



2019 Project Implementation Review (PIR)



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

Critical Habitats Upper Paraná Paraguay

Basic Data	2
Overall Ratings.....	3
Development Progress.....	4
Implementation Progress	21
Critical Risk Management	23
Adjustments	24
Ratings and Overall Assessments	25
Gender	31
Social and Environmental Standards	33
Communicating Impact	35
Partnerships	39
Annex - Ratings Definitions.....	41

A. Basic Data

Project Information	
UNDP PIMS ID	4836
GEF ID	4860
Title	Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Land Management into Production Practices in all Bioregions and Biomes in Paraguay.
Country(ies)	Paraguay, Paraguay
UNDP-GEF Technical Team	Ecosystems and Biodiversity
Project Implementing Partner	PRY10 (Paraguay)
Joint Agencies	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Project Type	Full Size

Project Description
<p>1. This project will conserve globally significant biodiversity and secure the ecological functions and resilience of the Upper Paran ȳ Atlantic Forest ecoregion --targeting the Multiple Use Landscape (MUL) framed by the Departments of Amambay, Canindey ȳ and Upper Paran ȳ in Eastern Paraguay. This landscape harbours numerous important forest habitat blocks of various sizes on production lands. The project will adapt the different production practices occurring within this area to ensure they are more compatible with biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management. Interventions have been designed to reduce pressures on the ecosystem from land clearance, agrochemical runoff into water sources, and the production of charcoal which are leading to forest clearance and fragmentation and causing pollution.</p>

Project Contacts	
UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser	Mr. Andrew Bovarnick (andrew.bovarnick@undp.org)
Programme Associate	Ms. Maria Gabriela Pinto (mariagabriela.pinto@undp.org)
Project Manager	Mr. Oscar Gadea (oscar.gadea@undp.org)
CO Focal Point	Ms. Veronique Gerard (veronique.gerard@undp.org)
GEF Operational Focal Point	Ms. Graciela Miret (graciela.miret@maes.gov.py)
Project Implementing Partner	Mr. Julian Ferrer (Julian_Ferrer@cargill.com)
Other Partners	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

B. Overall Ratings

Overall DO Rating	Satisfactory
Overall IP Rating	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	Substantial

C. Development Progress

Description					
Objective					
The biodiversity and ecosystem functions of the Atlantic Forest eco-region is protected from existing and emerging threats from multi-sectoral production practices and is a model for replication across the country's bioregions and biomes.					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2018	Cumulative progress since project start
<p>Surface area of forests in the Multiple Use Landscapes (MUL) out of protected areas in the 3 Departments have a greater degree of protection, measured by:</p> <p>a) Number of hectares of forests certified for environmental services;</p> <p>b) Number of hectares of forests under sustainable management (REDD+ pilot project);</p> <p>c) Number of hectares of legal set-asides and protective forests established with management criteria</p>	<p>a) Less than 10 certificates have been issued in the whole country.</p> <p>b) 0</p> <p>c) No registry or cadaster of legal set-asides or protective forests</p>	<p>(not set or not applicable)</p>	<p>a) 3,000 ha (to be adjusted when the Monitoring System is operational).</p> <p>b) 6,000 ha (to be adjusted when the Monitoring System is operational).</p> <p>c) 90,000 ha of legal set-asides; 30,000 ha of protective forests (to be adjusted when the Monitoring System is operational).</p>	<p>a) 14 new certificates for environmental services were issued during the reported period, totaling 48 since the beginning of the project. These new certificates represent 547,999 additional ha for forest conservation, of which 1 certificate (2,333 ha) belongs to the project intervention areas.</p> <p>b) This indicator may not be reported during the life of the project or must be reformulated, considering that there still are no technical conditions for the implementation of REDD+ pilot projects in Paraguay.</p> <p>c) Currently in the 3 pilot departments, the number of properties that have a forest management plan approved by INFONA has increased to 70 (67 properties in the last report) and the surface has been increased to 49,564.51 ha, representing an</p>	<p>a). During the reported period, 16 new certificates of environmental services have been issued, 1 of which belong to a project pilot area, totalizing 64 since the project started. These new certificates represent an additional 18,545 hectares of forest for conservation, of which 1 certificate (663 hectares) belong to the project intervention area. There are also 51 certificates pending or in the process of certifying at the country level, representing 178,786 ha. Of these, 3,556 ha belong to the project pilot area.</p> <p>It should be noted that, from the project through an agreement with A todo Pulmón NGO, work is being done to certify 2,477.64 hectares of surplus forests from 4 farms, 3 of them belonging to indigenous communities that border the National Park</p>

				<p>additional 21.6% of forests, according to what was reported the last period (40,772 ha). 55% of the indicator goal has been achieved.</p> <p>446,139 ha of forests remnants exist in the project intervention area, of which 133,891.87 ha represent the legal reserves identified through the environmental licenses approved by the SEAM. This latest information can be quickly obtained, thanks to the SIGEO (management tool of the geographical and alphanumeric information of agricultural and forestry projects approved by the SEAM) and of the digital availability of the information from the institution (project support). This tool is currently used internally, but institutional arrangements are being made to make it available soon for public use.</p>	<p>Caazapá and the other property is private and is in San Rafael National Park Reserve.</p> <p>b). Indicator requested for modification.</p> <p>c). At present, the 3-project pilot area has increased to 78 farms with a forest management plan approved by INFONA (last report was 70 farms) and the surface has increased to 56,287.6 ha, representing an additional 13.6% of forests, based on what was reported last period (40,772 ha).</p> <p>So far it has been achieved 63% of the indicator's goal.</p>
Surface area in the MUL where sustainable production practices (1 or more) have been adopted on the basis of the Best Practice Manuals and contribute to establish deforestation free supply chains:	Practices focus on soil conservation and management (medium and large producers). Small farmers with degraded soils. Intensive use of agro-	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>a) 500,000 ha (soy); 60,000 ha (livestock)</p> <p>b) 900,000 ha (soy); 398,000 ha (livestock)</p>	According to the geospatial analysis conducted by the project, 902,958 ha of soy production exists in the direct intervention areas of the project and 479,666 ha indirectly, totaling 1,399,313 ha.	According to the geospatial analysis carried out by the Project, in the project direct intervention areas there are 902,958 ha of soybean production and indirectly about

