los tiempos están cambiando y las mujeres tienen más posibilidad de participar y de participar de mejor manera: “en la última asamblea se vio la participación de las mujeres, ellas reclamaron su derecho a la propiedad, hay una dirigencia de la mujer, y últimamente hemos tenido talleres para mujeres adultas, jóvenes y se trabaja para su determinación” (entrevista a dirigente de SIEKOPAI).

g. A nivel de las comunidades, las mujeres están vinculadas con la preparación de alimentos y se encargan constantemente de la soberanía alimentaria de las poblaciones, esta tarea la ejercen con la siembra de alimentos, de plantas medicinales y las posibilidades, necesidades de sus niños/as y ancianos.

h. En distintas nacionalidades, las mujeres son las guardianas de las semillas, las encargadas de la preparación de la chicha, bebida con alto contenido nutricional que se usa para calmar la sed, alimentar y también festejar, dependiendo de su grado de fermentación.

i. Adicionalmente, se conoce la existencia de organizaciones de mujeres productoras. Ellas, generalmente son parte de pequeñas organizaciones de mujeres que se han dedicado a la siembra de productos a pequeña escala para la comercialización y procesamiento de los mismos. Su rol está vinculado con la generación de valor agregado a los productos, en este sentido, se hace referencia por ejemplo a las mujeres cacaoteras, productoras y comercializadoras de chocolate y artesanías. Dicha actividad implica que sus labores sean distintas al rol de cuidadoras.

También es necesario mencionar que las dinámicas de las organizaciones tienden a ser similares a pesar de las diferencias étnicas y de si son mestizos o no, pues las mujeres difícilmente participan en la toma de decisiones de los proyectos ya que existen una serie de brechas estructurales como la dificultad de manejar el idioma castellano y adicionalmente, no cuentan con las capacidades técnicas para poder realizar lobby o potenciar sus intereses. En algunas circunstancias, en las cuales se han definido proyectos donde las mujeres son las principales gestoras y beneficiarias, se trabajan en temas que evidencian sus conocimientos, que tienen la posibilidad de mejorar sus capacidades y de mejorar la participación, potenciando sus dinámicas locales.

Durante la fase PPG, en noviembre del 2019, se levantó información cualitativa en el paisaje norte y en el paisaje sur. Este proceso incluyó ejercicios grupales en donde se solicitaba identificar información específica sobre mujeres y hombres en términos de actividades, impactos, beneficios y riesgos. En los talleres realizados en las ciudades de Lago Agrio, Coca, Macas y Puyo, se contó con la presencia de mujeres. Lamentablemente, no se logró la paridad en términos de participación de las representaciones de las organizaciones indígenas, pues aún las capacidades de las mujeres, así como la posibilidad de participar en espacios de diálogo es limitada. De a poco esto está cambiando y las mujeres mencionan que están interesadas en mejorar su participación en espacios de representación a nivel comunitario y local.

Adicionalmente, se levantó información específica sobre género y mujeres con los y las representantes de las 5 nacionalidades que habitan las zonas previstas para el proyecto. Finalmente, se recolectó información también con GADs, con ONGs y otros actores claves de la zona.

En estos espacios de diálogo se resaltó la importancia de que las mujeres sean consideradas como sujetos de cambio: “Las organizaciones de mujeres deben ser beneficiadas, incluidas

directamente en esto, que no se nos deje fuera de la capacitación, antes éramos escondidas, no estábamos en las mesas de diálogo, eso no significa que las mujeres estamos en los hombros de los hombres. Como mujeres… conocemos nuestras potencialidades y tenemos que seguir mejorando" (mujer shuar, taller Macas).

Contexto del proyecto

El Proyecto busca aportar en términos de mejorar la conectividad ecológica, la conectividad, biodiversidad, conservación y la producción sostenible y el manejo integrado de paisajes. Se evidencia en el recojo de información que mujeres y hombres se verían afectados positivamente pues las iniciativas de producción sostenible y conservación son parte importante de las dinámicas poblacionales locales. Así también se prevé que las mujeres sean beneficiadas de manera directa en alguna de las inversiones previstas en el proyecto.

La posibilidad de contar con alternativas diversas, sostenibles en términos económicos y en el tiempo, son claves para las dinámicas socio productivas y para reducir la brecha de género. Si se dejara por fuera la perspectiva de las mujeres se estaría arriesgando la protección y potenciación de sus saberes ancestrales, la posibilidad de generar beneficios equitativos y de mejorar las condiciones de vida de las poblaciones.

Adicionalmente, se abre una posibilidad clave para las mujeres, pues se busca identificar alternativas para bioemprendimientos. Las mujeres son poseedoras de conocimientos específicos para el procesamiento de plantas, para la reproducción de semillas, procesamiento de aceites esenciales, latex y otros productos no maderables. Este conocimiento puede ser recogido y potenciado con el fin de lograr iniciativas que permitan mejorar el nivel de vida y el empoderamiento de las mujeres.

Asimismo, se tiene la posibilidad de aportar de manera sostenible en la gestión de los corredores con mayor participación de las mujeres. Esto implica un beneficio adicional para los pobladores mujeres y hombres de las comunidades, pues se está pensando en la generación de capacidades para la incidencia, así como para la participación efectiva en espacios de diálogo a nivel comunitario y la gestión de corredores.

Los hombres, en cambio, se podrían beneficiar en procesos de sensibilización sobre los patrones culturales, y las ventajas de la gestión de las áreas y de valorar los conocimientos y tareas de las mujeres.

Las actividades previstas deben incluir un presupuesto específico para realizar capacitaciones específicas, sensibilización y seguimiento para las mujeres en términos de apoyar su participación en las actividades de protección, conservación y actividades productivas.

SECCIÓN III: PLAN DE ACCIÓN DE GÉNERO

El plan de acción de género permite establecer de manera sistemática y explícita las medidas y acciones previstas para atender las necesidades diferenciadas y reducir las brechas de género en el proyecto. Este documento plan de acción además permite transversalizar el enfoque de género en el proyecto, en sus componentes, resultados y productos.

A continuación, un cuadro resumen donde se analiza el vínculo entre la descripción de usuarios/as, sus dinámicas, funciones y capacidades que tienen relación con el proyecto y el cómo potenciarlos:

Descripción de los usuarios/grupo de recursos (el grupo puede ser formal o informal)	**Funciones, capacidades, conocimientos y experiencia, derechos de acceso y control, y responsabilidades**	**Impacto del proyecto en los grupos de usuarios**	**Influencia de los usuarios/grupos en el proyecto**
Poblaciones indígenas de ambos corredores, quienes se encuentran en el área directa del proyecto, así como en el área de amortiguamiento: **PAISAJE PUTUMAYO-AGUARICO** Kichwa amazónicos, Waorani, Siona – Siekopai, A'i Kofán. **PAISAJE PALORA-PASTAZA** Achuar, Shuar. Kichwa amazónicos. Las nacionalidades cuentan con propiedad colectiva, que implica que la propiedad de la tierra es indivisible, inalienable e inembargable, según la Constitución del Ecuador 2008.	Mujeres y hombres indígenas tienen una contribución única para la conservación de la biodiversidad. Han logrado mantener un importante porcentaje de hectáreas conservadas, ellos y ellas, y trabajan arduamente por mantener su territorio alejado de las actividades extractivas. Los territorios comunitarios generalmente se encuentran organizados bajo los planes de vida en zonas de uso y conservación. Estos espacios se distribuyen en: a. zona de uso: - vivienda, cuentas con fincas familiares alrededor de los centros poblados. Las fincas se van dividiendo cuando una nueva familia se forma. Cada socio, cuenta con alrededor de 300 metros para construir su casa y la siembra de productos de subsistencia. - Zonas de caza - Zona de pesca Zona de conservación: - Bosque altamente conservado - Zonas de restauración activa y pasiva.	El principal riesgo que podría tener el proyecto es no tomar en cuenta las particularidades de género con relación a: - Inequidades en la propiedad de la tierra y por tanto muchas de las mujeres no participan en la toma de decisiones. A excepción de que sea en representación de sus esposos. - Falta de capacidades para la participación en espacios de toma de decisiones. - Poca evidencia de las potencialidades de las mujeres para aportar en la onservación de la biodiversidad - Evidenciar que la violencia en las comunidades sigue siendo una dificultad que afecta todas las esferas de la vida de las mujeres. - En las comunidades, el embarazo adolescente, es una dificultad constante, para las mujeres, en términos de acceder a espacios de liderazgos. - La inequidad en términos de tareas del cuidado generando sobrecarga en este sentido para las mujeres.	El proyecto podría contribuir a que más mujeres se sumen a las organizaciones de pueblos y nacionalidades, así como a las de representación cantonal, parroquial, provincial y a las asociaciones de mujeres emprendedoras. El proyecto podría generar incentivos para la conservación, en los que se involucran tanto mujeres como hombres. Entre los beneficios que podrían resultar del proyecto, serían los procesos de formación para los pobladores y comunidades, específicamente aquellas que se enfoquen en reducir las brechas de género. Las mujeres exigen potenciar sus saberes y aunque reconocen los logros que han tenido en este sentido, necesitan involucrarse activamente en proyectos que beneficien a sus comunidades. Identificar información y conocimientos locales que promuevan el intercambio de saberes y prácticas de mujeres y hombres sobre

Descripción de los usuarios/grupo de recursos (el grupo puede ser formal o informal)	Funciones, capacidades, conocimientos y experiencia, derechos de acceso y control, y responsabilidades	Impacto del proyecto en los grupos de usuarios	Influencia de los usuarios/grupos en el proyecto
	Mujeres y hombres tienen conocimientos diferenciados con relación al bosque. Los hombres se vinculan con las actividades que implican salir de casa y recorrer distancias importantes, conocen las especies maderables, las especies alimenticias, tienen conocimientos para ubicarse en el bosque. Las mujeres en cambio, cuentan conocimientos para reproducir especies alimenticias, conocen los servicios ecosistémicos vinculados con los animales (polinización y reproducción de especies). Cuentan con conocimientos sobre plantas medicinales, alimenticias, conocen sobre frutas y especies alimenticias, conocen sobre el procesamiento de alimentos, plantas fibras y látex que pueden servir para la generación de artesanías, y saben de los insumos para la recolección de frutos.	Otro riesgo identificado por las comunidades, especialmente por las asociaciones de mujeres, es el uso de su nombre con fines políticos o no altruista. Es decir, aprovecharse del nombre de la comunidad y sus necesidades, lo que consideran como un riesgo en la intervención de proyectos externos en sus comunidades. Dentro de las comunidades, plantean como riesgo malinterpretar la equidad de género, y que esto pueda resultar en aún más inequidades para la población o violencia	conservación, prácticas ancestrales sobre manejo del boque y vida silvestre, y que contribuyen además a la mitigación y adaptación al cambio climático.
Otro grupo clave es el de los productores a pequeña escala, quienes están repartidos en ambos corredores, ellos/as producen palma africana, café, cacao, plátano, yuca.	Mujeres y hombres trabajan la tierra con el fin de satisfacer sus necesidades; sin embargo, se ha visibilizado: - Que la Amazonía es una de las regiones más ricas y naturales del país, pero no ha logrado	En las actividades productivas, generalmente trabajan los distintos miembros de la familia, sin embargo, las mujeres asumen un porcentaje importante de la tarea, sin que sus responsabilidades del cuidado se reduzcan.	Los pequeños productores se verán beneficiados en la generación de iniciativas sostenibles, así como en la posibilidad de mejorar las cadenas productivas y por tanto la comercialización. Las mujeres logran espacios en la toma de

Descripción de los usuarios/grupo de recursos (el grupo puede ser formal o informal)	Funciones, capacidades, conocimientos y experiencia, derechos de acceso y control, y responsabilidades	Impacto del proyecto en los grupos de usuarios	Influencia de los usuarios/grupos en el proyecto
	tener un desarrollo adecuado y la calidad de vida de su población, y mantiene unos indicadores sociales bajos. - "Uno de los indicadores más importantes para medir el nivel de pobreza en la Provincia es el índice de necesidades básicas insatisfechas (NBI), que se refiere al nivel de pobreza derivada de la carencia persistente de satisfacción de las necesidades básicas como son: salud, educación, vivienda y empleo, Uno de estos, el índice de pobreza, medida a través de las Necesidades Básicas Insatisfechas, refleja las condiciones preocupantes en las que vive la mayoría de la población de la Región" (INEC s/f, 93). - En la región, la pobreza abarca al 78% de las personas mientras que el 46% de la población vive bajo condiciones de pobreza extrema (ECV, INEC, 2.006)18.	Por otro lado, se evidenció información sobre la brecha salarial que existe entre mujeres y hombres en tareas de la finca. Las mujeres ganan entre 3 y 5 usd menos que un hombre por el jornal de trabajo. Riesgos: - Profundizar las brechas de ingreso para mujeres y hombres - Mantener los roles de género que potencian la sobrecarga de trabajo - Invisibilizar los liderazgos femeninos y los perfiles para la participación en espacios de toma de decisiones - Profundizar la percepción de falta de posibilidades para los/ las jóvenes - Incremento en la violencia de género vinculada con los beneficios e implementación del proyecto.	decisiones y posibilidades de empoderamiento. Se reduce la violencia por las mejoras en las posibilidades de las mujeres para negociar.

3.1. La inclusión del enfoque de género en el proyecto

En el marco del plan de género se hace necesario también incluir como eje transversal la mirada diferenciada de mujeres y hombres en la gestión e implementación del proyecto. A continuación, una tabla comparativa en donde se incluye por un lado el documento de proyecto y en la columna se incluye el proyecto con las recomendaciones de género incorporadas:

Tabla B (documento del Proyecto)			**Tabla B revisada (incluye la perspectiva género sensible**		
Componente	Resultado	Producto	Componente	Resultado	Producto
1. Gestión Integrada del Patrimonio Natural o en Paisajes Sostenibles.	1.1 Área de ecosistemas forestales de importancia mundial bajo protección legal en los dos paisajes del proyecto incrementada.	1.1.1 Documentación técnica presentada para su aprobación del por MAAE (u otras autoridades competentes) para la conformación designación de los corredores de conectividad, incluyendo un análisis y definición de viabilidad ecológica, socioeconómica y política de los corredores.	1. Gestión Integrada del Patrimonio Natural o en Paisajes Sostenibles.	1.1 Área de ecosistemas forestales de importancia mundial bajo protección legal en los dos paisajes del proyecto incrementada.	1.1.1 Documentación técnica presentada para su aprobación del por MAAE (u otras autoridades competentes) para la conformación designación de los corredores de conectividad, incluyendo un análisis y definición de viabilidad ecológica, socioeconómica (que incluya el enfoque de género e interculturalidad) y política de los corredores.
	1.2 Gestión de corredores y áreas de conservación fortalecida	1.2.1. Instrumentos de planificación y gestión participativos y de sostenibilidad financiera de los corredores de conectividad, desarrollados y avalados por las		1.2 Gestión de corredores y áreas de conservación fortalecida.	1.2.1. Instrumentos de planificación y gestión de sostenibilidad financiera de los corredores de conectividad, desarrollados y avalados por las autoridades locales a través

Tabla B (documento del Proyecto)			Tabla B revisada (incluye la perspectiva género sensible		
		autoridades locales 1.2.2. Sistemas de monitoreo ecológico en los dos corredores diseñados.			de procesos participativos **incluyentes y equitativos**. 1.2.2. Sistemas de monitoreo ecológico en los dos corredores diseñados.
2: Actividades económicas sostenibles para la gestión de paisajes productivos	2.1: Incremento de áreas bajo prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sistemas productivos.	2.1.1. Programa diseñado para la capacitación e implementación de prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sistemas productivos amazónicos. 2.1.2 Productores y comunidades locales en los dos corredores, están capacitados, cuentan con planes prediales y adoptan prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sus propiedades.	2: Actividades económicas sostenibles para la gestión de paisajes productivos	2.1: Incremento de áreas bajo prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sistemas productivos.	2.1.1. Programa diseñado para la capacitación e implementación de prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sistemas productivos amazónicos que incluya los conocimientos diferenciados de mujeres y hombres. 2.1.2 Productores/as y comunidades locales en los dos corredores, están capacitados, cuentan con planes prediales y adoptan prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sus propiedades tomando en cuenta sus prioridades y necesidades

Tabla B (documento del Proyecto)			Tabla B revisada (incluye la perspectiva género sensible		
					diferenciadas de mujeres y hombres.
	2.2: Emprendimientos basados en el uso sostenible del bosque fortalecidos	2.2.1: Bioemprendimientos en cada paisaje equipados, capacitados, y/o vinculados a potenciales mercados.		2.2 Emprendimientos basados en el uso sostenible del bosque y que potencian los saberes diferenciados de mujeres y hombres fortalecidos	2.2.1: Bioemprendimientos en cada paisaje equipados, capacitados, y/o vinculados a potenciales mercados que reconozcan e incluyan las necesidades diferenciadas de mujeres y hombres.
3: Condiciones habilitantes para la conectividad y la gestión integrada de paisajes	Resultado 3.1: Condiciones jurídicas, administrativas, técnicas e institucionales desarrolladas para la gestión integrada del paisaje y de los corredores de conectividad.	3.1.1.: Instrumentos normativos y de política pública integran el enfoque de paisaje y de conectividad en la planificación y ordenamiento territorial de los paisajes de intervención.	3: Condiciones habilitantes para la conectividad y la gestión integrada de paisajes	Resultado 3.1: Condiciones jurídicas, administrativas, técnicas e institucionales desarrolladas y alineadas con las políticas nacionales para garantizar derechos para la gestión integrada del paisaje y de los corredores de conectividad.	3.1.1.: Instrumentos normativos y de política pública integran el enfoque de paisaje y de conectividad en la planificación y ordenamiento territorial de los paisajes de intervención.
		Producto 3.1.2.: Plataformas de gobernanza interinstitucionales, intersectoriales y multinivel creadas y operativas para la gestión de paisajes y corredores de conectividad (1 por paisaje).			Producto 3.1.2.: Plataformas de gobernanza interinstitucionales, intersectoriales y multinivel creadas y operativas para la gestión de paisajes y corredores de conectividad que incluyan mujeres y hombres (1 por paisaje).
		Producto: 3.1.3.: Programa de desarrollo de capacidades para entidades públicas			Producto: 3.1.3.: Programa de desarrollo de capacidades para entidades públicas

Tabla B (documento del Proyecto)			Tabla B revisada (incluye la perspectiva género sensible		
		pertinentes y actores locales involucrados en la planificación, gestión y monitoreo de los paisajes, corredores de conectividad y áreas de conservación.			pertinentes y actores locales involucrados en la planificación, gestión y monitoreo de los paisajes, corredores de conectividad y áreas de conservación que reconozca y evidencia las particularidades y necesidades de las mujeres y hombres.
4. Monitoreo y Evaluación, Gestión del Conocimiento y Coordinación Regional	4.1 Los datos de monitoreo y evaluación del proyecto contribuyen a la toma de decisiones eficiente y la gestión adaptativa del proyecto.	4.1.1 El Plan de Monitoreo y Evaluación del Proyecto informa la gestión adaptativa del proyecto.	4. Monitoreo y Evaluación, Gestión del Conocimiento y Coordinación Regional	4.1 Los datos de monitoreo y evaluación del proyecto contribuyen a la toma de decisiones eficiente y la gestión adaptativa del proyecto.	4.1.1 El Plan de Monitoreo y Evaluación del Proyecto informa la gestión adaptativa del proyecto.
	4.2 Fortalecimiento de la coordinación nacional y regional	4.2.1. Coordinación efectiva a nivel nacional y con el programa del ASL.		4.2 Fortalecimiento de la coordinación nacional y regional	4.2.1. Coordinación efectiva a nivel nacional y con el programa del ASL.

3.1. Plan de Acción de género (PAG)

El plan de acción de género es el instrumento de planificación previsto para alcanzar resultados específicos con relación a la reducción de brechas con relación a los derechos de las mujeres y poblaciones en situación de vulnerabilidad. En esta lógica, se establecen un grupo de acciones específicas para la atención de las necesidades planteadas y evidenciadas en el texto precedente. Finalmente, se debe mencionar que en el cuadro siguiente se recogen solamente las actividades donde se considera posible y estratégica la inclusión de género.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
Componente 1: Establecimiento de dos corredores de conectividad en los dos paisajes del proyecto.						
Resultado ***1.1. Aumento de la superficie de los corredores de conectividad creados en los dos paisajes del proyecto.***						
1.1.1. Documentación técnica presentada para su aprobación por el MAAE (u otras autoridades competentes) para la designación de los dos nuevos corredores de conectividad, incluyendo un análisis y definición de la viabilidad ecológica, socioeconómica (incluyendo enfoques de género e interculturalidad) y política de cada corredor.	Realizar un análisis multitemporal (geoespacial, socioeconómico, cultural, ecológico y político) de los dos paisajes del proyecto (Putumayo - Aguarico y Palora - Pastaza), que permita comprender aspectos como la fragmentación, vacíos de conservación, áreas claves para conservación de la biodiversidad, cambios de uso y gestión de suelo y amenazas a las zonas núcleo de los corredores presentes en los ambos paisajes.	Realizar un diagnóstico para identificar conocimientos sobre conservación de la biodiversidad, producción sostenible y uso del suelo diferenciadas por género. DESCRIPCIÓN: El diagnóstico permitirá evidenciar incorporar los conocimientos ancestrales en las ECAS, así como en las iniciativas de producción sostenible. Potenciar los conocimientos de mujeres y hombres y aportar en la valoración de las mujeres como poseedoras de conocimientos.	Liderado por la UGP, desarrollado con la participación de RedBio y actores locales a través de donaciones (grants).	I1: Un diagnóstico sobre las dinámicas de conservación de la biodiversidad, producción sostenible y uso del suelo diferenciadas por género por paisaje. I2: Número de conocimientos identificados para sistematizar saberes y prácticas ancestrales y locales de mujeres y hombres sobre conservación de la biodiversidad producción sostenible y uso del suelo que contribuyan a la mitigación y adaptación al cambio climático. M1: Un diagnóstico por paisaje.	Cuarto trimestre del año 1.	15.000 USD por paisaje
	En base a criterios técnicos para el diseño de los corredores de conectividad, identificar y seleccionar remanentes de bosque	Identificar e incluir las necesidades y perspectivas diferenciadas de mujeres y hombres en los planes de manejo		I3: Número de recomendaciones diferenciadas por género de mujeres y hombres para el desarrollo de los planes	Cuarto trimestre del año 1.	Incluido en las responsabilidades de la especialista de género del proyecto.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
	que estén sin protección dentro de ambos paisajes, para ser propuestos como nuevas áreas locales de conservación.	participativo para los dos corredores. DESCRIPCIÓN: En función del diagnóstico elaborado previamente, se recogerá e incluirá las necesidades de las localidades, de las mujeres y hombres de la zona en términos de conectividad y conservación.		de manejo de los corredores. M2: Al menos un plan de manejo de cada bio corredor incluye recomendaciones de género e interculturalidad.		
	Realizar un análisis de factibilidad de la incorporación de los corredores de conectividad en el ordenamiento territorial, tomando en cuenta especialmente las competencias de los GADs, considerando la inclusión de los corredores en los PDOTs y otros planes complementarios.	Realizar procesos de sensibilización con técnicos y técnicas para sensibilizar y evidenciar las potencialidades de las mujeres para aportar en el desarrollo territorial. DESCRIPCIÓN: La sensibilización es el primer paso clave para evidenciar las potencialidades para abordar los temas de conservación, conectividad con enfoque de género.	UGP (responsable de género) y GADs	**I4:** Una metodología diseñada para la sensibilización y transversalización del enfoque de género en el diseño e implementación de corredores. **I5**: Porcentaje de técnicos/as capacitados. **M3:** Al menos 20% de los y las técnicas de dos GADs por año	Cuarto trimestre del año 2.	30.000 usd para la implementación de la sensibilización en los GADs identificados.
	Implementar talleres y reuniones con actores relevantes, para la revisión, discusión y validación de los	Generar espacios de formación para mujeres de distintas edades para la toma de decisiones discusión y validación	UGP (responsable de género), desarrollado	**I6:** Número de mujeres y representantes de grupos vulnerables participan plenamente en los espacios de toma de decisiones	A partir del primer trimestre del año 2.	25.000 usd para la implementación de la sensibilización.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
	análisis realizados en cada paisaje y selección de las propuestas de conectividad y nuevas áreas de conservación a ser declaradas. Estos procesos participativos deben ser debidamente documentados con actas de reuniones, fotografías, listas de participantes, entre otros.	de los criterios definidos para la conectividad cada paisaje y selección de las propuestas de conectividad y nuevas áreas de conservación a ser declaradas. DESCRIPCIÓN: El proceso de sensibilización es el primer paso para evidenciar, para potenciar intervenciones diferenciadas y que atiendan las brechas de género a distintos niveles.	con la participación de RedBio y actores locales a través de donaciones (grants).	discusión y validación de los análisis realizados en cada paisaje y selección de las propuestas de conectividad y nuevas áreas de conservación a ser declaradas. **M4:** Al menos dos espacios de diálogo y sensibilización.		
	En el caso de involucrar a territorios de pueblos y nacionalidades indígenas, implementar un proceso de consentimiento previo, libre e informado como un criterio para la selección de los paisajes.	Definir acciones afirmativas para atender las necesidades de mujeres, y jóvenes de los pueblos y nacionalidades indígenas para la participación plena y efectiva de los pueblos y nacionalidades indígenas. DESCRIPCIÓN: La formación y generación de capacidades, para mujeres indígenas		**I6:** Número de acciones afirmativas implementadas para mejorar la participación de las mujeres. **M5:** Al menos el 40% de las actividades de involucramiento de actores son mujeres.	A partir del primer trimestre año 2 y 3.	10.000 anuales para la generación de acciones afirmativas en los dos paisajes anualmente.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
		deberá contar con algunas características específicas: material de capacitación culturalmente adecuado, que incluya ejemplos locales para la conservación, contar con espacio para el cuidado y alimentación de sus hijos/as. Adicionalmente se considera necesario contar con un fondo para garantizar el traslado.				
	Generar información con la caracterización biofísica, socioeconómica y cultural de los corredores de conectividad seleccionados, incluyendo lo siguiente: Aspectos físicos: Caracterizar los recursos suelo, agua y aire; Aspectos biológicos: Describir el estado de los ecosistemas; cobertura vegetal y uso	Definir indicadores que evidencien los conocimientos diferenciados de mujeres y hombre con relación a conservación, a monitoreo de especies y que aporten en la toma de decisiones y monitoreo del proyecto. DESCRIPCIÓN: Los indicadores socioeconómicos deberán evidenciar los cambios de comportamiento y la		**I7:** Número de indicadores de socio ambientales diferenciados por género en función de los conocimientos ambientales. **M6:** Al menos 5 indicadores por paisaje con enfoque de género.	A lo largo del proyecto	Incluido en las responsabilidades de la especialista de género del proyecto.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
	del suelo; flora; fauna; identificación de valores de conservación y servicios ambientales; Aspectos socioeconómicos y culturales: Describir la situación de la población local, especialmente en relación con aspectos demográficos, enfoque de género e interculturalidad, económicos y de acceso a servicios básicos, sistemas productivos, entre otros.	disponibilidad de mejorar la distribución de los beneficios en términos de acceso, uso y control de recursos, de medir la contribución de mujeres y hombres en cada corredor biológico.				
Resultado 1.2. Se ha reforzado la gestión de los corredores y las zonas de conservación.						
1.2.1. Los instrumentos de planificación y gestión inclusivos y sensibles a las cuestiones de género, incluidos los componentes de sostenibilidad financiera de los corredores de conectividad, son	Desarrollo participativo de planes de manejo para los dos corredores, que incluyen: ○ Mapeo de actores ○ Un plan de acción con roles y responsabilidades acordados entre todas las partes	Diseñar participativamente planes de manejo y mecanismos financieros que incluyen las necesidades de las mujeres y población en situación de vulnerabilidad. DESCRIPCIÓN:	Liderado por la UGP, desarrollado con la participación de RedBio y actores locales a través de donaciones (grants).	**I8:** Número de planes de manejo y mecanismos financieros generados con el aporte de las mujeres y hombres de las comunidades de base y organizaciones locales. **M7:** El 100% de los planes de manejo de los dos corredores y el	A partir del primer trimestre del año 2.	Incluido en las responsabilidades de la especialista de género del proyecto.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
desarrollados y aprobados por las autoridades locales	involucradas, en el contexto de las plataformas del corredor (a ser creado bajo el Componente 3). ○ Priorización de acciones de corto, mediano y largo plazo. ○ Priorización de las inversiones del proyecto FMAM y otros recursos disponibles. ○ Diseño e implementación de un mecanismo participativo de monitoreo y evaluación de metas, inversiones y resultados de la gestión. ○ Diseño de mecanismos e instrumentos para la planificación operativa. ○ Identificación de estrategias y mecanismos para la sostenibilidad	Se hace mención a lo participativo e incluyente, pues es necesario potenciar y aportar en la vinculación con las mujeres y sus conocimientos.		mecanismo financiero incluyen el enfoque de género.		

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
	financiera de los planes de manejo.					
	Desarrollo del Plan de Gestión Quinquenal con programas, proyectos y actividades considerando al menos los siguientes aspectos: ○ Gestión administrativa y financiera incluyendo los componentes de gobernanza, política y legislación, sostenibilidad financiera y alianzas estratégicas; ○ Conservación *in situ* y *ex situ*, con los componentes de áreas bajo categorías de conservación, restauración ecológica, reintroducción de especies nativas y unidades de manejo; ○ Investigación en los componentes biótico,	Identificar un grupo de acciones afirmativas hacia las mujeres en el Plan de Gestión Quinquenal con programas, proyectos y actividades consideradas en los siguientes aspectos: ○ Alternativas productivas sostenibles, con los componentes de incentivos, capacitación, ecoturismo, agroecología y corresponsabilidad (que será vinculado con el Componente 2 del proyecto). DESCRIPCIÓN: Las medidas de acción afirmativa para las mujeres son necesarias para poder lograr reducir brechas entre mujeres y hombres en términos	UGP (responsable de género)	**I6:** Número de acciones afirmativas implementadas para mejorar la participación de las mujeres en la planificación e implementación del plan quinquenal. **M8:** Al menos el 20% de las actividades y componentes definidas para el Plan Quinquenal.	A partir del primer trimestre año 2 y 3.	10.000 anuales para la generación de acciones afirmativas en los dos paisajes anualmente.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
	socioambiental y logístico; ○ Comunicación, capacitación, difusión y educación ambiental participativa; ○ Alternativas productivas sostenibles, con los componentes de incentivos, capacitación, ecoturismo, agroecología y corresponsabilidad (que será vinculado con el Componente 2 del proyecto).	de conservación y productivos. Las mujeres generalmente han estado invisibilizados del espacio de conservación. Entonces, las medidas de acción afirmativas[42], de: -				
	Desarrollo participativo del Plan Operativo Anual con metas e indicadores que	Establecer dentro del POA las acciones para lograr resultados positivos en la	Responsable de género del proyecto	**I9:** Número de acciones para reducir las brechas de género en el Plan operativo Anual.	Anualmente	Parte de las responsabilidades de la persona de

[42] A continuación, algunos ejemplos de acciones afirmativas: Identificar proyectos productivos sostenibles de organizaciones de mujeres.