<p>a) Number of hectares achieved through direct project intervention in the 3 priority areas.</p> <p>b) Number of hectares that can be potentially achieved through indirect effect of project intervention (replication)</p>	chemicals. Lack of environmental criteria.			<p>The elaboration of the sustainable soy production protocol has been concluded during this period for the implementation of good practices. This document must still undergo a validation process, first, with the inter-institutional round table formed by different government bodies (SEAM, INFONA, SENA, MAG, UNICOOP, Municipality of Naranjal, Project) and then must be socialized and discussed with the departmental soy platforms (Alto Parana and Itapúa). This protocol will be implemented as a pilot in 180 properties of producers associated with UNICOOP and represent 25,000 ha of production under BPAs, representing 5% of the indicator goal.</p> <p>It is important to mention that 34 BPA technical implementers are being trained, which will be certified by the SENA, regulatory agency, and will represent the first to receive national certification.</p>	<p>479,666 ha, totaling 1,399,313 ha.</p> <p>The sustainable soy production protocol has been validated by MADES and SENA. This protocol was planned to be implemented in 180 farms of producers associated with UNICOOP, but finally today they adopt it voluntarily in 578 farms of 6 Cooperatives. Initially, about 25,000 hectares of good practices were planned to be implemented, currently there are 68,000 hectares, representing a little more than 10% of the indicator's goal. The producers and their farms were technically assisted by Cooperative's technical assistance, trained with project support as BPA implementers. The farms where these improvements are being implemented are now audited by SENA. During the next semester, 270 new farms are expected to be incorporated with BPAs, following the criteria of the protocol.</p>
Direct reduction of pressures in forest ecosystems from production sectors as evidenced by:	a) Tons of native firewood used by silos to be defined in PY1 (data base to be established in pilot Municipalities)	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>a) 50 %</p> <p>b) 5%</p>	During the reported period, we can mention that there are 465 silos in the pilot departments.	Currently, the regulation of decree No. 4,056 is being validated by the National Forestry Institute (INFONA) and it is expected to have news about its approval and implementation in

<p>a) % of reduction in the use of firewood from native forests by grain silos and dryers.</p> <p>b) % of reduction in sedimentation of surface water bodies</p>	<p>b) Sedimentation to be measured in pilot Municipalities in PY1</p>			<p>Work has been carried out jointly with the Deputy Minister of Mines and Energy, under the Ministry of Public Works, in discussing and validating the regulation of Decree 4056, in force since 2015, which establishes the certification, control and promotion schemes for the use of bioenergy from forest plantations or managed native forests and the regulation of the certification of solid biomass for energy purposes. The use of certified wood is expected to gradually enter into force starting in 2021.</p>	<p>the coming months. This document establishes the certification, control and promotion regimes for the use of bio energies from forest plantations or managed native forests and the regulation of biomass certification with energy fines.</p> <p>It is important to mention that one of the traders associated with the project reported the use of firewood from 120 hectares harvested, from 156 hectares of own plantations.</p>
<p>Percentage of increase in coverage of representative native tree species in the MUL (outside of protected areas) in the early stages of natural succession that are characteristic of the UPAF</p>	<p>To be defined in PY1 (through GIS)</p>	<p>(not set or not applicable)</p>	<p>0.2</p>	<p>The forest coverage of 2013 has been identified as a baseline at the pilot project sites. The representative species of the BAAPA in the early stages of natural succession cannot be identified by geospatial analysis, since they need to have a minimum height of 5 meters.</p> <p>However, with UNICOOP, demonstration plots with native species have been installed to evaluate their behavior and yield. These plots have been measured annually since 2015, and the results of the measurements have been discussed among local technicians to be able to</p>	<p>Under the agreement with UNICOOP, reforestation has been carried out with exotic and native species of 132 hectares, in 5 cooperatives: Naranjito, Raúl Peña, Copronar, Pindo and Unión Curupayty.</p> <p>On the other hand, multitemporal analysis have been carried out based on the official maps of forest cover in the 3 pilot project departments. Also, 12,099 ha of increased forest cover have been identified between 2015 and 2017/2018 (last forest layer).</p>

				recommend them in the restoration process.	
<p>Tons of avoided emissions of CO₂eq attained through protection of forests in the REDD+ pilot project:</p> <p>a) Direct lifetime (6,000 ha)</p> <p>b) Indirect lifetime (65,000 ha)</p>	<p>Baseline map of carbon stocks for the UPAF estimates a minimum of 22.2 tC/ha and a maximum of 189.8 tC/ha (average of 64 tC/ha)</p>	<p><i>(not set or not applicable)</i></p>	<p>a) 1,408,128 ton/CO₂eq</p> <p>b) 15,254,720 ton/CO₂eq</p>	<p>Although avoided emissions do not come from forests with REDD+ projects, during this period a 22% increase of emissions avoided were reported compared to the previous period (2,619,733.92* ton/CO₂ eq.). It is estimated that the additional direct avoided emissions from this period were around 576,655.68* ton/CO₂ eq. (by the 2,606 ha of certified forests), totaling 3,196,388.88 ton/CO₂ eq. representing 127% over the indicator goal. Equally, an additional indirect (b) avoided emission is estimated for this period of 121,261,219* ton/CO₂ eq., by the certification of 547,999 new ha in the rest of the country, registering an increase of 74.5% in relation to the area certified in the previous period.</p> <p>Also, there are 10,701 ha in the project intervention areas pending or in the process of certification.</p> <p>(*) Emission factor adjusted to the reference levels: 221.28 ton/CO₂.</p>	<p>Although avoided emissions do not come from forests with REDD+ projects, during this period a 4.38% increase of emissions avoided were reported compared to the previous period (3,196,388.88* ton/CO₂ eq.). It is estimated that the additional direct avoided emissions from this period were around 146,663 ton/CO₂ eq. (by the 663 ha of certified forests), totaling 3,343,097.52 ton/CO₂ eq. representing 237.4% over the indicator goal. Equally, an additional indirect (b) avoided emission is estimated for this period of 4,103,631.6* ton/CO₂ eq., by the certification of 18,545 new ha in the rest of the country, registering an increase of 3.3 in relation to the area certified in the previous period., representing 821,8% over the indicator's goal.</p> <p>Also, there are 178,786 ha in the project intervention areas pending or in the process of certification. Of these, 3,556 ha belong to the project pilot area.</p> <p>(*) Emission factor adjusted to the reference levels: 221.28 ton/CO₂.</p>