- Identificar productos sostenibles que puedan ser fuentes de ingresos específicamente para las mujeres.
- Establecer un porcentaje de financiamiento para proyectos.
- Identificar las dificultades que impiden que las mujeres puedan participar en las ECAs, y elaborar sus respectivas medidas de mitigación. Por ejemplo: pago de transporte y movilización, información para la capacitación que sea incluyente y que atienda sus necesidades educativas y de formación, alimentación, etc.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
	responden a hitos anuales de gestión, enmarcados en el Plan de Gestión Quinquenal	reducción de brechas de género en el Plan Operativo Anual (POA). DESCRIPCIÓN: El POA requiere incorporar las actividades y el presupuesto definido para reducir las brechas de género de manera transversal, de esta manera se logrará resultados adecuados y la transversalización eficiente.		**M9:** Un POA que incorpore actividades y presupuesto de género por año de implementación del proyecto		género en el proyecto.
	Actualización de instrumentos de planificación y gestión en áreas de conservación existentes dentro de los corredores, para alinear sus objetivos de conservación con los de los corredores de conectividad. Esto incluye: ○ Apoyo técnico para la actualización de planes de manejo e inversión de las áreas de	Incorporar el enfoque de género en los instrumentos de planificación y gestión de áreas de conservación. DESCRIPCIÓN: Considerando el alcance del proyecto se considera necesario trabajar en la generación de capacidades en género para poder mejorar su implementación en los instrumentos de gestión y planificación estratégica	UGP (Consultoría)	**I10:** Número de actividades de acompañamiento para la incorporación del enfoque de género en los instrumentos de planificación e instrumentos productivos. **I11:** Un plan dirigido a técnicos/as de fortalecimiento de capacidades sobre género en la planificación estratégica. **I12** Número de mujeres y hombre capacitados.	Al segundo trimestre el año 1 y en los años subsiguientes de manera continua y en base a las necesidades del UGP.	25.000 usd

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
	conservación existentes dentro de los dos corredores y, ○ Desarrollo de capacidades para la gestión operativa de áreas de conservación.			**M10:** Actividades de género que se incluyen en el POA. **M11:** Al menos un plan de fortalecimiento de capacidades para técnicos/a con relación a género y planificación. **M12:** Al menos el 40% de técnicos/as vinculados con el proyecto se capacitan.		
1.2.2. Se desarrollan e implementan sistemas de monitoreo ecológico en los dos corredores.	Diseño de sistemas de monitoreo participativo con indicadores y metodologías relacionadas con los objetos de conservación de los corredores, sus relaciones de conectividad y las dinámicas sociales del entorno, para evaluar los impactos de las acciones de gestión.	Generación de capacidades para mujeres y hombres atendiendo sus necesidades particulares para aportar en el sistema de monitoreo participativo	UGP (Consultoría)	**I13:** Número de personas capacitadas en monitoreo participativo (desglosado por sexo) **M13**: Al menos el 20% de los técnicos/as destinados a hacer monitoreo comunitario capacitados.	Al segundo trimestre del tercer año.	Incluido en el indicador I7.
	Socialización y validación de indicadores y metodologías de monitoreo dentro de la plataforma de los corredores, con GADs, universidades, comunidades	Fomentar la participación plena y efectiva de las mujeres y hombres atendiendo sus necesidades particulares para la socialización y validación de indicadores.		**I14:** Número de personas participan en la socialización y validación de indicadores dentro de la plataforma de monitoreo participativo (desglosado por sexo)	Al segundo trimestre del tercer año	Incluido en el indicador I7.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
	indígenas y otros actores locales.	DESCRIPCIÓN: La participación implica un proceso previo de generación de capacidades para la población, actividad que se vincula con indicadores planteados previamente y posteriormente.		**M14**: Al menos 35% de los/las líderes y lideresas de las comunidades participan en los procesos de validación de información.		
	Desarrollar mecanismos y herramientas para periódicamente recopilar, analizar y presentar y difundir información generada por los sistemas de monitoreo, para tomadores de decisión y otros actores locales.	Generar y fortalecer capacidades para mujeres y hombres atendiendo sus necesidades particulares para recopilar, analizar y presentar y difundir información generada por los sistemas de monitoreo, para tomadores de decisión y otros actores locales.	UGP (consultoría)	**I12** Número de mujeres y hombre capacitados. **M11:** Al menos un plan de fortalecimiento de capacidades para técnicos/a con relación a género y planificación.	A partir del segundo y tercer año de implementación del proyecto.	25.000 usd por paisaje Presupuesto del plan de generación de capacidades.
Componente Actividades económicas sostenibles para la gestión de paisajes productivos						
Resultado 2.1. Aumento de las áreas productivas, en o alrededor de los corredores de conectividad, bajo la Gestión Sostenible de la Tierra (GST).						

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
2.1.1. Programa de formación y paquete sensible al género y de asistencia para la promoción de prácticas de GST en los dos corredores de conectividad diseñados.	Establecimiento de acuerdos con gobiernos locales provinciales y/o parroquiales y MAG para la implementación conjunta del programa, en el marco de sus competencias e iniciativas de fomento productivo.	Generar capacidades en mujeres y hombres para la implementación de prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sistemas productivos amazónicos. DESCRIPCIÓN: El proceso de generación de capacidades tiene que recoger información, socializar conocimientos diferenciados de mujeres y hombres, con relación a sus dinámicas locales con relación a los sistemas productivos.	UPG, especialista de género	**I15:** Número de diagnósticos de necesidades y planes de capacitación adecuados para mujeres y hombres que aporten implementación de prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sistemas productivos amazónicos. **I16**: Evidencia del cambio de capacidades de mujeres y hombres en su conocimiento sobre prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sistemas productivos amazónicos **M15:** Al menos un diagnóstico por paisaje de necesidades para la generación de capacidades sobre prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sistemas productivos amazónicos. **M16:** Al menos dos actividades de acompañamiento por año.	A partir del primer trimestre del segundo año	15.000 USD por paisaje. Presupuesto del plan de generación de capacidades.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
2.1.2. Programa de formación en GST con perspectiva de género para productores seleccionados en los dos corredores de conectividad implementados.	Establecimiento de acuerdos con gobiernos locales provinciales y/o parroquiales y MAG para la implementación conjunta del programa, en el marco de sus competencias e iniciativas de fomento productivo.	Apoyar a la generación de capacidades en género de los técnicos/as de fomento productivo. DESCRIPCIÓN_ El proceso de generación de capacidades tiene que recoger información, socializar conocimientos diferenciados de mujeres y hombres, con relación a sus dinámicas locales con relación a los sistemas productivos.	UPG, especialista de género en coordinación con el/la punto focal de género de los GAD	**I10, I11** y **I12** **M11:** Al menos un plan de fortalecimiento de capacidades para técnicos/a con relación a género y planificación y proyectos productivos. **M12:** Al menos el 40% de técnicos/as vinculados con el proyecto se capacitan.	Cada año	Presupuestada en la actividad de generación de capacidades para técnicos/as.
2.1.3 Prácticas de GST implementadas en parcelas seleccionadas de los dos corredores de conectividad (por ejemplo, cultivos de cobertura, diversificación de cultivos, agricultura de conservación y prácticas de conservación del suelo y el agua) que beneficien equitativamente a los hombres y		Generar capacidades en mujeres y hombres para la implementación de prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sistemas productivos amazónicos. DESCRIPCIÓN: El proceso de generación de capacidades tiene que recoger información, socializar conocimientos diferenciados de	UPG, especialista de género	**I15:** Número de diagnósticos de necesidades y planes de capacitación adecuados para mujeres y hombres que aporten implementación de prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sistemas productivos amazónicos. **I16**: Evidencia del cambio de capacidades de mujeres y hombres en su conocimiento sobre prácticas de manejo sostenible de la	A partir del primer trimestre del segundo año	15.000 USD por paisaje. Presupuesto del plan de generación de capacidades.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
mujeres productores.		mujeres y hombres, con relación a sus dinámicas locales con relación a los sistemas productivos.		tierra en sistemas productivos amazónicos **M15:** Al menos un diagnóstico por paisaje de necesidades para la generación de capacidades sobre prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra en sistemas productivos amazónicos. **M16:** Al menos dos actividades de acompañamiento por año. **M17:** Al menos un plan de fortalecimiento de capacidades por año.		
Resultado 2.2. Las iniciativas de bioeconomía se han reforzado en los dos corredores de conectividad.						
2.2.1. Las iniciativas de bioeconomía, en cada corredor de conectividad, han sido equipadas, capacitadas y/o vinculadas a mercados potenciales, en función de las necesidades diferenciadas de las mujeres y los hombres involucrados.	Acercamiento a los productores locales de ambos paisajes, a través de talleres, reuniones y visitas, para promover su interés y lograr su compromiso de participación en el Programa.	Identificar los emprendimientos productivos liderados por mujeres en ambos paisajes. DESCRIPCIÓN: Ver 2.1.2.	UGP (consultoría)	**I21:** Mapeo de emprendimientos productivos liderados por las mujeres. **M20:** Un mapeo por paisaje	Al inicio del segundo año de implementación	15.000 USD por paisaje.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
Producto 2.2.1: Bioemprendimientos en cada paisaje equipados, capacitados, y/o vinculados a potenciales mercados.	Sistematización de información disponible sobre la demanda para productos forestales no maderables, que permita identificar potenciales mercados para los bioemprendimientos, incluyendo un análisis puntual para el caso de los paisajes de intervención.	Identificar y fortalecer los productos forestales no maderables que permitan mejorar las condiciones de las mujeres a través de bioemprendimientos, el fortalecimiento de las cadenas de valor y emprendimientos productivos a distintas escalas. DESCRIPCIÓN: Ver 2.1.2.	UGP (Consultoría)	**I10, I11** y **I12** **M11:** Al menos un plan de fortalecimiento de capacidades para técnicos/a con relación a género y planificación y proyectos productivos. **M12:** Al menos el 40% de técnicos/as vinculados con el proyecto se capacitan.	Cada año	Presupuestada en la actividad de generación de capacidades para técnicos/as.
	Evaluación del potencial de bioemprendimientos existentes en los paisajes, y selección final de los bioemprendimientos a apoyar en el ámbito del proyecto en los dos paisajes, teniendo en cuenta los siguientes criterios: provenir de sistemas productivos sostenibles que promueven la conectividad en las áreas de intervención,					

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
	tener potencialidad de vínculos con el mercado, ser inclusivos con mujeres y jóvenes, presentar potencial de financiamiento complementario, y tener oportunidad para la agregación de la oferta con otros productos amazónicos.					
	Análisis detallado de las capacidades, limitaciones y debilidades de los bioemprendimientos seleccionados.					
	Desarrollo de una estrategia de fortalecimiento para los bioemprendimientos seleccionados, desde un enfoque de cadena de valor, que puede incluir uno o más de los siguientes aspectos: formulación de planes de negocios, mecanismos de asociatividad, mecanismos de trazabilidad, estrategias de					

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
	promoción y comercialización de productos, y establecimiento de enlaces con mercados locales e internacionales.					
Componente 3: Condiciones habilitantes para la conectividad y la gestión integrada de paisajes						
Resultado 3.1: 3.1. Condiciones legales, administrativas, técnicas e institucionales desarrolladas para la gestión sostenible de los corredores de conectividad.						
Producto 3.1.1. Los instrumentos normativos y de política pública integran las necesidades de los corredores de conectividad en la planificación y gestión del territorio de los paisajes intervenidos.	Brindar asistencia técnica a los gobiernos nacionales y locales y a la SCTEA para el desarrollo o actualización de instrumentos normativos y de políticas públicas priorizados, a fin de incorporar en su accionar enfoques de gestión sostenible del paisaje y conectividad de los ecosistemas.	Generar capacidades para técnicos/as locales en género para la participación equitativa a fin de incorporar en su accionar enfoques de gestión sostenible del paisaje y conectividad de los ecosistemas.	Especialista en género en coordinación del SCTEA	**I22:** Número de técnicos/técnicas de la SCTEA y GAD con capacidades fortalecidas en género. **I23:** Un plan de generación de capacidades alineada con los lineamientos del MAAE. **I24:** Evidencia del cambio de capacidades de técnicos/as locales **M22:** Como mínimo un 40% de los y las técnicas que tienen injerencia local capacitados.	Al inicio del segundo año de implementación	Presupuestado en el plan de generación de capacidades.
Producto 3.1.2. Plataformas de gobernanza interinstitucionales, intersectoriales,	Coordinar e implementar reuniones y talleres para construir acuerdos y acompañar	Incidir en la incorporación de acciones afirmativas para la participación de las mujeres en las	Especialista en género en coordinación para el SCTEA	**I25:** número de acciones afirmativas para acompañar el proceso de diseño,	Incluído en la actividad 1.2.1	Presupuestado en la actividad 1.2.1

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
multinivel, inclusivas y sensibles al género creadas y operativas para la gestión de paisajes y corredores de conectividad (1 por paisaje).	el proceso de diseño, objetivos, gestión y gobernanza de los corredores en los paisajes de interés para el proyecto.	iniciativas planificación, gestión y monitoreo de los paisajes, corredores de conectividad y áreas de conservación. DESCRIPCIÓN: Las acciones afirmativas, para los procesos de capacitación son: fondos para transporte, lenguaje adecuado, con información que promueva y valorice los conocimientos de las mujeres. Lograr espacios para el cuidado de los/las niños/as,		objetivos, gestión y gobernanza de los corredores en los paisajes de interés para el proyecto. **M23:** Porcentaje de acciones positivas para las mujeres implementadas en la planificación, gestión y monitoreo de los paisajes, corredores de conectividad y áreas de conservación.		
	Desarrollo de acuerdos operación de los Grupos de Gestión Participativa de los corredores, incluidas las actividades, responsabilidades y cofinanciación establecidas bajo el producto 1.2.1.	Fortalecer las capacidades del personal para incorporar a las mujeres de los corredores. DESCRIPCIÓN: El proceso de generación de capacidades tiene que recoger información, socializar conocimientos		**I26:** Número de capacitaciones periódicas al personal a cargo de las dinámicas participativas. **M24:** Al menos una capacitación anual.		

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
		diferenciados de mujeres y hombres, con relación a sus dinámicas locales con relación a los sistemas productivos.				
3.1.3. Programa de desarrollo de capacidades inclusivo y sensible a las cuestiones de género para las entidades públicas pertinentes y los actores locales que participan en la planificación, la gestión y el seguimiento de los paisajes, los corredores de conectividad y las áreas de conservación.	Diseñar de manera participativa el predio para la especialización de las prácticas posibles a implementar de acuerdo con la situación y posibilidades de cada familia. Esto incluye la cuantificación de áreas y longitudes, establecimiento de la ubicación de las prácticas y su interacción para el manejo eco sistémico de la finca.	Diseñar de manera participativa las prácticas posibles recogiendo las necesidades de las mujeres en el predio para la especialización de las prácticas posibles a implementar de acuerdo con la situación y posibilidades de cada familia. DESCRIPCIÓN: Ver 2.1.2.	UGP (consultoría)	**I27:** Documento de diseño participativo **M25:** % de fincas que incluyen enfoque de género.	Al inicio del segundo año de implementación	Presupuestado en el plan de generación de capacidades.
Componente 4: Seguimiento y evaluación, gestión del conocimiento y coordinación regional.						
4.1. Los datos de seguimiento y evaluación del proyecto contribuyen a una toma de decisiones eficiente y a una gestión adaptativa del proyecto.						
4.1.1. El Plan de Seguimiento y Evaluación del Proyecto informa de la gestión adaptativa del mismo.	Recoger datos y registrar los logros en relación con los objetivos del marco de resultados (anualmente, a medio	Generar información desagregada por género. DESCRIPCIÓN: Diseñar indicadores género sensibles que	(UGP, especialista en género, monitoreo y evaluación	I28 Documento de diseño metodológico de los indicadores M26: Un documento con un número de indicadores generados	Al inicio del proyecto hasta el final de la implementación.	Incluído en el PRODOC.

Producto	Actividades del Proyecto	Acción de género específica	Responsable	Indicadores (I) y metas (M)	Cronograma	Presupuesto
	plazo, al cierre del proyecto) e incluirlos en cada PPR anual.	permitan valorar y potenciar la intervención.				
4.2. Fortalecimiento de la coordinación nacional y regional y de la gestión del conocimiento.						
4.2.1. Coordinación efectiva a nivel nacional y con el programa ASL.	No aplica					
4.2.2. Elaboración y difusión de productos de gestión del conocimiento y comunicación.	Difundir periódicamente la información que se ha desarrollado en el marco del resultado 4.2.2, así como la información compartida por la ASL a nivel regional.	Recoger y mostrar historias donde las mujeres son las actoras claves. DESCRIPCIÓN: Recoger los avances y las lecciones aprendidas de las distintas actividades que permitan mostrar a las mujeres como actoras claves para la conservación de la biodiversidad.	(UGP, especialista en género y comunicación)	I28: Un documento comunicacional por componente. M27: Al menos un documento comunicacional por año	Al primer trimestre de cada año a partir del tercer año.	5.000 USD por paisaje por año.

SECTION V: Monitoring and Reporting

Indicator	Baseline		Target[43]	
	Men	*Women*	*Men*	*Women*
1. Number of men and women who participated in project activities (e.g. meetings, workshops, consultations).	X	X	X	X
2. Number of men and women who received benefits (e.g. employment, income generating activities, training, access to natural resources, land tenure or resource rights, equipment, leadership roles)	X	X	X	X
3. Number of strategies, plans (e.g. management plans and land use plans) and policies derived from the project that include gender considerations (this indicator applies to relevant projects)				

Se espera que este indicador / indicadores detalle los tipos de beneficios que recibieron las mujeres, cuando se recojan, de modo que las mujeres que asuman funciones de liderazgo en la toma de decisiones como resultado del apoyo al proyecto se registren en consecuencia, de modo que esta importante información pueda captarse durante el seguimiento y la evaluación y se comunique a través de informes y otros medios.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA

Bremner, Joe, Richard Bilsborrow, Caryl Feldacker y Flora Lu Holt. 2009. “Fertility beyond the frontier: indigenous women, fertility, and reproductive practices in the Ecuadorian Amazon”. Population and Environment 3 (30): 93–113.

Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas y Censos
https://www.ecuadorencifras.gob.ec/institucional/home/

Jarrín V., Pablo Santiago, Luis Tapia Carrillo y Giannina Zamora. 2017. Demografía y transformación territorial: medio siglo de cambio en la región amazónica de Ecuador. Eutopía. Revista de Desarrollo Económico Territorial 11:81-100

Montalvo, Natalia. Introducción. En: Diagnóstico de la situación de las mujeres amazónicas. PROAmazonía. Quito. 2019

Páez, Mónica. Barreras en el empoderamiento económico de las mujeres amazónicas. En: Diagnóstico de la situación de las mujeres amazónicas. PROAmazonía. Quito. 2019

RAISG, 2017. Territorios de los pueblos indígenas amazónicos, bosques y cambio climático: análisis y
opciones de política. Disponible en línea en:
https://www.amazoniasocioambiental.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/PolicyBrief_Span.pdf

43 Please collect sex-disaggregated data throughout the implementation of the project so that you can report on the numbers required above. If the project does not achieve its gender target, an explanation and plan to address the shortfall is expected.

Villacís B., Carrillo D. País atrevido: la nueva cara sociodemográfica del Ecuador. Edición especial revista Analitika. Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos (INEC). Quito – Ecuador. 2012

ACRÓNIMOS

ATPA: Agencia de Trasformación Productiva Amazónica
CONFENIAE: Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas de la Amazonía Ecuatoriana
FICSH: Federación Interprovincial de Centros Shuar
FONAKISE: Federación de Organizaciones de la Nacionalidad Kichwa de Sucumbíos del Ecuador
GAD: Gobierno autónomo descentralizado
MAAE: Ministerio del Ambiente y de Agua del Ecuador
MAGAP: Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería, Acuacultura y Pesca
NAE: Nacionalidad Achuar del Ecuador
NOAIKE: Nacionalidad Originaria A'I Kofan del Ecuador
ONG: Organización no gubernamental
ONWO: Organización de Nacionalidad Waorani de Orellana
PDOT: Planes de Desarrollo y Ordenamiento Territorial
PSB Programa Socio Bosque
SIEKOPAI: Es el nombre vernacular del pueblo secoya, y que su organización política ha adoptado.
WWF: World Wildlife Fund

Annex 7: Stakeholder Engagement Plan

PLAN DE INVOLUCRAMIENTO DE ACTORES DEL PROYECTO
"Corredores de conectividad en dos paisajes prioritarios de la Amazonia Ecuatoriana".

1. Introducción

El presente plan de involucramiento de actores responde al diseño del proyecto "Corredores de conectividad en dos paisajes prioritarios de la Amazonia Ecuatoriana". Este proyecto propone intervenir en dos paisajes que en conjunto abarcan alrededor del 3% de la superficie de la Circunscripción Territorial Especial Amazónica (CTEA), y que están ubicados en las dos principales cuencas que tributan al Amazonas (Ríos Napo y Pastaza), favoreciendo la conectividad entre áreas protegidas que albergan recursos de importancia global. La CTEA tiene una extensión de 116,588 km2, 41% del total de la superficie del país (Ministerio del Ambiente y PNUD, 2017).

El objetivo del proyecto es mejorar la conectividad ecológica en dos paisajes prioritarios del Amazonía Ecuatoriana, el paisaje Putumayo–Aguarico y el paisaje Palora – Pastaza, a través del establecimiento de dos corredores de conectividad y mecanismos de gestión asociados, para asegurar la conservación de la biodiversidad y sus ecosistemas asociados en el largo plazo.

El Paisaje Putumayo–Aguarico se encuentra integrado dentro del gran humedal de la Amazonía ecuatoriana, el sitio Ramsar Cuyabeno – Yasuní. Tiene una extensión de 144.915 ha, abarca 2 provincias, 4 cantones y 9 parroquias. Tiene una población de 10.993 personas, de las cuáles 4.458 personas son indígenas (RAISG, 2017). La mayor parte del paisaje (78%) es bosque, mientras que el 24% corresponde a mosaico agropecuario en el que destacan pastizales (5%) y cultivos (11%) (Ministerio del Ambiente, 2018). El 58,5% del paisaje se encuentra bajo alguna categoría de conservación. El Paisaje es una fuente de abundantes recursos de subsistencia para las personas que lo habitan, entre ellas comunidades de las nacionalidades indígenas Shuar, Kichwa, Waorani, Secoya y Siona. Este paisaje conecta las tres áreas protegidas (APs) más importantes de la Amazonía ecuatoriana, la Reserva Biológica Limoncocha, la Reserva de Producción de Fauna Cuyabeno y el Parque Nacional Yasuní (WWF, CI, 2019).

El Paisaje Palora – Pastaza comprende de 2 provincias, 5 cantones y 9 parroquias, y cubre una extensión de 178,129 ha, de las cuales 86% son bosques, 9% pastizales y tan solo 0,4% cultivos (yuca, caña de azúcar, plátano y pitahaya) (SIGTIERRAS, s.f.). La población a interior del paisaje es de 10.137 personas, de las cuales 7.737 son indígenas (RAISG, 2017). Bajo alguna figura de conservación se encuentra el 38,7% del paisaje (1,4% SNAP, 14% PSB, 23% AICAS) (Ministerio del Ambiente, s.f.). El Paisaje Sur alberga bosques de tierra firme que se encuentra en las estribaciones de la cordillera de los andes, incluyendo bosques colinados de la Amazonía, los cuales se caracterizan por ser muy diversos y con alto endemismo. Este Paisaje se ubica en una zona con baja presencia de áreas protegidas del Sistema Nacional Áreas Protegidas (SNAP), y ofrece la oportunidad de fortalecer la conectividad entre los andes y la Amazonía, conectando al Parque Nacional Sangay con Bosques Protectores y comunidades beneficiadas por el Programa Socio Bosque (PSB) (WWF, CI, 2019).

Los componentes del proyecto son:

- Establecimiento de dos corredores de conectividad en los dos paisajes del proyecto.

- Implementación de actividades productivas sostenibles en los dos corredores de conectividad.
- Condiciones habilitantes para la conectividad ecológica.
- Monitoreo y Evaluación, gestión del conocimiento y coordinación regional.

En este marco y con conocimiento de las particularidades de las zonas y actores locales, el equipo plantea un mecanismo de involucramiento de actores que va de la mano con los resultados iniciales previstos para el proyecto, así como el proceso metodológico propuesto por el GEF. Tomando en cuenta la diversidad social, económica, política de las zonas, se considera clave contar con un mecanismo que permita incluir y conformar un grupo de actores interesados, y que aporten en la consecución de un fondo con características para contribuir en las cadenas productivas.

2. Objetivo

El Documento de involucramiento de actores (SEP) tiene como objetivo presentar los principales actores involucrados en el proyecto, informar sobre las actividades de involucramiento de actores realizadas durante la fase de Preparación del Proyecto y presentar una propuesta de plan para el involucramiento de los actores durante la fase de ejecución del proyecto.

3. Regulaciones y requerimientos

3.1. Nacionales

En el país existe un marco jurídico regulatorio que garantiza los derechos como ciudadanos individuales de todas las personas que viven en el país, así como se reconocen los derechos de pueblos y comunidades indígenas y tradicionales. En el principal documento, la Constitución del Ecuador, ya se hacen mención en múltiples artículos de la participación ciudadana. En algunos en términos generales (Artículos 34, 38, 48, 95,100, 337), en otros enfocado a la participación de los jóvenes (artículo 39), de las mujeres (Artículo 61, 171) de las nacionalidades y pueblos indígenas (Artículos 85).

En uno de los primeros, la Constitución del Ecuador reconoce a todos/as los ecuatorianos y ecuatorianas como ciudadanos que gozan de «derechos» (art 6), y consagra a la participación de la ciudadanía como un «principio fundamental», al reconocer que la soberanía radica en el pueblo y su voluntad «se ejerce a través de los órganos del poder público y de las formas de participación directa previstas en la Constitución» (art 1).

De igual forma se reconoce los derechos de las personas, comunidades, pueblos, nacionalidades y colectivos, los que podrán ser ejercidos, promovidos y exigidos ante las autoridades competentes, que garantizarán su cumplimiento (art 10 y 11). Se reconocen los derechos a participar en asuntos de interés público, a presentar proyectos de iniciativa popular normativa, a ser consultados, revocar el mandato, fiscalizar los actos del poder público, entre otros (art 61).

También se obliga a normar los derechos que están en la Constitución, y se señala que el Estado deberá garantizar («garantías constitucionales») la participación ciudadana en la formulación, ejecución, evaluación y control de las políticas públicas y servicios públicos (art 85). Para la Constitución, la participación ciudadana se consagra como un principio fundamental de la democracia. La voluntad «se ejerce a través de los órganos del poder público y de las formas de participación directa previstas en la Constitución» (art 1). Los derechos de las personas, comunidades, pueblos, nacionalidades y colectivos, podrán ser ejercidos, promovidos y exigidos ante las autoridades competentes, que garantizarán su cumplimiento (art 10 y 11). Se reconocen

los derechos a participar en asuntos de interés público, a presentar proyectos de iniciativa popular normativa, a ser consultados, revocar el mandato, fiscalizar los actos del poder público, entre otros (art 61).

Además, la Constitución Política de la República del Ecuador en el Artículo 57 plantea que: "…los derechos de las comunidades, pueblos y nacionalidades ecuatorianas tienen derecho a la consulta previa, libre e informada sobre todos aquellos planes y programas que se encuentren en sus tierras y que puedan afectar ambiental o culturalmente su patrimonio".

Así también se menciona en el Artículo 95 que "Las ciudadanas y ciudadanos, en forma individual y colectiva participarán de manera protagónica en la toma de decisiones, planificación y gestión de los asuntos públicos, y en el control popular de las instituciones del Estado y la sociedad, y de sus representantes, en un proceso permanente de construcción del poder ciudadano. La participación se orientará por los principios de igualdad, autonomía, deliberación pública, respecto a la diferencia, control popular, solidaridad e interculturalidad". Es decir, la participación de la ciudadanía en todos los asuntos de interés público es un derecho que se ejercerá a través de los mecanismos de la democracia representativa, directa y comunitaria.

En un contexto más específico, a nivel de la implementación del proyecto consideramos clave considerar una serie de normas y reglamentos pertinentes. La siguiente normativa secundaria aplicable a los proyectos ambientales:

A) El Reglamento de Aplicación de los Mecanismos de Participación Social establecidos en la Ley de Gestión Ambiental, publicado en el R. O. No. 332 del 8 de mayo de 2008, D. E. No. 1040, norma la participación social. La participación social en la gestión ambiental tiene como finalidad considerar e incorporar los criterios y las observaciones de la ciudadanía, especialmente, la población directamente afectada por una obra o proyecto, sobre las variables ambientales relevantes de los estudios de impacto ambiental y planes de manejo ambiental; lo anterior, siempre y cuando los criterios sean técnica y económicamente viables, para que las actividades o proyectos que puedan causar impactos ambientales se desarrollen de manera adecuada, minimizando y/o compensando estos impactos a fin de mejorar la condiciones ambientales para la realización de la actividad o proyecto propuesto en todas sus fases.

Mediante A. M. No. 103 suscrito el 13 de agosto de 2015, fecha desde la cual está en vigencia, y publicado en el Suplemento del R. O. No. 607 de 14 de octubre de 2015, se emitió la versión actualizada del Instructivo al Reglamento de Aplicación de los Mecanismos de Participación Social establecido en el D. E. No. 1040. Mediante este A. M., queda derogado el A. M. No. 066 del 18 de junio del 2013, publicado en R. O. No. 36 de 15 de julio de 2013.