The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track			
Outcome 1					
Effective governance framework for biodiversity conservation and SLM in multiple use landscapes					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2018	Cumulative progress since project start
Improved institutional capacities to effectively plan, implement, monitor and mainstream biodiversity into production activities at landscape level as measured by a % of increase in the Capacity Scorecard	SEAM and INFONA average 46%	(not set or not applicable)	At least 80% average	<p>The specialization course in environmental governance taught at the UNA is in full force. 17 government officials (5 from SEAM, 5 from INFONA, 5 from MAG and 1 from the Public Prosecutor’s Office) and 3 technicians from the private sector (MFS and CAPRRO) attend this course.</p> <p>The scoresheet of the planned capacity for the medium term of the project shall be applied in the second half of the year. The results of this survey will be reported in the next period.</p>	<p>The specialization course on environmental governance taught at UNA has been successfully completed. This course was attended by 17 public officials (5 SEAM, 5 INFONA, 5 MAG and 1 Public Ministry) and 3 private sector technicians (MFS and CAPRRO).</p> <p>Currently, work is being done to obtain certificates from the participants.</p> <p>According to the survey applied to employees from MADES and INFONA during the second half of 2018, it can be affirmed that 66.7% of the interviewees perceive improvement in institutional capacities, which represents an increase of 20.7% in function to the baseline, with only 13.3% missing to comply with the indicator’s goal.</p>
Percentage of increase in the amount collected by SEAM for fines charged from infringement of forest and environmental regulations	Average annual amount collected by SEAM is US\$270,000	(not set or not applicable)	60% (US\$432,000)	During this period, there was a new increase of 1.4% in collections from fees and fines at the SEAM. From US\$ 416.770 collected in the previous period,	During this period, there was a new 10.3% increase in the collection of fees and fines in MADES (ex SEAM). From US \$ 422,542 collected the previous

				<p>US\$ 422,542 was collected in this period.</p> <p>The project support to the legal unit of the SEAM for streamlining of processes for the implementation of the administrative summary proceedings continued until December 2017. Currently, the creation of regional offices of the SEAM, in the 3 pilot departments, contributed to servicing a greater number of complaints received by local technicians.</p>	<p>period, this period was collected US \$ 466,056.</p> <p>Likewise, work is being done to consolidate environmental laws within a single Environmental Code, in a participatory manner. This initiative is expected to support the clarification of fines to be paid for violations and this contributes to the increase in revenue.</p> <p>The Project has supported this process through the hiring of a legal advisor and logistic support in the discussion workshops. To date, Law 352/94 on "Protected Areas" has been dealt with on 06/28/19 and 12 more laws are expected.</p>
Percentage of environmental licenses approved in priority areas based on the Monitoring System	0	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>PY2: baseline information uploaded in the Monitoring System</p> <p>PY3: 50%</p> <p>PY4: 75%</p> <p>PY5: 100%</p>	<p>The implementation of the Monitoring System is subject to the decision of the current outgoing government. The institutions (SEAM/INFONA) have been strengthened with equipment, generating information relevant to the monitoring operation and a large amount of human resources have become available. A strong lobby from the project was made for the signing of an agreement between the INFONA and the Global Forest Watch (GFW) to use its platform at the national level, based on all the information generated. The</p>	<p>From January 2019, the Environmental Information System (SIAM) has been put into operation, in which new projects that require an environmental license among other consultations are presented. From the beginning of the operation, 100% of the licenses are approved by the environmental monitoring system tool. Currently, 1,618 licenses were issued in this way, of which 140 correspond to licenses of project pilot areas.</p>

				<p>successive changes of the head of the institution have hindered the signing of the agreement, because of which awaiting the next government has been suggested, so as to insist on the monitoring operation.</p> <p>However, the GIS technician of the project is generating the production map of the Eastern Region, which will be validated by the competent institutions and socialized, this and other maps generated will be uploaded to a publicly used cloud.</p> <p>We must also mention, that the SEAM, since 2017, has a tool that records the geographical and alphanumeric information of agricultural and forestry projects (SIGEO), which identifies expired licenses or the failure to comply with them, allowing the institution's decision makers to have accurate information. This tool will soon become public.</p>	<p>The project has supported the hiring of 3 technicians for the management from which the licenses are issued and work is being done to support the installation of the Legal Advice and Inspection module in the SIAM.</p> <p>On the other hand, in March the signing of an agreement between INFONA and the World Resource Institute (WRI) was carried out, for the use of the Global Forest Watch (GFW) Forest Monitoring Platform in Paraguay. In Paraguay, INFONA employees are adopting the use and management of the GFW platform, for monitoring land use change, especially in forested areas.</p> <p>Although work is being done to consolidate these systems, the great future challenge will be to articulate their integration and the flow of inter-institutional information.</p>
Level of agreement on sustainable production approaches, including deforestation free supply chains, international certification standards, best practices for production and conservation, land zoning criteria for corridors, biosafety.	0	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	PY3: minimum environmental standards for soy and livestock production agreed by the multi-stakeholder platforms	<p>The Alto Paraná and Itapúa Department Soy and Beef platforms are formed and operational.</p> <p>The departmental action plans of sustainable soy and beef of both</p>	<p>The Sub-National Soy and Beef Platforms from Alto Paraná and Itapúa continue to operate with guidelines of their Action Plan prioritized in the process of implementation by stakeholders.</p>

				<p>departments, developed and validated by its participants.</p> <p>The Sustainable Soy and Beef National Platforms are in the process of being formed.</p> <p>Certain activities identified in the soy and meat action plans have been developed with support from the project and others by the local leaders management of the platform.</p>	<p>The National Sustainable Soy Platform will be launched on July 30 of 2019, where the Steering Committee of National Commodities Platform and key stakeholders from public, private and other organizations will participate.</p> <p>Before the launch, workshops have been held with members of subnational platforms representing smallholders segment to unify criteria and agreements to be raised at national level.</p> <p>The National Sustainable Beef Platform is in the process of being formed, conditioned on the final establishment of Chaco Regional Beef Platform.</p> <p>A Best Practices Manual for implementation has been develop with an emphasis on grain production and a technical guide for grain production was coordinated and implemented with the support of the project.</p>
The progress of the objective can be described as:			On track		
Outcome 2					