Este instructivo mantiene el ámbito de aplicación del Proceso de Participación Social (PPS), establecido en el A. M. No. 066, como el diálogo social e institucional en el que la Autoridad Ambiental competente informa a la población sobre la realización de posibles actividades o proyectos y consulta su opinión sobre los impactos socioambientales esperados y las acciones a tomar, a fin de recoger sus observaciones y comentarios e incorporar aquellas que sean justificadas técnicamente en el EsIA, asegurando la legitimidad social y el derecho de participación de la ciudadanía en las decisiones colectivas.

Este proceso se realizará de manera obligatoria en todos los proyectos o actividades que requieran la licencia ambiental, como es el caso del presente Proyecto. La participación social es un elemento transversal y trascendental de la gestión ambiental. En consecuencia, se integrará durante las fases de toda actividad o proyecto propuesto, especialmente, las

relacionadas con la revisión y evaluación de impacto ambiental. La gestión ambiental se rige por los principios de legitimidad y representatividad, definiéndose como un esfuerzo tripartito entre los siguientes actores: a) Las instituciones del Estado; b) La ciudadanía; y, c) El promotor interesado en realizar una actividad o proyecto.

B) El Decreto 1040 establece que la participación social se efectuará de manera obligatoria por la autoridad ambiental de aplicación responsable, en coordinación con el promotor de la actividad o proyecto, de manera previa a la aprobación del estudio de impacto ambiental. La Primera Disposición Final del Decreto 1040 establece que este Reglamento es aplicable a actividades y proyectos nuevos o estudios de impacto ambiental definitivos. Para los Estudios de Impacto, el Decreto establece la obligatoriedad por parte del proponente de difundir los resultados del Estudio a los sujetos de participación social del área de influencia.

Así también, podemos mencionar las siguientes leyes nacionales que promueven la participación de actores en escenarios ambientales:

- Ley Orgánica de Participación Ciudadana (Registro Oficial Suplemento N° 175 del 20 de abril 2010).
- Código Orgánico del Ambiente – Ley 0, Registro Oficial Suplemento 983 de 12-abril-2017, última modificación 21 de agosto de 2018.
- Acuerdo Ministerial N° 109. Registro Oficial edición especial N° 640 de 23 de noviembre de 2018 (Última reforma a través del Acuerdo Ministerial N° 013 del 14 de febrero de 2019).

Adicionalmente, y como parte de la Constitución, se buscará de manera frecuente el involucramiento de grupos y organizaciones de mujeres, pues son un grupo de actores claves para garantizar su participación y constante aporte en términos de conservación de la biodiversidad. El Artículo 14 dice: “Se reconoce el derecho de la población a vivir en un ambiente sano y ecológicamente equilibrado, que garantice la sostenibilidad y el buen vivir, sumak kawsay”. Es decir, se declara de interés público la preservación del ambiente, la conservación de los ecosistemas, la biodiversidad y la integridad del patrimonio genético del país, la prevención del daño ambiental y la recuperación de los espacios naturales degradados.

3.2 Estándar de WWF sobre la participación de las partes interesadas

El Estándar sobre la participación de las partes interesadas (parte del Marco de Salvaguardas Ambientales y Sociales de WWF (ESSF)[44]) garantiza que WWF se compromete a lograr procesos participativos significativos, eficaces e informados con los actores claves vinculados con el diseño y la ejecución de todos los proyectos. Para los proyectos del FMAM y del GCF, el proyecto seguirá las políticas, normas, orientaciones y procedimientos detallados en las Políticas y Procedimientos Integrados de Salvaguardas Ambientales y Sociales (SIPP). El compromiso de las partes interesadas, en este sentido, se reconoce como una serie de actividades e interacciones con las partes interesadas a lo largo del ciclo del proyecto y es un aspecto esencial de la buena gestión del proyecto.

El marco del ESSF exige que los proyectos inicien la consulta a las partes interesadas en una fase muy temprana del diseño del proyecto y que establezcan mecanismos que permitan la comunicación con las partes interesadas afectadas en una forma y un lenguaje comprensibles y

[44] WWF. Salvaguardas Sociales y Ambientales. Políticas y Procedimientos Integrados. ESSF Network Implementation 11-2020 (rackcdn.com)

accesibles para diversos grupos. También requiere que todos los proyectos se comprometan a consultar y comprometer a las partes interesadas potencialmente involucradas o afectadas (o partes) y a divulgar la información relacionada con el proyecto de manera transparente. Este compromiso amplía el requisito de que el proyecto cuente con mecanismos de reclamación para que las partes interesadas puedan presentar sus inquietudes y recibir comentarios.

4. Partes interesadas en el proyecto

A continuación, se presentan los principales actores identificados para el proyecto y con quienes se implementará el proyecto a distintos niveles:

Tipo de actor	Actores claves	Rol
Gobierno central	**Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería (MAG)**	El MAG tiene como principales roles institucionales: Fortalecer la institucionalidad del sector público del agro; mejorar las condiciones de vida de los agricultores y comunidades rurales; elevar la competitividad del agro, a través del desarrollo productivo; garantizar la soberanía alimentaria y su desarrollo; impulsar la modernización del agro, orientado a la reactivación productiva; entre otros roles de coordinaciones y evaluación con los demás ministerios. Es decir, el MAG tiene una clara orientación hacia el desarrollo de actividades productivas. En este sentido, y dada las presiones sobre la Amazonía se desarrolló la Agenda de Trasformación Productiva Amazónica (ATPA), que apunta a generar: • Mecanismos de información y gestión de la tenencia y el uso de la tierra • Desarrollo agro productivo sostenible de los pobladores rurales de la región Amazónica • Fortalecimiento de encadenamientos productivos.
	Ministerio del Ambiente y Agua (MAAE)	El MAAE es el ente rector de políticas ambientales. El MAAE desarrolla el COA y RCOA, así como la homologación de enfoques y criterios respecto a la conectividad y gestión integrada del paisaje, tanto para alinear las iniciativas de corredores ya existentes a objetivos de política pública, como para promover la conectividad desde distintos actores y figuras en el territorio. A través de la Secretaría de Patrimonio Natural y Cooperación Internacional, definen las particularidades para la gestión de áreas protegidas, espacios potenciales de conservación y posibles corredores.
		A nivel de los programas y actividades claves para potenciar la conservación de los recursos tales como: • Programa Socio Bosque: las actividades del PSB con sus socios en los paisajes Norte y Sur se verán potenciadas gracias a la generación de los corredores por parte de este proyecto Así también dentro de sus actividades establece la conservación de bosques, uso sostenible y actividades

		productivas con los socios, monitoreo, reporte y verificación, corredores de conectividad para la conservación
	Secretaría técnica de la Circunscripción Territorial Amazónica (SCTEA)	• Elaboración e implementación del Plan Integral Amazónico • Contribuir a la conservación de la cuenca amazónica y a la adaptación y mitigación de los efectos del cambio climático • Impulsar el cambio de la matriz productiva, el desarrollo económico para promover la soberanía alimentaria. • Reglamento general de la Ley Orgánica para la planificación Integral de la CTEA. • Elaboración de Planes de vida.
Gobiernos autónomos descentralizados (GADs)	**GAD Sucumbíos**	• Planificar el desarrollo provincial y formular los correspondientes planes de ordenamiento territorial, de manera articulada con la planificación nacional, regional, cantonal y parroquial. • Planificar, construir y mantener el sistema vial de ámbito provincial, que no incluya las zonas urbanas. • Ejecutar, en coordinación con el gobierno regional, obras en cuencas y micro cuencas. • La gestión ambiental provincial. • Planificar, construir, operar y mantener sistemas de riego. • Fomentar la actividad agropecuaria. • Fomentar las actividades productivas provinciales. • Gestionar la cooperación internacional para el cumplimiento de sus competencias.
	GAD Orellana **GAD Pastaza** **GAD Morona Santiago**	• Planificar el desarrollo provincial y formular los correspondientes planes de ordenamiento territorial, de manera articulada con la planificación nacional, regional, cantonal y parroquial. • Planificar, construir y mantener el sistema vial de ámbito provincial, que no incluya las zonas urbanas. • Ejecutar, en coordinación con el gobierno regional, obras en cuencas y micro cuencas. • La gestión ambiental provincial. • Planificar, construir, operar y mantener sistemas de riego. • Fomentar la actividad agropecuaria. • Fomentar las actividades productivas provinciales. • Gestionar la cooperación internacional para el cumplimiento de sus competencias.
Organizaciones indígenas amazónicas	**FONAKISE: Nacionalidad Kichwa del Ecuador**	Representa a la nacionalidad Kichwa de Sucumbíos, y en ese sentido busca el mejoramiento de su calidad de vida, impulsa programas de desarrollo comunitario, la defensa comunitaria del medio ambiente y los recursos naturales, la revalorización de los contenidos culturales propios de la nacionalidad, y la capacitación de sus jóvenes.

	SIEKOPAI: Nacionalidad Secoya	Representa a la nacionalidad secoya, y en ese sentido busca el mejoramiento de su calidad de vida, impulsa programas de desarrollo comunitario, la defensa comunitaria del medio ambiente y los recursos naturales, la revalorización de los contenidos culturales propios de la nacionalidad, y la capacitación de sus jóvenes.
	NAE Nacionalidad Achuar del Ecuador	Representa a la nacionalidad achuar, y en ese sentido busca el mejoramiento de su calidad de vida, impulsa programas de desarrollo comunitario, la defensa comunitaria del medio ambiente y los recursos naturales, la revalorización de los contenidos culturales propios de la nacionalidad, y la capacitación de sus jóvenes.
	FICSH Federación de Comunidades Indígenas Shuar	Representa a la nacionalidad shuar, y en ese sentido busca el mejoramiento de su calidad de vida, impulsa programas de desarrollo comunitario, la defensa comunitaria del medio ambiente y los recursos naturales, la revalorización de los contenidos culturales propios de la nacionalidad, y la capacitación de sus jóvenes. La FICSH es una organización que cuenta con liderazgos sólidos y un plan de vida comunitario.
	ONWO, Nacionalidad Waorani	Representa a la nacionalidad waorani en la provincia de Orellana, y en ese sentido busca el mejoramiento de su calidad de vida, impulsa programas de desarrollo comunitario, la defensa comunitaria del medio ambiente y los recursos naturales, la revalorización de los contenidos culturales propios de la nacionalidad, y la capacitación de sus jóvenes.
	NOAIKE, Nacionalidad Cofán	Representa a la nacionalidad Cofán, y en ese sentido busca el mejoramiento de su calidad de vida, impulsa programas de desarrollo comunitario, la defensa comunitaria del medio ambiente y los recursos naturales, la revalorización de los contenidos culturales propios de la nacionalidad, y la capacitación de sus jóvenes. Organización del pueblo Cofán, cuentan con planes de vida que están actualizándose para 13 comunidades. Con el MAE se tiene firmado un convenio de co administración con la nacionalidad Cofán para el manejo de algunas reservas. Esto a lo larga dificulta la gestión “porque hacemos coadministración y tenemos guardabosques comunitarios, y entramos en conflicto porque no tenemos la posibilidad de ser parte”.
	AMWAE Asociación de Mujeres Waorani del Ecuador	Es una de las organizaciones de mujeres más fuertes de la zona, dentro de las cuales tienen un liderazgo importante.

Organizaciones productivas	Organizaciones productivas productoras de cacao: Asociación San Carlos - Joya de los Sachas Asociación Agropecuaria Tres de Mayo - Cuyabeno Asociación Agropecuaria río Pacayacu - Lago Agrio AGRODUP - Lago Agrio Asociación El Porvenir de Pacayacu. Lago Agrio Asociación Expresso de Oriente - Cuyabeno APROCEL - Lago Agrio Asociación de Productores de Cacao Fino de Aroma (San Jorge) Asociación Río Azul, Asociación "El Playón" HACIA, AYLLUPURA, AMA, AMWAE, CONFERIB, COEMPROPAS, Kallari, Wiñak Chankuap, Asociación de Productores de Pitahaya de Palora.	En ambos paisajes, se identificaron organizaciones de productores, ellos/as producen cacao, café y un grupo pequeño también pitahaya. La mayoría de ellas se han organizado para potenciar sus posibilidades productivas, la comercialización y la gestión de sus productos. Así también, son espacios asociativos que permiten el fortalecimiento de iniciativas organizativas y de gobernanza de los recursos naturales.
Organizaciones no gubernamentales	Fundación Ecociencia	Experiencia y capacidades en Manejo Geográfico y Sensores Remotos, SA, manejo y conservación de la biodiversidad con las comunidades.
	Fundación Pachamama	La Fundación tiene una larga trayectoria de proyectos en la Amazonía, varios de ellos relacionados con iniciativas productivas Ecoturismo e Iniciativas Productivas. Cuentan con experiencias previas en el fortalecimiento de la gobernanza, espacios de reflexión y debate sobre CC, bosques y pueblos indígenas.
	Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano	Instalar la atención del CC y sus efectos en las decisiones económicas, políticas, ambientales y sociales. Potencial en términos de diálogo intersectorial.
	HIVOS	Se encuentran implementando el proyecto “Todos los Ojos en la Amazonía”, proyecto regional que busca evitar la deforestación en al menos 8 millones de hectáreas en 3 países: Brasil, Ecuador y Perú.
	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)	Mosaicos o biocorredores, que es similar al enfoque de paisajes y han priorizado algunos mosaicos en el país, uno de ellos cubre el paisaje sur del proyecto.
	Naturaleza y Cultura Internacional (NCI).	La Fundación, desarrolla procesos de conservación vinculados siempre al desarrollo social, planificando sus actividades a largo plazo, más allá de la duración de los proyectos que se implementan en las áreas de trabajo. Tienen un proyecto en marcha denominado Mosaico Morona Santiago.
	Fundación Aliados	La Fundación Aliados es una ONG que apoya emprendimientos comunitarios, los que se vinculan con productos sostenibles y orgánicos. Cuentan con varias iniciativas en la Amazonía Ecuatoriana.
Agencias de	GIZ	Apoyo a la autoridad nacional para la conservación de la biodiversidad para fortalecer las cadenas productivas y

cooperación internacional		para mejorar la institucionalidad de la gobernanza ambiental en el Ecuador.
	Programa de Pequeñas Donaciones (PPD), PNUD:	El PPD busca empoderar y apoyar las iniciativas y las acciones de la comunidad que conservan y recuperan el medio ambiente al tiempo, que mejoran el bienestar y los medios de vida de los habitantes. Tienen algunos proyectos vinculados con producción sostenible, artesanías e iniciativas vinculadas con la conservación de la biodiversidad.

5. Resumen de las actividades iniciales de participación de las partes interesadas

Los paisajes donde se propone la implementación del proyecto son zonas sensibles, ya que son zonas donde confluyen varios procesos sociales y económicos: ha existido una mayor integración económica con el país y los mercados, el Estado incrementa su presencia con los gobiernos locales, hay una migración constante de la costa y sierra del país, y existe una serie de pueblos y nacionalidades amazónicas con dinámicas propias. En este sentido se trabaja bajo la lógica de salvaguardas para garantizar los resultados e impactos positivos del proyecto, fortalecer las capacidades, y mejorar la dinámica de vida de mujeres y hombres.

Durante la fase de preparación del proceso se realizaron procesos participativos que permitieron garantizar dinámicas consultivas y recoger las inquietudes, necesidades e intereses de los distintos actores involucrados. En este marco se identificaron los distintos grupos de actores a tomar en cuenta en este proceso. Para el listado de partida o inicial se trabajó en función del PIF y de acuerdos iniciales con MAAE, WWF y CI. Este listado fue enriquecido con las visitas a campo realizadas en la última semana de noviembre del 2019, y el correspondiente análisis de intereses y amenazas. Como resultado de esas actividades se logró un mapeo de actores clave, así como el análisis de sus potenciales aportes o inquietudes al proceso.

Se identificaron entidades del gobierno central como los ministerios (MAG, MAAE, etc) y los gobiernos locales en la zona de trabajo (GADs de Sucumbíos, Orellana, Pastaza y Morona Santiago), los cuales están vinculados con el desarrollo de actividades productivas en los paisajes del proyecto, los actores locales que las implementan, y el ordenamiento territorial. Estas instituciones son importantes también porque generan la normativa sobre conservación y desarrollo territorial. Asimismo, se identificaron a las organizaciones indígenas que representan a las nacionalidades que viven en los paisajes del proyecto.

A continuación, se presenta un resumen de las principales actividades de involucramiento realizadas de actores realizadas durante la fase de preparación del proyecto:

- Taller de arranque del Proyecto, realizado el 26 de julio de 2019 en la ciudad de Quito, Hotel Finlandia. Este taller contó con la participación de varios grupos de actores claves identificados para el proyecto, a saber; Instituciones del Estado (MAAE, MAG, FIAS, STEA), Organizaciones no gubernamentales, representantes de organizaciones indígenas y cooperación internacional.

- Reuniones y talleres a nivel nacional realizados en el 2019 inicialmente en donde se entrevistaron un grupo de actores locales vinculados con los Gobiernos Autónomos Descentralizados (GADs) para identificar avances en términos de políticas para la creación de

corredores y potenciación de la conservación de la biodiversidad, así como el mejoramiento de la calidad de vida de las poblaciones. Adicionalmente, se realizaron un grupo de talleres de consulta con los Pueblos Indígenas, representantes de productores y comunidades locales quienes serían los beneficiarios directos de varios de los componentes del proyecto. En estos espacios se buscó conocer el interés y la posibilidad de ser parte del proyecto en construcción, las principales inquietudes identificadas con relación a su participación y una evaluación inicial de salvaguardas identificadas.

- Durante el 2020 y en el contexto COVID se complicó la dinámica participativa y las posibilidades de continuar procesos de consultación con pueblos indígenas y comunidades locales. Dicho esto, se buscaron posibilidades para poder realizar actividades donde se informe y mencione la construcción del proyecto. Así, se buscó actualizar los datos de las organizaciones de productores/as y generar una entrevista. El número de entrevistas logrado fue limitado, pues varios de los/las productores se encuentran en sus poblaciones que son distantes de los lugares con disponibilidad de comunicación.

- Reunión de validación del proyecto, reuniones en su mayoría manera virtual, se realizaron una serie de talleres en el mes de febrero, agrupando a quienes se consideran actores claves; Instituciones del estado (nacional/local), organizaciones no gubernamentales, Pueblos Indígenas, productores/as quienes agrupan las comunidades locales. A través de estos espacios se buscó socializar el proyecto, así como recoger sus comentarios e inquietudes con relación a los componentes y productos del proyecto. Considerando las dificultades de las actividades virtuales, se estableció también la posibilidad de profundizar el análisis, y comentarios a través de una matriz para el recojo de sistemático de dichos criterios, la misma conjuntamente con la presentación y estrategia del proyecto fueron enviados vía correo electrónico.

Con el fin de dar a conocer el proyecto, y recoger información se tuvo talleres iniciales de socialización y consulta entre octubre y noviembre del 2019. Todo este tiempo se mantuvieron reuniones periódicas con Instituciones del Estado y entrevistas con personal de ONGs y otros actores clave que trabajan en la zona. E noviembre del 2019, se realizó una salida de campo a las cabeceras provinciales de Coca, Lago Agrio, Puyo, Macas, para tener reuniones y entrevistas con organizaciones de pueblos indígenas, productores y GADS locales. De esta forma se pudo valorar el interés de participar en el proyecto, sus potencialidades y amenazas.
En esta etapa hemos visto que en los talleres que se realizaron existió un número limitado de mujeres. Esta es una situación que se repite constantemente pues los liderazgos femeninos aún son débiles y se están “iniciando”. Se considera clave apoyar la mejora de las capacidades en los temas definidos por el proyecto, y de esa manera potenciar el proyecto mismo y al mismo tiempo empoderarlas dentro de sus comunidades.
Las organizaciones indígenas muestran su interés en participar, pero también tienen la inquietud y exigencia por parte de los /las líderes indígenas de recibir beneficios directos del proyecto. Ellos mencionan que en los proyectos que se realizan con frecuencia solamente reciben un porcentaje mínimo, siendo ellos los propietarios de los bosques y quienes cuidan de este territorio. Se propondrá un porcentaje de los recursos para que las nacionalidades puedan manejar, así como un mecanismo financiero para su uso, y reporte.

Respecto a las autoridades de los GADs, tienen interés en el proyecto, pero se evidenció la falta de conocimiento sobre conceptos y normativa relacionada con paisajes y corredores de conectividad por parte de estas. Este desconocimiento abarco no sólo la normativa bajo la cual se regulan aspectos de conservación y uso sostenible de biodiversidad, conectividad o paisajes, sino también las competencias ambientales y de ordenamiento territorial de los diferentes niveles de gobierno. En tal sentido, la adopción o implementación de un enfoque de conectividad o paisaje desde los GADs respectivos y demás autoridades involucradas (como la STCTEA), requiere en primer lugar, de un proceso direccionado de fortalecimiento de capacidades institucionales respecto de los conceptos en cuestión y la normativa bajo la cual se regulan.

Lo anterior se relaciona con la falta de instrumentos de gestión por parte de los GADs (como principales actores en cuanto a conservación fuera de áreas protegidas, ordenamiento territorial, uso y gestión del suelo) y demás entidades involucradas (MAE, SCTEA, entre otros). Varios GADs carecen de instrumentos de gestión básicos como planes de uso y gestión del suelo (PUGS), planes de desarrollo y ordenamiento territorial (PDOT), catastros o mapas actualizados; lo que en la práctica dificulta o imposibilita ejercicios relacionados con la gestión, ordenamiento o regulación del territorio (Proyecto, 2019).

En vista de que un enfoque de conectividad o paisaje requiere el concurso o participación de varios actores, tanto autoridades públicas, como comunidades indígenas, empresas, propietarios privados, etc., resulta indispensable contar con mecanismos de coordinación interinstitucional efectivos, así como fortalecer mecanismos de participación ciudadana; a fin de que puedan implementarse acciones conjuntas e informadas, que a su vez prevengan conflictos de competencias u otras consecuencias afines.

Se incluye un cuadro resumen de todos los procesos de vinculación con actores realizados en la fase de preparación, ver anexo 1.

Grupos de actores involucrados	Expectativas claves	Principales preocupaciones	Recomendaciones
Ministerios y autoridades competentes	El proyecto generará información e insumos claves para la generación de las políticas vinculadas con los corredores.	El proyecto debe favorecer el uso sostenible de la biodiversidad local, particularmente la agro biodiversidad, y no a cultivos exóticos, considerando que el proyecto pertenece a la cartera de Biodiversidad.	Establecer medidas para compartir información y recomendaciones técnicas, especialmente información generada por el componente 1. Presupuestar, y hacer incidencia en términos de posicionar como asistencia técnica y transparencia en la gestión de información.
Gobiernos autónomos descentralizados	El proyecto aportará en la generación de insumos técnicos para la identificación y gestión de corredores y para las iniciativas productivas sostenibles.	Que no se tomen en cuenta los avances en términos de planificación, así como en términos de producción sostenible.	Identificar un plan de trabajo para incorporar las necesidades de los GADs en términos de planificación y producción sostenible. Proporcionar apoyo para la coordinación

Grupos de actores involucrados	Expectativas claves	Principales preocupaciones	Recomendaciones
			interinstitucional necesaria y contribuciones a las actividades del Proyecto.
ONG y otras organizaciones vinculadas con el territorio	Recoger las lecciones aprendidas y los aportes de los proyectos en implementación y sus resultados.	Mejorar de la conservación de ambos corredores. Utilización de los datos recogidos para planificación de las iniciativas productivas.	Recoger información pertinente de los proyectos en ejecución y sus principales lecciones aprendidas.
Beneficiarios directos, productores, grupos de atención prioritaria.	Acceder a beneficios directores del proyecto y que tienen implicaciones en sus condiciones de vida.	No se tomen en cuenta los avances en los documentos de planificación de sus territorios fincas e iniciativas. Que sus conocimientos sean tomados en cuenta para el componente de producción sostenible. Que no exista la suficiente capacidad para atender los requerimientos del proyecto.	Mantener y sostener un vínculo cercano con los actores locales, beneficiarios directos/as del proyecto. Buscar la participación equitativa y eficaz de las mujeres en este espacio.
Universidades y centros de investigación.	Aportar en la implementación del proyecto con informes y resultados de investigación.	No contar con vínculo cercano con relación al proyecto, dejando por fuera sus aportes técnicos claves.	Buscar el vínculo efectivo con especialistas investigadores sobre corredores biológicos y conservación de la biodiversidad.

6. Plan de participación de las partes interesadas durante implementación

Por la complejidad del COVID 19 y las restricciones de transporte y reuniones, desde marzo 2020 hasta febrero 2021, no se pudieron realizar reuniones en territorio. Sin embargo, el equipo del proyecto realizó el proceso de involucramiento de actores en gran parte mediante reuniones virtuales. Para la ejecución del Proyecto se espera continuar con el proceso virtual cuando sea adecuado. Sin embargo, para el trabajo con pueblos indígenas y productores locales, se realizarán reuniones presenciales con las medidas de bioseguridad necesarias, limitando el número de personas por reunión y realizando reuniones en espacios abiertos donde sea posible. No se anticipa tener cambios en la ejecución de las actividades del proyecto, ya que esto se ha tomado en cuenta durante el diseño de las actividades y el cronograma.

Los socios co-ejecutores y actores clave tienen experiencia significativa en el trabajo y coordinación remoto, algo que han venido realizando desde hace casi un año. En el caso específico de representantes de ONGs y gobiernos locales, las reuniones virtuales y trabajo remoto no serán un impedimento para avanzar con el proyecto ya que cuentan con conexiones de internet estables.

Para el trabajo con pueblos indígenas y productores locales, será importante retomar las acciones en territorio, coordinando reuniones en las ciudades más cercanas a sus comunidades y tomando en cuenta espacios abiertos que brinden las seguridades necesarias para evitar cualquier tipo de contagio.

Cronograma de implementación.-

Resultado del proyecto	Actividades previstas	Responsable (s)	Cronograma previsto				
			Año 1	Año 2	Año 3	Año 4	Año 5
Componente 1: Establecimiento de dos corredores de conectividad en los dos paisajes del proyecto.							
1.1. Aumento de la superficie de los corredores de conectividad creados en los dos paisajes del proyecto.	Existencia de un espacio de discusión trimestral con GADs e instancias nacionales a nivel territorial (MAAE, MAG) para identificar: problemas o cuestiones estratégicos que puedan surgir durante la implementación en la fase de identificación de las zonas de protección, seguimiento del proyecto y retroalimentación a los resultados logrados).	PMU (especialista es en salvaguardas y género, en coordinación con Técnico de Gobernanza y Ordenación del Territorio)		x	x		
	Definido el apoyo para la coordinación interinstitucional necesaria y contribuciones a las actividades del Proyecto a través de la definición de un plan de acción con roles y responsabilidades acordados entre todas las partes involucradas, en el contexto de las plataformas del corredor				x		
1.2. Se ha reforzado la gestión de los corredores y las zonas de conservación	Generadas capacidades a través de la sensibilización de técnicos/as de los GADS, e instancias nacionales a nivel territorial (MAAE, MAG) para la creación y fortalecimiento de corredores de conectividad con enfoque de interculturalidad y género.	PMU (especialices en salvaguardas y género en coordinación con plataformas de corredores en ambos paisajes y en coordinación con la Subsecretaría de		x			
	Potenciar proyectos relacionados con la conservación de la biodiversidad liderados por hombres, mujeres y pueblos indígenas			x	x		
	Definido e implementado un proceso de consentimiento previo, libre e informado con pueblos indígenas y la consulta previa con comunidades locales como un criterio para la selección de los paisajes		x	x			

	Establecidas herramientas comunicacionales culturalmente y género sensibles adecuadas para acompañar la producción sostenible a través de: herramientas comunicacionales, capacitación, difusión y educación ambiental participativa	Patrimonio Natural del MAAE (competencias en corredores de conectividad, Técnico de Gobernanza y Ordenación del Territorio, Técnico en producción sostenible y técnicos, especialista en Monitoreo y Evaluación.			x	x	
	Diseñado y fortalecido un sistema de monitoreo participativo con indicadores y metodologías relacionadas con los objetos de conservación de los corredores.			x	x		
	Generados espacios para la socialización y validación de los indicadores para el monitoreo comunitario; temáticas en función de los componentes y se articularán con los distintos grupos de interés: productores, comerciantes, grupos de mujeres, otros.				x	x	
Componente 2: Implementación de actividades productivas sostenibles en los dos corredores de conectividad.							
2.1. Aumento de las áreas productivas, en o alrededor de los corredores de conectividad, bajo la Gestión Sostenible de la Tierra (GST).	Diseñado e implementado el programa de capacitación e implementación de prácticas de manejo sostenible de la tierra, a través de Escuelas de Campo para Agricultores (ECA) que incluya procesos de generación de información, socialización y retroalimentación de prácticas ancestrales con enfoque de género (entrevistas, grupos focales).			x	x		
	Potenciadas las capacidades locales, así como el fortalecimiento de la gobernanza.				x	x	
	Acuerdos de implementación con los distintos actores: GADs, productores, finqueros.			x	x	x	
2.2. Las iniciativas de bioeconomía se han reforzado en los dos corredores de conectividad.	Definidos espacios trimestrales para los socios locales a través de talleres, reuniones y visitas, para promover el interés y lograr el compromiso de participación en el Programa.			x	x	x	
	Diseñado e implementado el plan de distribución de beneficios para las mujeres y hombres en el proyecto que incluyan: acciones			x	x	x	

	específicas para garantizar la participación de las mujeres.						
	Establecidos vínculos específicos para potenciar la participación con las acciones afirmativas detalladas en el Plan de Acción de Género (PAG).			x	x	x	x
Componente 3: Condiciones favorables para la conectividad ecológica.							
3.1. Condiciones legales, administrativas, técnicas e institucionales desarrolladas para la gestión integrada del paisaje y los corredores de conectividad.	Generados conocimientos a través de la investigación.	PMU (especialista en salvaguardas con enfoque de género, en coordinación con todo el equipo técnico)		x	x	x	x
	Potenciadas las lecciones aprendidas de la implementación del proyecto			x	x	x	x
	Establecido y potenciado de manera participativa un Comité de Gestión.	PMU (especialista en salvaguardas con enfoque de género, en coordinación con todo el equipo técnico)		x	x	x	
Componente 4: Seguimiento y evaluación, gestión del conocimiento y coordinación regional.							
4.1. Los datos de seguimiento y evaluación del proyecto contribuyen a una toma de decisiones eficiente y a una gestión adaptativa del proyecto.	Establecer talleres para los diversos actores para la socialización de los avances del proyecto y la retroalimentación de avances.	PMU (Especialista en Salvaguardas y género en coordinación con el especialista en		x	x	x	
4.2. Fortalecimiento	Establecer un mecanismo de divulgación de resultados e				x	x	x

de la coordinación nacional y regional y de la gestión del conocimiento.	informes de investigación del proyecto.	monitoreo y evaluación					

7. Espacios para el involucramiento de actores.

Considerando las particularidades del proyecto se prevé contar con los siguientes espacios para el involucramiento de actores:

a. Socialización con la ciudadanía/ Reuniones informativas:
en estos eventos el equipo de salvaguardas y comunicación informará sobre los principales resultados y actividades a realizarse a lo largo del proyecto. Se socializarán también sus impactos ambientales y sociales previsibles y las respectivas medidas de mitigación. El objetivo de estos eventos será el de aclarar preguntas y dudas sobre el proyecto; además de recibir observaciones y criterios de los actores clave que incluyen a las poblaciones en situación de vulnerabilidad o riesgo sobre los diferentes componentes del proyecto.

b. Entrevistas con actores claves:
Considerando las particularidades de los pueblos indígenas, comunidades locales y productores/as se prevé la realización de visitas para informar sobre el proyecto, sus avances, actividades a realizar y sobre todo invitar a las actividades varias de sensibilización y capacitación.

c. Espacios de consulta:
Este tipo de eventos se realizará con la población potencialmente beneficiaria o afectada del proyecto, con especial énfasis en población indígena y productores locales. El objetivo de estos eventos será el de socializar los resultados, productos y actividades previstos para el proyecto. Se consultará a la población sobre dicha propuesta, de tal modo que se recojan propuestas y observaciones que luego serán analizadas por el proyecto. Adicionalmente, se prevé el recojo de recomendaciones e inquietudes sobre el proyecto.