Financial and market incentives framework to promote biodiversity and sustainable land management within the target multiple-use landscape					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2018	Cumulative progress since project start
<p>Surface area of soy in the 3 priority areas prepared for certification and certified under international certification schemes, contributing to a deforestation free supply chain, evidenced by:</p> <p>a) Number of hectares applying minimum environmental standards in preparation for certification under international schemes.</p> <p>b) Number of hectares certified.</p>	<p>23,000 ha of RTRS certified soy in the Department of San Pedro (outside the UPAF) – 65,000 ha under ISCC scheme by ADM</p>	<p>(not set or not applicable)</p>	<p>a) 500,000 ha</p> <p>b) 250,000 ha (50%)</p>	<p>A proposal for a sustainable soy production protocol exists. This must be validated by an inter-institutional round table and then by departmental platforms. This Protocol will be implemented in the pilot phase on the property of 180 producers from 6 UNICOOP cooperatives. This represents 25,000 ha of production under this scheme.</p> <p>UNICOOP has 5,779 associate producers and seeks to expand the adoption of practices on its properties. UNICOOP's total production area is 594,620 ha.</p> <p>Regarding the certification of soy under international standards, we can mention that there was an additional increase to what was reported in the previous report of 17.3% of the certified soy production area, thus totaling 337,184 ha.</p>	<p>a) The sustainable soybean production protocol has been validated by SENAIVE and its validation is planned in the National Seminar on Good Practices and the National Sustainable Soybean Platform in the next semester.</p> <p>This protocol has been implemented in 578 farms of 6 cooperatives associated with UNICOOP, representing some 68,000 hectares of production under this scheme.</p> <p>b) CARGILL: 18 operational centers (stockpiles, plant and port) originating sustainable soybeans; 2BS certification audited and approved; equivalent to 65,000 hectares</p> <p>ADM: In the departments of Caazapá, Itapúa and Alto Paraná there are 2BSvs 25,000 hectares certified under the standard, with a production of soybeans under that standard of approximately 88,000 tons.</p> <p>Currently, 20,000 ha from producers associated to UNICOOP are in process of certification. In the second half of</p>

					2019, the project will be working with allied traders and UNICOOP to certify new areas of producers of this nucleation.
Percentage of soy purchases in the priority areas by commodity buyers that come from producers that comply with best practices	Commodity buyers have different purchasing policies mainly based on offer and volume	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	PY3: 10% PY4: 30% PY5: 50%	This indicator can be seen once the sustainable soy production protocol enters into force and a negotiation process with traders begins.	ADM: In the departments of Caazapá, Itapúa and Alto Paraná, 45,000 certified tons of soybeans have been purchased.
<p>Degree to which environmental sustainability criteria have been mainstreamed in financial institutions' (FI) credit operations for soy and meat, measured by:</p> <p>a) % of compliance with the pre-requisite of presenting environmental management plans as per the provisions of the EIA law</p> <p>b) Number of FIs (and therefore volume of credits) that mainstream best practices in the loan approval procedures</p>	<p>a) 3 banks (Continental, Regional and Bancoop) have started to request environmental licenses in mid 2013 (within the public and private banks sector, these banks cover 42% of the soy portfolio and 36% of the livestock portfolio)</p> <p>b) 0</p>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>a) PY4: 80% of the soy and livestock loan portfolios</p> <p>b) PY5: 4 FIs and at least 50% of their loan portfolios</p>	<p>a) 100% of the soy and beef credit portfolio of the full partners of the MFS apply the analysis of environmental and social management and the environmental management plan requirement.</p> <p>b) An increase has occurred from 6 to 8 of the IFIs that analyze customers by the environmental management system. In the previous period, 6,869 customers passed through the system, while there were 8,549 in this period, thus to increase by 24.5%. The analyzed credit volume increased by 37% regarding the previous period, reaching US\$ 17,158,694,227.</p> <p>It is important to highlight that in the reported period 8 new banks have been incorporated into the MFS, 1 as a full partner and 7 as aspiring partners. The BNF, the</p>	<p>a) 100% of Soybean and beef portfolio from MFS partners applied for the analysis of environmental and social management and the requirement of environmental management plan.</p> <p>b) In the previous period, 8,549 clients passed through the system, while in this period there were 9,104 clients, increasing in this way by 6.5%. The volume of credit analyzed was US \$ 14,957,112,956. This 12.8% decrease in the volume of credits could be due to the crisis in the sector.</p> <p>It should be noted that training has been conducted aimed at members of middle and senior management of MFS entities, in Environmental and Social Risk Analysis; with 54 participants and in Criteria and Guidelines of</p>

				state bank, is among the aspiring members. This point is very important because this bank's portfolio is extensive and has a nationwide coverage, working with small and medium-sized producers.	<p>Agroindustrial Guide; with 70 participants</p> <p>The Paraguay Central Bank has been able to establish by resolution (8/2018) the mandatory incorporation of the Environmental and Social Risk Analysis System (SARAS) throughout the financial system. This resolution will take effect from January 2020.</p> <p>The MFS has signed an agreement with UNICOOP to work on the definition of financial incentives for producers that implement BPA, as well as the mechanism to achieve them.</p>
Number of FI (and financing plans) granting long term loans for reforestation/afforestation projects	0	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	4 FI financing at least 100 plans	This indicator can be reported in year 5.	INFONA is working on the development of financial products with the National Development Bank for long-term financing of reforestation plans.
<p>Number of transactions and flow of resources derived from:</p> <p>a) SEAM forest certificates under the environmental services law.</p> <p>b) REDD+ carbon credits.</p>	<p>a) 0</p> <p>b) 0</p>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>a) Transactions corresponding to 2,000 ha x 70 US\$/ha/yr (US\$140K/yr) within the UPAF</p> <p>b) 1 agreement for transaction x 4-5 US\$/ton/CO2eq/ha/yr</p>	Regarding the indicator goal (a) we can report that transactions have been made, during the period reported, by 2,191 ha of certified forests for a value of US\$ 1,358,420 (an average of US\$ 620 per ha) in the project intervention area.	Regarding the indicator goal (a) we can report that transactions have been made, during the period reported, by 713.83 ha of certified forests for a value of US\$ 266,211.77, at the national level (an average of 372.93 US\$ per ha). This represents 46.7 ha of certified forests for a value of US\$26,012, in the project intervention area. There also