Para efectuar estos eventos se desarrollará una metodología participativa que contemple las siguientes fases de consulta previa libre e informada:

a. Organización del proceso de consulta previa, libe e informada
b. Socializar los objetivos de la consulta tomando en consideración un lenguaje incluyente y culturalmente adecuado.
c. Desarrollo de procesos de consulta previa, libe e informada
d. Sistematización de los resultados obtenidos
e. Plan de potenciación de beneficios y mitigación de riesgos sociales que incluya recomendaciones de género.
f. Elaboración de los Planes de Vida para Pueblos Indígenas, de ser pertinente.

Estos procesos serán de responsabilidad directa del especialista en salvaguardas y género con apoyo de los técnicos en comunicación y monitoreo y evaluación.

Herramientas de comunicación para el involucramiento de actores.

Se consideran recursos claves y necesarios para la vinculación y socialización la comunicación adecuada con los distintos grupos de actores:

Página web: A través de la página web de MAAE, con vínculos a CI y WWF, se informará a la ciudadanía sobre el proyecto de reconversión y cada uno de sus componentes, de modo que la información sea accesible, que incluya el idioma de los distintos pueblos y que pueda ser visual para que todos/as puedan acceder a dicha información.

Folletos informativos: dado que no todas las personas identificadas como beneficiarias o potenciales afectadas del proyecto, tienen acceso a internet, se ha considerado la necesidad de poner a disposición de la ciudadanía información en físico sobre el proyecto de reconversión. Estos documentos se enviarán a actores clave, representantes y autoridades de organizaciones de la sociedad civil u organizaciones indígenas y afrodescendientes, con la finalidad de que, a través de ellos, esta información se difunda con la ciudadanía. Adicionalmente en los procesos consulta previa, libre e informada, se entregará este documento a los asistentes.

Videos y otros materiales comunicacionales: que permitan llegar de manera adecuada y recogiendo la mirada intercultural y de género a los pueblos y nacionalidades indígenas con información clave que mostrará los avances del proyecto, así como la principal información que permita tomar decisiones adecuadas con relación a la conservación de los paisajes.

8. Mecanismo de resolución de quejas y reclamos:

El mecanismo de resolución de quejas y reclamos[45] se define en base a un proceso de identificación de posibles conflictos a realizarse durante el primer semestre de la implementación del proyecto, en esta lógica se podrá contar con un proceso para atender los posibles conflictos generados en función de la implementación del proyecto.

Los principios que rigen el Mecanismo son:

- Accesibilidad.- Todas las personas deben tener la oportunidad de remitir la queja, para lo cual el reclamante debe tener la información clara y su propio idioma. El reclamante debe ser tratado con amabilidad, respeto y cortesía.
- Respuesta oportuna.- Toda queja presentada debe quedar registrada y tramitada de manera inmediata para generar una respuesta oportuna.
- Objetividad.- Todos los reclamos deben ser tramitados de manera objetiva, imparcial y equitativa Confidencialidad. El reclamo identificado como restringido debe mantenerse en reserva y tramitada de manera protegida, la divulgación dependerá de la autorización del reclamante.
- Obligación de reportar.- la persona que recibe la queja debe estar obligado a reportar sobre la queja, el avance de la tramitación de la queja, el resultado del trámite.

Así también se prevé la necesidad de contar con una tipología de quejas para poder atenderlas de acuerdo con sus particularidades en este aspecto se clasificarán como:

[45] Este proceso es de responsabilidad directa del encargado de salvaguardas y género dentro del equipo clave para el proyecto.

Tipo de queja	Nivel de gravedad	Acción
Corrupción, violencia, delitos, otros (por identificar)	Muy grave	Activar acompañamiento y ruta de acceso a la justicia.
Procesos participativos, consultas, acceso a beneficios otros (por identificar)	Grave	Acciones preventivas y correctivas
Por identificar	Leve	Acciones preventivas, correctivas y acuerdos entre las partes.

Tomando en cuenta esta tipología se prevé el siguiente proceso:

- ✓ Recepción de la queja o reclamo a través de un buzón ubicado en las oficinas del proyecto a ubicarse en los dos paisajes. Se podrá también enviar la queja o reclamo vía correo electrónico a un correo del proyecto habilitado y en funcionamiento.
- ✓ Se analizará la queja al interior del proyecto bajo la responsabilidad del /a Especialista en salvaguardas y género. Dependiendo de la tipología de conflicto se definirá el proceso a seguir. Pues los problemas graves se prevén solventar con el acompañamiento a servicios judiciales en cada localidad como mínimo. Así también se aportará en la generación de acciones preventivas y correctivas que tienen que generarse en el marco del proyecto y en coordinación cercana con las estructuras de la gobernanza de las autoridades comunitarias. De igual manera se trabajará en el caso de que la queja o reclamo sea leve.
- ✓ Finalmente se deberá generar un informe que sistematice el caso, el camino para la resolución y los acuerdos finales. Esta información se encontrará en la página web del proyecto.

Como Agencia GEF, el mecanismo de reclamos y quejas de WWF también estarán disponibles como una segunda opción para la recepción de quejas y comentarios. La información de contacto se detalla a continuación:

- En línea a través de un proveedor externo de WWF “EthicsPoint: https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/59041/index.html
- Correo electrónico: SafeguardsComplaint@wwfus.org
- Correo físico: Project Complaints Officer Safeguards Complaints, World Wildlife Fund, 1250 24th Street NW, Washington, DC 20037 USA
- Vía telefónica al +1 844 654 6517

9. Monitoreo y reporte.

El seguimiento es un componente integral de la gestión de proyectos, ya que sigue y evalúa los avances hacia la consecución de resultados tangibles de desarrollo asociados al proyecto que se está ejecutando.

Esto ayuda a detectar antes los problemas y a plantear las medidas adecuadas para resolverlos. Por lo tanto,

el seguimiento suele proporcionar datos que se utilizan para el análisis y la síntesis antes de informar para la toma de decisiones.

El proyecto en mención establece un componen 4 en donde se prevé la generación de información del seguimiento, monitoreo de los logros y dificultades en la implementación del proyecto. En esta lógica se trabajará de manera explícita con el equipo técnico para contar con información clave: diferenciada por género, por etnia, por grupo de actores y por zona de vivienda. Así también se realizará un ejercicio de sistematización del proceso de involucramiento de actores para recuperar lecciones aprendidas de la implementación y conocimientos ancestrales de la intervención.

A continuación, un cuadro inicial para el monitoreo:

Grupo de atención	Medidas de mitigación	Monitoreo
Institucionales nacionales	Generación de informes de seguimiento.	Aporte a la creación de indicadores nacionales sobre conservación.
Instituciones locales	Seguimiento a documentos de planificación.	Aporte en la consecución de indicadores locales con los resultados y logros del proyecto.
Productores/as Pueblos indígenas y comunidades locales	Generación de capacidades para el aporte en el monitoreo local	Información de base, indicadores de cambio de vida y mejoramiento en la producción sostenible.

Anexo 1 Formato resumen de las actividades realizadas para el involucramiento de actores durante la fase PPG.

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
26 de julio de 2019, Quito, Hotel Finlandia	Institucionales: MAAE, STEA, FIAS, SENAGUA, MAG ONG: WWF, CI, HIVOS, WCS, Fondo de Inversión Ambiental Sostenible (FIAS). COOPERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL: GIZ Coordinadora de organizaciones Indígenas Amazónicas, COICA.	Taller para presentar de manera oficial el arranque de la fase de preparación del proyecto “Corredores de conectividad en dos paisajes prioritarios de la Amazonia ecuatoriana”, la metodología a utilizarse y llegar a acuerdos de colaboración y trabajo entre las organizaciones.	¿El MAE cuenta ya con una definición sobre lo que es un paisaje natural o un paisaje sostenible?	El Ministerio ha buscado desarrollar temas de enfoque de paisajes, siendo el Programa del SNAP quien ha trabajado de forma más cercana el tema de cómo integrar las APs como un mosaico. A nivel de normativa o base legal aún no existe algo establecido, si bien el COA aborda el tema de paisajes naturales y seminaturales, que incluyen varios aspectos que van desde conectividad ecosistémica hasta bioseguridad, es decir, la complejidad del tema

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
				ameritaba un reglamento, mismo que no fue realizado, sin embargo, se cuenta con ciertos lineamientos ambientales territoriales que deben ser implementados por los GADs en su planificación territorial. Es importante resaltar que la competencia de trabajo a nivel de mosaico no es única del MAE, sino incluye a otros ministerios y GADs. En este sentido, el reto para el diseño del Componente 3 del Proyecto es abordar el tema de conceptualización jurídica para integrar los distintos niveles de decisiones de gobierno, enfoques, y demás a nivel de paisaje.
			WCS menciona que el enfoque de paisajes fue incluido en el desarrollo del Proyecto GEF Paisajes de Vida Silvestre, por lo cual podría ser de gran utilidad abordar las directrices que dejó el proyecto en relación con las expectativas que deben manejarse a nivel de procesos de institucionalización. Otra recomendación de la experiencia de WCS es tratar, en algún punto del diseño del PPG, con el MAE qué espera que quede institucionalizado como enfoque de paisajes. Asimismo, sugieren que	

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
			el proyecto debe conocer cómo se está abordando el tema al interior del MAE, el nivel de claridad y capacidades que tiene el Ministerio y otros actores clave relacionados con el enfoque de paisajes.	
			Para la definición de los dos paisajes ¿se usaron los mapas de fragilidad y fragmentación (2015) y el de ecosistemas (2014) generados por el MAE?	Sí se consideró el análisis de ecosistemas, sin embargo, los mapas en mención tienen una clarificación gruesa para los ecosistemas y no necesariamente reflejan las realidades específicas de los paisajes seleccionados. Sin embargo, los paisajes si se encuentran caracterizados a nivel de fragilidad de ecosistemas.
			¿Se está manejando alguna definición de manejo forestal sostenible y de producción sostenible?	El Ministerio no maneja una definición exacta de manejo forestal sostenible, sin embargo, trabaja a nivel del tema de gestión de los bosques, el cual contempla la restauración, conservación y manejo forestal sostenible, como herramientas para el trabajo en campo, la aplicación de estas dependerá de las condiciones del sitio de intervención. En este sentido, se sugiere que para abordar esta definición se considere instrumentos

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
				desarrollados a nivel regional, un ejemplo, es el Protocolo de Tarapóc, la Propuesta de Pucallpa sobre el desarrollo sostenible del Bosque secundario y otros insumos desarrollado por entidades como la OIMT. Es decir, existen criterios e indicadores el reto es aprovecharlos y volverlos operativos a la realidad nacional.
26 de noviembre de 2019. Lago Agrio, Sucumbíos	**ORGANIZACIONES INDIGENAS:** Federación de Organizaciones de la Nacionalidad Kichwa de Sucumbíos del Ecuador FONAKISE. Federación Provincial de Centros Shuar de Sucumbíos (FEPCESH-S) Nacionalidad Indigena SIEKOPAI	Taller: Socializar los objetivos y procedimientos del proyecto "Corredores de conectividad en dos paisajes prioritarios de la Amazonia ecuatoriana", con distintos grupos y/o organizaciones indígenas, y representantes del MAE, MAG, productores, ONGs, Academia, Cooperación, entre otros.	Crecimiento y mejoramiento del chocolate amargo. Elaboración de nuevos derivados del chocolate (chocolate dulce). Acceder a los grandes mercados Nacionales e Internacionales. Ingreso de más socias.	
			Apoyo a comunidades locales. Tecnificación de actividades agrícolas.	
			Resolver conflictos por tenencia de tierra en APs y BPs.	
			Fortalecimiento de capacidades.	
			Manejo Sostenible de la Vida Silvestre (zoocriaderos)	
			Sistemas de producción sostenible.	

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
			Investigación en US amenazada	
			Fortalecimiento interinstitucional a la articulación.	
			Asignación de recursos para proyectos de conservación.	
26 de noviembre de 2019. Lago Agrio, Sucumbíos	GAD de Sucumbíos: Dirección de ambiente, Dirección Nacionalidades y Jefatura de Turismo, Dirección de Planificación, Dirección Jurídica,	Entrevista, identificación de avances en política ambiental vinculada con corredores biológicos. Así también se identificaron vacíos de información y barreras para la implementación del proyecto. Adicionalmente se buscó identificar posibles beneficios y riesgos en términos de salvaguardas sociales y ambientales.	Mencionan su interés de captar financiamiento para cumplir sus objetivos de conservación. Así también mencionan que se está trabajando en la actualización de los Planes de Desarrollo Ordenamiento Territorial (PDOT),	Se prevé incorporar en el proyecto actividades de alineación, así como de diagnóstico en la primera fase de implementación.
27 de noviembre de 2019. Coca, Orellana.	GAD de Orellana: Dirección Jurídica, Dirección de Desarrollo Social, Dirección de planificación, Fomento Productivo,			
27 de noviembre de 2019. Ciudad de Coca, Orellana.	ORGANIZACIONES DE PUEBLOS INDÍGENAS: Federación de Comunas Unión de Nativos de la Amazonía Ecuatoriana (FCUNAE) Federación Provincial de Centros Shuar de Sucumbíos (FEPCESH-S)	Taller: Socializar los objetivos y procedimientos del proyecto “Corredores de conectividad en dos paisajes prioritarios de la Amazonia ecuatoriana”, con distintos grupos y/o	Preocupa la articulación entre los diferentes niveles de Gobierno. Se menciona la necesidad de conocer más a fondo el proyecto, solamente así se podrán alinear a sus programas para atender las necesidades de su población.	Se mencionó que se mantendrá el contacto con la persona punto focal del proyecto vía telefónica durante la fase de diseño y que seguramente a través del anexo de involucramiento de actores se detallará de mejor manera los espacios y dinámicas de participación y

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
	Organización de la Nacionalidad Waorani de Orellana (ONWO) Federación Shuar de la provincia de Orellana (FEPNASHO)	organizaciones indígenas, y representantes del MAE, MAG, productores, ONGs, Academia, Cooperación, entre otros.		distribución de beneficios.
28 de noviembre de 2019. Ciudad de Coca, Orellana.	Dirección de Ambiente del GADP Orellana	Entrevista, identificación de avances en política ambiental vinculada con corredores biológicos. Así también se identificaron vacíos de información y barreras para la implementación del proyecto. Adicionalmente se buscó identificar posibles beneficios y riesgos en términos de salvaguardas sociales y ambientales.	En las entrevistas se menciona el interés por potenciar la Declaratoria de Provincia con vocación forestal Sucumbios. Así también mencionan la necesidad de mejorar el trabajo en conservación de cuencas y microcuencas de interés hídrico.	Se prevé incorporar en el proyecto actividades de alineación, así como de diagnóstico en la primera fase de implementación.