				b) This indicator may not be reported throughout the life of the project, considering that technical conditions for the implementation of REDD+ pilot projects as well as for the payment for carbon credits still do not exist in Paraguay.	206,868 ha pending on transaction. b) This indicator may not be reported throughout the life of the project, considering that technical conditions for the implementation of REDD+ pilot projects as well as for the payment for carbon credits still do not exist in Paraguay.
The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track			
Outcome 3					
Strengthened implementation of land set aside system and sustainable production practices					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2018	Cumulative progress since project start
Degree of adoption of best practices by producers in the 3 priority areas, measured by: a) Number of hectares of direct sowing following the BP Manuals. b) % of increase in the use of live fences. c) Number of producers adopting best management practices of agro-chemicals d) Number of hectares of silvopastoral systems established	Generalized use of direct sowing but not necessarily done following technical recommendations (management of soils and agro-chemicals)	(not set or not applicable)	Alto Parana: a) 175,000 ha b) 10% c) 700 d) 300 ha Amambay: a) 5,000 ha b) 5% c) 100	a, b and c) was concluded by the consultancy for the design of a sustainable soy production protocol. The document will have to be validated by an inter-institutional round table and then presented in the departmental platforms. This standard will be implemented in the pilot phase on the property of 180 producers of 6 UNICOOP cooperatives. d) Between March and April 2018, 120 silvopastoral systems were installed in the Department of	a) 100% of producers associated to UNICOOP implement direct sowing on their farms (594,000 ha), but in 68,000 ha, following the protocol of good practices carried out on the farms. b) This information may be reported in the following report, considering that part of the adequacy of the producers to the legal requirements of SENAVE will be carried out and recorded in the coming months. c) 108 producers from UNICOOP adopt good practices for the

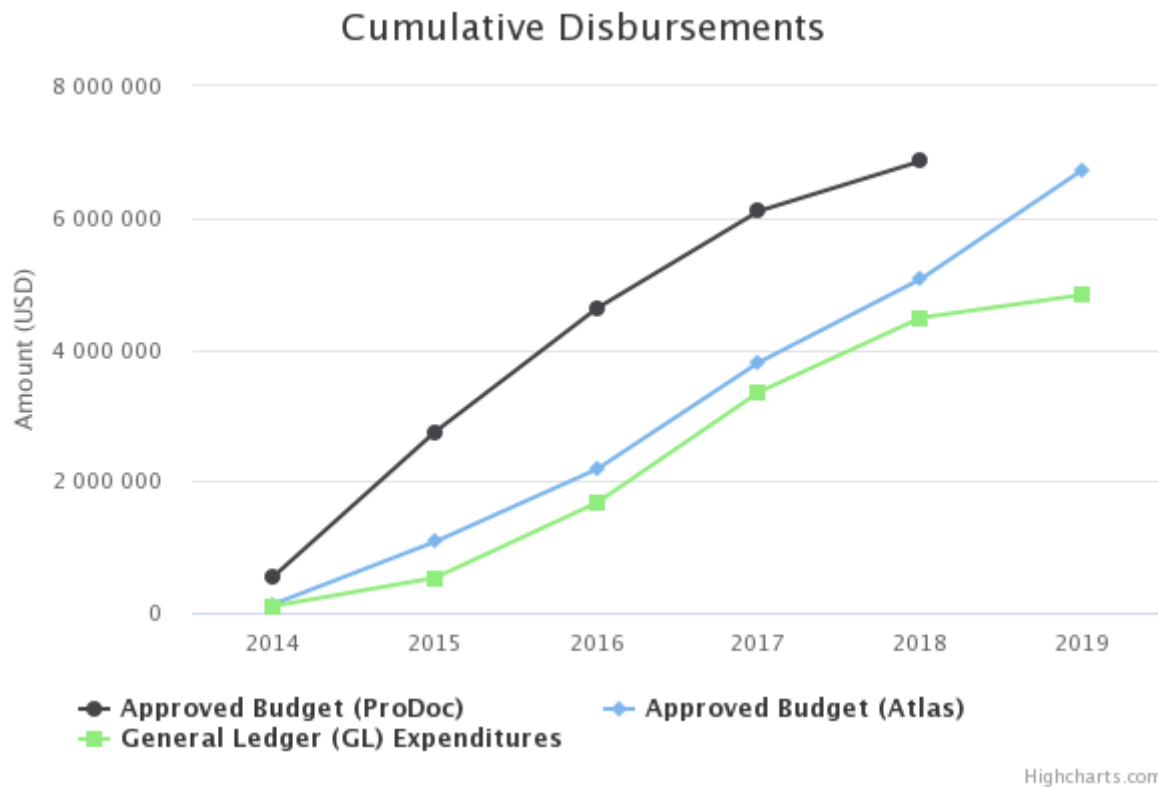
			<p>d) 50,000 ha</p> <p>Canindeyu</p> <p>a) 40,000 ha</p> <p>b) 10%</p> <p>c) 200</p> <p>d) 10.000 ha</p>	<p>Caazapá on properties of producers associated with the ARP. This represents 0.24% of the indicator goal. There are plans to expand the plantations in the Department of Itapúa for the next period. It is worth mentioning that the Departments of Caazapá and Itapúa, which were modified by Amambay and Caazapá respectively, do not have the same soil conditions to meet the indicators originally proposed.</p>	<p>management of phytosanitary products and a record of this is maintained.</p> <p>d) In September 2018, the department of Caazapá installed 99 hectares of silvopasture systems on farms of producers associated with ARP, and in Alto Paraná was 100 ha. This represents 0.25% of the indicator target for Caazapá and 33% for Alto Paraná. For the last period it is planned to expand the plantations by 156 ha in the department of Alto Paraná and 75 ha in the department of Caazapá.</p>
Number of hectares in small farmer settlements in Canindeyu with continuous forest reserves that have management plans (land use, fire control, BD monitoring) under implementation and with environmental certificates issued	0	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	350 Ha	<p>This will be done in the second half of 2018. The certification of forest remnants with environmental services at the level of small farmers is hindered by the lack of possession of the title of the property, which is a fundamental requirement to access the certification for environmental services.</p> <p>Given this difficulty, the intention is to carry out conservation activities, restoration of reserves and of forests that protect water courses on properties that belong to small farmers of Caazapá in the buffer zones of the 2 main forest reserves in the Tavaí district</p>	<p>There is an agreement of parties signed with the organization PROCOSARA to work with 91 families from 7 communities that reside between the Caazapá Park and the San Rafael Reserve, occupying an area of 1,182.21 ha. On these farms, sustainable production systems will be promoted and implemented, such as yerba mate under agroforestry systems. These plantations will be installed in specific areas aiming to restore the protective forests of water channels and legal reserves of the farms.</p>

				(Caazapá Park and San Rafael Reserve).	<p>So far the diagnosis of the area and characterization of the farms has been completed and a training plan on sustainable production systems has been implemented, of which 78 producers were beneficiaries.</p> <p>In the next report, the restored areas will be detailed in the framework of this agreement.</p> <p>On the other hand, 3 indigenous communities, located in the buffer zones of San Rafael, have certified their surplus forests, as well as one of the owners of the reserve. In total, 2,477.64 ha are in the process of certification.</p>
<p>Increase in the connectivity index in:</p> <p>a) high fragmentation areas (Alto Parana) through restoration of protective forests;</p> <p>b) areas with larger forest remnants (Canindeyu) through increase in legal set-asides and private reserves.</p>	<p>0</p> <p>(Index will be defined in PY1)</p>	<p>(not set or not applicable)</p>	<p>a) Alto Paraná: distance between fragments decreased by 1 point</p> <p>b) Canindeyu: distance between fragments decreased by 2 points</p>	<p>The restoration process of the BPCH has started in the pilot District of Naranjal. The mapping of the deficit of these forests has been concluded, identifying 507.43 ha to be restored. A restoration manual has been designed, which is in the process of validation by the INFONA and SEAM. The results of the restoration will be reported in the next report.</p> <p>Discussions with the Governorship of Itapúa and with the Natalio pilot district have begun to replicate the work initiated in Naranjal. This problem</p>	<p>The Technical Manual for the Administration and Application of Law No. 4,241 / 0 “On the restoration of protective forests of water channels within the national territory” and its Decree No. 9,824 / 12, validated by MADES and INFONA, has been published.</p> <p>The Manual was launched on June 27 in the city of Naranjal. In this city, the PFWC (Protective Forests of Water Courses) restoration process will begin during the second half of 2019, with an estimated 200 ha.</p> <p>The connectivity index of Tavaí (Caazapá) in 2015 was 98.41 and</p>

				<p>was identified in the action plans of the departmental platform.</p> <p>Apart from the efforts made, geospatial analysis done by the specialist in remote sensors hired by the project, demonstrates that the increase in the connectivity index of the forest remnants during the life of the project (5 years) can hardly be detected, since the development of native species used for the restoration is not sufficient to be detected by a satellite image, even a high resolution one.</p>	<p>in 2017 99.00. The increase is 0.59 (29.5%).</p>
Improvement in the effectiveness of monitoring and control in the priority areas measured by the number of monitoring events and finalized processes in accordance with the Inter-institutional Manual for Enforcement of the Forest and Environmental Laws	0 (Data base to be established in PY1)	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>50% in 4 pilot Municipalities</p> <p>30% in the remaining Municipalities</p>	<p>There is still no Monitoring System in force, but the surveillance and monitoring has increased in the pilot departments of the project, through the coordinated work of the SEAM technicians and of the regional offices, as well as that of the environmental units created in the pilot districts. The reception of complaints through regional offices has facilitated the intervention of the SEAM where necessary. These complaints in turn are verified in the SEAM internal system (SIGEO), which allows the environmental licenses to be visualized and check if the actions were within or outside of the legal framework.</p>	<p>Currently, SIAM is ongoing since January 2019, a tool that allows monitoring compliance with the licenses approved by MADES. The data available now is only by department, considering that the licensing evaluation process is slow. Surely, next year there will be much more information from SIAM, just as the GFW.</p> <p>In parallel, it can be mentioned that the protocol (manual) for interinstitutional intervention in cases of detection or complaints of deforestation was developed. The institutions involved are INFONA, Ministry of Interior (Police), Public Ministry</p>

				This tool will have public access in the coming months.	(Prosecutor's Office) and MADES. The document is currently in the validation stage by different institutions, and its implementation is planned in a short time.
<p>Number of soy and livestock producers that have improved their knowledge, attitude and practices for implementation of best practices to conserve biodiversity, reduce soil degradation and plan land use in the MUL of the priority areas (measured by KAP[1] indices and including disaggregation by gender)</p> <p>[1]The KAP study measures the changes in Knowledge, Attitude and Practices of a community. The first KAP survey was not done during the PPG but will be done in PY1 once the producers are identified, to elaborate the educational diagnosis and will be done again in PY5 to measure the changes as a result of project training and outreach interventions.</p>	KAP indices to be determined at Project start-up	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	4,000 producers and 100 women (KAP indices to be determined at Project start-up)	<p>This indicator will be reported at the end of the project.</p> <p>In this reporting period we can mention that the KAP index surveys were applied to 130 producers of the Naranjito Cooperative, which have producers in the Departments of Itapúa and Caazapá. The planning work will be carried out jointly with the cooperative, aiming to meet the needs of producers and suggested in the KAP index survey report.</p> <p>Some of the recommendations noted in the consultant's report, mainly those regarding the BPAs are being implemented in the sustainable soy production protocol.</p>	<p>This indicator will be reported at the end of the project.</p> <p>Three theoretical-practical trainings, aimed at 100 technicians and producers, were carried out in Caazapá. Topics related to yerba mate production, silvopastoral systems and good agricultural practices were discussed.</p> <p>UNICOOP has trained 25 technicians as GAP implementers. Within this agreement, 3,480 producers and young people have been trained in sustainable production, environmental education, GAP, environmental legal framework, reforestation and recovery of springs.</p>
The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track			

D. Implementation Progress



Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc):	70.4%
Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year:	70.4%
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August):	4,830,411

Key Financing Amounts	
PPG Amount	120,000
GEF Grant Amount	6,861,817
Co-financing	23,637,030

Key Project Dates	
PIF Approval Date	May 7, 2012
CEO Endorsement Date	Dec 9, 2013
Project Document Signature Date (project start date):	Mar 19, 2014
Date of Inception Workshop	May 14, 2014
Expected Date of Mid-term Review	Dec 1, 2017

Actual Date of Mid-term Review	Feb 12, 2018
Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation	May 31, 2020
Original Planned Closing Date	Mar 19, 2019
Revised Planned Closing Date	Jul 31, 2020

Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)
2018-11-26

E. Critical Risk Management

Current Types of Critical Risks	Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period
Political	In this period there was a change of government, both central and departmental, which implies a slowdown of the processes that had been working with the authorities of the previous government.
Financial	The crisis in the agricultural sector during the reporting period is extremely acute and complicates the implementation of some promoted practices. For example, the adequacy of farms for compliance with the protocol of good practices often requires high investments, and due to the fall in international prices and the drought losses of the period, they make it quite difficult to scale what was promoted.