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
28 de noviembre de 2019. Puyo.	ORGANIZACIONES INDIGENAS: Nacionalidad Achuar del Ecuador (NAE) Federación de Comunidades Indigenas Shuar (FICSH) FENASH – Nacionalidad Indígena Shuar	Taller para la socialización del “child Project” del proyecto	En el taller se logró participación importante en la cual se identificaron algunas inquietudes sobre el vínculo e identificación en la implementación del proyecto tales como: - Fortalecimiento interinstitucional a la articulación. - Asignación de recursos para proyectos de conservación. - Captar financiamiento de la cooperación internacional de proyectos elaborarlos bajo normativa establecida.	Se mencionó que se mantendrá el contacto con la persona punto focal del proyecto vía telefónica durante la fase de diseño y que seguramente a través del anexo de involucramiento de actores se detallará de mejor manera los espacios y dinámicas de participación y distribución de beneficios.
29 de noviembre de 2019. Macas	GAD Morona Santiago MAE – Ministerio del Ambiente (Azuay, Morona Santiago, DNB, Pastaza) FISCH - Federación Interprovincial de Centros Shuar	Taller para la socialización del “child Project” del proyecto	En el taller sostenido se menciona la necesidad de potenciar la capacitación técnica para generar, implementar y dar seguimiento a proyectos económicos sostenibles. Así también se plantea la necesidad de trabajar de manera articulada entre entre los diferentes niveles de Gobierno.	Se mencionó que se mantendrá el contacto con la persona punto focal del proyecto vía telefónica durante la fase de diseño y que seguramente a través del anexo de involucramiento de actores se detallará de mejor manera los espacios y dinámicas de participación y distribución de beneficios.
Varias	Ministerio del Ambiente y Agua del Ecuador MAAE.	Avances técnicos del diseño del proyecto	• Declaratoria de Provincia con vocación forestal Sucumbios. Conservación de cuencas y	Se vinculan con todo el proyecto, sin embargo, se puede poner énfasis en los resultados: R1: Aumento de la superficie de los ecosistemas forestales

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
			microcuencas de interés hídrico.	de capital significativo a nivel mundial bajo protección legal en los dos paisajes de proyectos. R2: Fortalecimiento de la gestión de corredores y áreas de conservación específicas dentro de los corredores de conectividad.
21 de enero de 2021, reunión virtual	Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería (MAG): Agencia de Transformación Productiva Amazónica (ATPA).	Taller virtual para Socializar los avances del proyecto "Corredores de conectividad en dos paisajes prioritarios de la Amazonia ecuatoriana", la metodología a utilizarse y llegar a acuerdos de colaboración y trabajo entre las organizaciones. Recibir retroalimentación y comentarios de los actores claves participantes en la reunión para ser incorporados en el documento de proyecto.	El proyecto debe favorecer el uso sostenible de la biodiversidad local, particularmente la agro biodiversidad, y no a cultivos exóticos, considerando que el proyecto pertenece a la cartera de Biodiversidad. El proyecto debe contemplar explícitamente un plan o ruta para trabajar cadena de valor de bioemprendimientos, e incorporarlos a nivel de mercado y comercialización. La metodología de planificación predial debe ser práctica y garantizar la participación de los dueños de la finca, ya que son quienes deciden sobre sus espacios. Esta deberá levantar información relevante para el ATPA y el MAG, lo que requerirá trabajo previo como parte de los primeros pasos metodológicos de	El proyecto se implementará sobre una metodología que considere la integralidad de las fincas, para dar paso a la conservación del bosque y otros recursos como el hídrico, así como desarrollar conectividad entre los parches de bosque que puedan existir en las fincas. Adicionalmente se menciona que para las ECAS se prevé la coordinación directa con el MAG para la incorporación y uso de sus metodologías y propuestas previas. En términos de los bioemprendimientos el primer año del proyecto se trabajará en la identificación de los mismos y las zonas específicas de implementación.

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
			identificación de las fincas. Para esto se acordó que el MAG compartirá base de datos de planes de las fincas. El proyecto debería fomentar o promover rubros pequeños o insignificantes que son de interés para la población en cada una de las zonas específicas. Se sugiere que el proyecto involucre un presupuesto para becas de viaje para que productores y beneficiarios conozcan e intercambien experiencias exitosas en bioemprendimientos, acuacultura, manejo de especies amazónicas, sistemas agroforestales, y afines, en el resto de países donde está el programa ASL.	
28 de enero de 2021	Organizaciones de pueblos indígenas: SIEKOPAI, NASH, NOAKE, FONAKISE	Taller virtual para Socializar los avances del proyecto “Corredores de conectividad en dos paisajes prioritarios de la Amazonia ecuatoriana”, la metodología a utilizarse y llegar a acuerdos de colaboración y	Se mencionan las siguientes inquietudes: - Se planea generar y fortalecer capacidades, ya que hay espacios donde no existen procesos de agricultura sostenible. - Se fomentará prácticas de	El proyecto considera a las necesidades de la población local y las organizaciones productoras locales. Se busca potenciar y generar iniciativas productivas y agrícolas sostenibles. En el primer año del proyecto se va a trabajar de manera cercana con organizaciones productoras locales, en

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
		trabajo entre las organizaciones. Recibir retroalimentación y comentarios de los actores claves participantes en la reunión para ser incorporados en el documento de proyecto.	manejo sostenible existentes en los dos paisajes (zona norte y zona sur). - Se recogerá información sobre todos los proyectos que están trabajando, recuperar las prácticas que ya existen en la zona y potenciarlas. - Se replicará prácticas y experiencias sostenibles exitosas. - Se incorporará la participación de quienes viven en los territorios. Se quiere hacer organización participativa, procesos de ordenamiento territorial en los paisajes, que haya plataformas de gobernanza, que haya espacios de diálogo y que haya capacidad de gobernanza. Participantes quieren conocer más a fondo el proyecto y cómo va a influir en las organizaciones involucradas.	qué zona se encuentran, qué trabajo están haciendo, y cómo se puede ayudar a mejorar. Establecer espacios de capacitación con instituciones del Estado y actores con el fin de genera capacidades para que se pueda hacer planificación y que puedan aportar desde un conocimiento previo. Está pendiente generación de Anexos, como el documento de involucramiento de actores, el cual permitirá mantener el vínculo con las organizaciones de base y las organizaciones de productores a través de distintos escenarios y plataformas para los distintos corredores

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
	Organizaciones de productores en el paisaje norte: Asociación Río Pacayaku, Comunidad 3 de Mayo, Gobierno Parroquial de Aguas Negras del Cantón Cuyabeno, Asociación Agropecuaria Expreso de Oriente	Taller virtual para Socializar los avances del proyecto "Corredores de conectividad en dos paisajes prioritarios de la Amazonia ecuatoriana", la metodología a utilizarse y llegar a acuerdos de colaboración y trabajo entre las organizaciones. Recibir retroalimentación y comentarios de los actores claves participantes en la reunión para ser incorporados en el documento de proyecto.	Cómo el proyecto incorpora a las necesidades de la población local y las organizaciones productoras locales. Se busca potenciar y generar iniciativas productivas y agrícolas sostenibles. Se incorporará la participación de quienes viven en los territorios. Se quiere hacer organización participativa, procesos de ordenamiento territorial en los paisajes, que haya plataformas de gobernanza, que haya espacios de diálogo y que haya capacidad de gobernanza. Se debe trabajar comercialización de productos de la zona Pacayaku como el cacao, y de Cuyabeno como arroz y café. Se pide que se activen la comercialización de estos productos pues hay muchos centros de acopio cerrados.	En el primer año del proyecto se va a trabajar de manera cercana con organizaciones productoras locales, en qué zona se encuentran, qué trabajo están haciendo, y cómo se puede ayudar a mejorar. Se planea generar y fortalecer capacidades, ya que hay espacios donde no existen procesos de agricultura sostenible. Se fomentará prácticas de manejo sostenible existentes en los dos paisajes (zona norte y zona sur). Se trabajará en el primer semestre de implementación del proyecto para la vinculación de los/los productores, en el proyecto.
8 de febrero, vía virtual	ORGANIZACIONES NO GUBERNAMENTALES Y ACADEMIA: NCI, WCS, FUNDACIÓN ALIADOS, UICN, IKIAM, FUNDACIÓN PACHAMAMA, FUNDACIÓN ECOCIENCIA, FEEP	Taller virtual para Socializar los avances del proyecto "Corredores de conectividad en dos paisajes prioritarios de la Amazonia ecuatoriana", la metodología a utilizarse y llegar a acuerdos de	Las principales inquietudes durante la sesión giraron en torno al diseño de corredores, bioemprendimientos y monitoreo. Hay disposición entre los y las participantes para generar apoyo y acuerdos.	Se aclaró que el proyecto coordinará con áreas protegidas, pero el esfuerzo no será específico para trabajar dentro de esas zonas ya que se tiene una visión de trabajar con paisajes sostenibles y trabajar otros mecanismos de conservación, como el proyecto Sociobosque.

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
		colaboración y trabajo entre las organizaciones. Recibir retroalimentación y comentarios de los actores claves participantes en la reunión para ser incorporados en el documento de proyecto.	Se propone sostener un encuentro entre los actores participantes dirigido específicamente a los temas abordados en la reunión, para aprovechar metodologías, conocimientos y lecciones que se han desarrollado a través de muchos de estos emprendimientos, y pensar en la posibilidad de que se unan la producción de algunos de estos productos para cubrir una demanda mayor en el tema de mercados.	Se solicita hacer la revisión y comentarios de los componentes 3 y 4 en una matriz compartida vía correo electrónico.
18 de febrero de 2019, Puyo	GADS: Pastaza, Morona Santiago.	Taller virtual para Socializar los avances del proyecto “Corredores de conectividad en dos paisajes prioritarios de la Amazonia ecuatoriana”, la metodología a utilizarse y llegar a acuerdos de colaboración y trabajo entre las organizaciones. Recibir retroalimentación y comentarios de los actores claves participantes en la reunión para ser incorporados en el documento de proyecto.	Se menciona el acuerdo de ser parte del proyecto pues, establecerá un trabajo en las zonas de conservación que también se consideran claves para su Municipalidad.	Se realizará una relación para la generación de un plan de trabajo conjunto entre el proyecto y los dos GADS,

Fecha y lugar de la reunión	Grupo y tipo de actor	Tipo y forma de la información divulgada	Principales inquietudes o preocupaciones	Respuestas brindadas para las inquietudes de los actores
25 de febrero, Taller de validación del proyecto	MAAE, MAG, SCTEA, GAD Sucumbíos	Taller virtual para Validar el proyecto “Corredores de conectividad en dos paisajes prioritarios de la Amazonia ecuatoriana”. La metodología impartida fue presentar el proyecto con los ajustes realizados, incluyendo cómo se incorporaron los comentarios de las organizaciones y actores estratégicos. Se recibió retroalimentación y comentarios de los actores, se comentaron siguientes pasos y se mencionó que, si no hay objeción, se procederá a la presentación del PRODOC al Secretariado del GEF.	Se mencionaron las oportunidades que existen con este proyecto para complementar prioridades en territorio, así como complementar herramientas de planificación y gestión. El GAD de Sucumbíos menciona que cuenta con información cartográfica importante que se puede utilizar para la selección de los corredores. El MAG resalta que las herramientas específicas para las acciones productivas sostenibles se deben ajustar al contexto local.	Se toma nota de los aportes realizados para asegurar que se tomen en cuenta en la primera etapa del proyecto.

Annex 8: Lessons Learnt from the ASL I Program

The following lessons, extracted from the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Progress Report 2018/2019[46], were integrated into the project design:

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- A shared vision/common shared framework is critical for effective joint actions in the Amazon, built in collaboration with governments and implementing agencies, but also other stakeholders, requiring adaptive management, flexibility, political know-how and understanding of the positioning of each stakeholder.

- Establishing relationships with multiple stakeholders in each national project builds program support and can facilitate political buy-in for project activities. Periodic physical, in-person meetings help establish the foundations for trusting and cooperative relationships, which can be further maintained and deepened at a distance using technology (virtual meetings, WhatsApp groups, communities of practice, among others.)

- Promoting engagement at regional levels needs to bear in mind the sovereign rights of each country to line up with collaborative efforts that address threats that cross borders and generate impacts from local to global scale.

- Building and fostering an environment of trust where different stakeholders can interact (national and local governments, NGOs, scientists, international agencies and donors, local communities, etc.) is key to successful coordination. Building trust requires finding common issues and a common language that cuts across national and institutional borders and working with the brain and the heart.

- Beyond the direct program participants, engaging with the multiple stakeholders active in the Amazon maximizes impact by finding synergies and avoiding overlaps. Co-financing, cross-invitation to events, participation in regional or international events, etc. is important to engage with people and consolidate collaboration.

OPERATIONAL LESSONS FOR PROGRAM/PROJECT IDENTIFICATION, PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

- Focus on the technical aspects of the program and constituent projects and build ownership among technical staff to ensure robustness in the face of changing political and social contexts.

[46] Lessons learnt extracted from the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Progress Report 2018/2019 (available from http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/407141582652061822/64857-ASL-Progress-Report-2018-19-FEB11.pdf). Includes a chapter on emerging lessons from ASL.

- Regular communication is key to quality and coherent program and project preparation (for ASL1 three workshops, one in each country; for Connectivity Corridors Project, two workshops and regular virtual meetings).

- Actively involve stakeholders in designing theory of change.

- Jointly agree on a common basic architecture for the Program and reflect this in the design of the individual projects (as relevant), to support a common narrative, and facilitate harmonization of approaches, monitoring and reporting of Program impacts.

- Having a common architecture allows countries to focus on specific areas of national concern while ensuring efforts contribute to a coordinated effort to better manage the Amazon biome as a whole.

- Managing expectations is necessary to ensure that planned activities are doable within the available resources (people, time, funds).

- Recognize that for all projects, there will be implementation learning curves, both within individual projects and at the regional/programmatic level.

- The concept of learning-by-doing and adaptive management is key to successful implementation of the Program's Coordination Grant (and national projects too).

- The team needs to be ready to respond to unexpected events and learn how to effectively use the reporting to guide management and adapt actions according to changing and unexpected circumstances.

- Promoting stability in technical teams working on the program/projects is important, while recognizing that changes are inevitable. Having a strong ASL community and good communication products can help build institutional memory, continuity, and resilience at the local, national and regional levels.

- Coordination, management, administration of the program and execution of the regional coordination project demands hours of time and expertise. A Program Management Unit is needed. Time and effort are needed.