F. Adjustments

Comments on delays in key project milestones

Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.

The request for extension of the project was delayed, which was recommended in the MTE. Finally, this request was submitted by MADES on April 10, 2019. Another significant delay is the formation of the Project and the Platform Boards. In the case of the Board of the Platform the delay in the conformation causes the delay in the launch of the National Platform for Sustainable Soy, finally the Board is scheduled for July 30. And in the case of the Project Board, the approval of the substantive review that must be submitted to the GEF is pending. This meeting is scheduled for August 2019.

Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.

MTE made recommendations regarding project extension, focusing on re-organizing project activities on outcome 3. While this has been widely discussed with the project's technical committee and individually with institutions, project board meeting was delayed as was delayed approval and submission of project extension to UNDP-GEF.

UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.

The project has been delayed in completing the End of Project targets due to a low start and changes in the government. Because of this, a no-cost extension was requested until July 31st of 2020. Although the extension was a recommendation since the MTR, the MADES did not submit the request until April of 2019. Additionally, providing the complete justification for the extension took longer than expected, since the MADES and the project team finished submitting all the documents by August 2019. Because of this, there has been a delay in the extension approval.

G. Ratings and Overall Assessments

Role	2019 Development Objective Progress Rating	2019 Implementation Progress Rating
Project Manager/Coordinator	Satisfactory	- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -
Overall Assessment	<p>For this report, the overall evaluation is considered satisfactory, especially the progress in outcome 3, considering that one of the recommendations of the MTE was to pay more attention to this result. Progress has been made in the implementation of agreements with different stakeholders, cooperatives, traders, NGOs, who are collaborating with the implementation of actions that contribute to the fulfillment of the project outcomes.</p> <p>In relation to the Product 1.1. The change of government has brought a greater concern for the monitoring of deforestation, it is in this sense that both MADES and INFONA are working on the design of monitoring systems that allow immediate identification of land use change and know if these processes are legal or illegal. In the case of MADES, this is fully operational and in the case of INFONA the operation is partial and it is expected that as of November 2019 this will be fully operational. At the level of the legal framework, the implementation of an environmental code is being worked on by MADES, a document that will bring together a compendium of harmonized laws, favoring their application.</p> <p>About the Product 1.2., In terms of strengthening institutional capacities, both SEAM and INFONA, work is being done to strengthen monitoring systems, in order to guarantee their proper functioning. The great future challenge will be the integration of the tools and their harmonized operation. The Environmental Governance course has been successfully completed, with 25 graduates from different Government institutions and the private sector.</p> <p>About Product 1.3., It can be reported that the platform is working for the implementation of prioritized actions in the action plans of the departmental platforms, such as the implementation of GAP and the restoration of forests protecting water channels. On the other hand, work is being done on the conformation of the Regional Platform for Sustainable Beef in the Chaco to feed the national platform in the future. The launch of the National Platform for Sustainable Soy is planned in the last days of July.</p> <p>With regard to Outcome 2, in Product 2.1, the strengthening of the Sustainable Finance Roundtable is still in progress, currently comprising 14 market banks, including a public bank. Private banks continue applying, in 100% of cases, the analysis of environmental and social management in accordance with the current legal framework. Starting in 2020, the Central Bank of Paraguay will oblige the entire financial system to ensure the implementation of environmental and social risk management systems (SARAS). The MFS and UNICOOP have signed an agreement to work on financial incentives for those producers that implement good agricultural practices.</p> <p>With regard to Product 2.2, it can be mentioned that there is a joint work between CAPPRO, traders and UNICOOP, in order to begin a process of</p>	

	<p>certification of producers associated with cooperatives, to obtain the economic benefits from the sale to niches of market.</p> <p>About the Outcome 3, we can mention that the protocol for the production of sustainable grains is being implemented in a pilot way on 68,000 hectares. This work is being validated by SENAVE and the next steps would be to extend the implementation of the protocol at the national level, after discussion at the National Platform for Sustainable Beef level. In addition to the implementation of good practices in the district of Naranjal, the process of restoring the deficits of the protective forests of water channels and the protection of water springs has begun, this will lead to the promotion of a sustainable development model at the scale of landscape in the territory, which is intended to be validated by MADES and other government agencies with a green seal. Likewise, we are working with the Rural Association of Paraguay (ARP) in the implementation of Silvopastoral Aystems. In this period, 199 hectares have been implemented in Alto Paraná and Caazapá. The team work with 91 families from 7 communities that reside between the Caazapá Park and the San Rafael Reserve, occupying an area of 1,182.21 ha. On these farms, sustainable production systems will be promoted and implemented, such as yerba mate under agroforestry systems. These plantations will be installed in specific areas aiming to restore the protective forests of water channels and legal reserves of the farms. Another activity of great importance is the restoration of the deficit of the protective forests of water channels in the Naranjal district. The mapping, field reverification, producer training, marking of areas to reforest and confinement of the areas have been carried out. Plantations will begin in September 2019 and the restoration of about 200 hectares is estimated.</p> <p>About the project management, we can mention that the execution of the budget for 2018 was USD 1.265.038,87 (payments + commitments), achieving an execution of 73% in relation to the Project Budget for that year. For the year 2019 a budget of USD 1,661,041.79 was authorized, which as of June has an execution of 20,9% = 347.066,40 USD (payments + commitments).</p> <p>The approval of the extension of the project is awaited, as well as the content of the substantive review presented at the end of 2018.</p>	
Role	2019 Development Objective Progress Rating	2019 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Overall Assessment	<p>DO rating is seen as (S), considering that during last year of implementation substantial progress towards meeting objective was made, in spite of some slowdown resulting from change of Government in August 2019 and subsequent changes within partner including both at national and sub-national levels such as the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADES), the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), the National Forest Institute (INFONA) and the Departments of Alto Paraná, Itapúa and Caazapá. Additionally, there were changes in project coordination and team structure and a the re-organization of the project following MidTerm Review.</p> <p>Some of the project's most noteworthy achievements include the public and private alliances made through project for forest conservation and/or restoration as (1) turning the Municipality of Naranjal into a "Green Municipality" based on best production practices and river protection piloted within this Municipality; in effect, through an alliance between a cooperative (UNICOOP), the Municipality of Tavai, the MADES and the INFONA, all the ground work for piloting 200 has</p>	

<p>of forest restoration as been laid out expecting tree plantation to be completed late 2019.</p> <p>(2) the partnering of the Rural Association of Paraguay (ARP) for the implementation of Silvopastoral Systems achieved 199 hectares in Alto Paraná and Caazapá. (3) Project investments -in alliance with other projects- in the Sustainable Finance Roundtable in the past few years have resulted in a participation of 14 banks that apply environment and social screenings, setting the grounds for mobilization of important financing/credits to be directed to sustainable production projects.</p> <p>It is important to mention that the MADES prioritized the strengthening of the Environmental Information System as a key element for transparency in the environmental license emission process; through project support -in close coordination with other projects- this System launched in August 2018 was powered so that multi-temporal analysis in the BAAPA region will be performed late 2019, while preliminary figures show an increase of 12,099 hectares of forest within the project's areas of intervention for the 2015-2017/2018 period.</p> <p>Alliance between Public and Private Sectors remain strong as can be seen in the platform discussions on the sustainable commodities action plans where production trade unions, NGOs, IP organizations meet while facilitating women's empowerment and participation at large.</p> <p>As concerns IP rating (MS) , in spite of current project delivery must be considered that 2018 project execution target has been achieved, while 2019's is expected to be achieved as disbursements rate increases towards year-end.</p> <p>As discussed during the last semester, following the mid term review's recommendations and as agreed with the project's technical committee and project board confirmation held in August 2019, activities have been directed towards outcome 3 and powering results on the ground in Alto Paraná, Itapúa and Caazapá, making important for full achievement of project objectives to extent duration until July 2020.</p>		
Role	2019 Development Objective Progress Rating	2019 Implementation Progress Rating
GEF Operational Focal point	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<i>- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -</i>
Overall Assessment	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	
Role	2019 Development Objective Progress Rating	2019 Implementation Progress Rating
Project Implementing Partner	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<i>- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -</i>
Overall Assessment	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	
Role	2019 Development Objective Progress Rating	2019 Implementation Progress Rating

Other Partners	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<i>- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -</i>
Overall Assessment	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	
Role	2019 Development Objective Progress Rating	2019 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser	Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Assessment	<p>PROGRESS TOWARDS DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES (DO)</p> <p>The DO rating is satisfactory as the project has already achieved most of its end of project targets and is on track to achieve the remaining targets.</p> <p>It is a very ambitious and complex project developing under a complicated political context. The project had a low start on all its components, mostly due to delays in the recruitment of the technical team. Once the project was put in place and was fully under implementation, significant advances were accomplished under components 1 and 2. Nevertheless, delays have been persistent under component 3 due mostly to political factors. Pilot areas were changed due to government request, not allowing the project to advance enough in the field work. In addition, the political context in Paraguay has been complex, there have been government changes and restructuration, requiring the team to invest time and effort building political relations and getting support for project implementation.</p> <p>Even though these delays have been reflected in target achievement, significant progress has been made in the last years of the project implementation after successful efforts of engaging government and private sector in the project.</p> <p>In consequence, a no cost extension was requested until July 31st of 2020. Once the extension of the project is approved, it will manage to accomplish successfully all its end of project targets. Activities and resources are being planned and allocated to accomplish targets, specially under component 3. Finally, the Mid Term evaluation strongly recommended the reformulation of several indicators for measuring key achievement of the project. Once the indicators are reformulated, which is expected to happen in the second semester of 2019, they will reflect the progress that the project is making in achieving its ambitious targets.</p> <p>At the objective level, progress is being made to achieve the end of project targets. Partnerships with key players is allowing to work towards achieving the targets. An agreement framework was made with UNICOOP, thanks to which reforestation efforts have been successful, as well as farmers are implementing the sustainable soy production protocol. This evidence the efforts the team has carried out to accomplish successful agreements that will allow to the completion of the end of project targets.</p> <p>On outcome 1 on effective governance framework for biodiversity conservation and SLM in multiple landscapes, the project is on track to achieve its End or Project Target. An important advance of the project was accomplished by the implementation of the Environmental Information System, facilitating and accelerating the process of obtaining environmental licenses. Licenses have been granted in project areas already, and once this tool is fully operational, an</p>	

increase is expected in the projects applying for its license due to a faster and easier process. Actions plans regarding the sub-national beef and soy platforms have been completed, representing a big milestone for sub-national platforms. Also, the work agreed on this action plans is currently under implementation, guaranteeing the sustainability of the platforms. Great advance has been accomplished in the work on the national sustainable soy platform, which will be launched soon, representing a big achievement for Paraguay in terms of sustainable production of soy.

Outcome 2 regarding financial and market incentives framework to promote biodiversity and sustainable land management within the target multiple-use landscape, is on track to achieve results. Successfully financial incentives and certification have been approved. Advances have been made towards the approval of the sustainable soybean production protocol, which will continue its implementation benefiting producers, once it is validated by the national platform. Work still needs to be done to accomplish the end of project targets under this component, however it must be taken into consideration that the financial sector is in a deacceleration process, affecting the indicators under this outcome.

More efforts must be made to accomplish this outcome, that is why, specific activities are already planned for the rest of 2019 and 2020. For example, establishing a platform for the sale of environmental services on the MADES portal, will promote the development of the environmental services market.

Outcome 3 regarding the strengthened implementation of land set aside system and sustainable production practices, although with delays, is on track to achieving its end of project target. The technical Manual for the Administration and Application of Law No. 4,241 has been published, which represents a key milestone for the reforestation of protective forest. The monitoring system for land use change has been put in place at the national level, allowing for a monitoring system to track deforestation and compliance with regulations, in the pilot departments.

There are no gender related indicators established in the results framework, however important efforts are being made in this matter. Equal gender participation is being assured through different parts of the project, such as national and subnational platforms as well as technical trainings. Additionally, the gender action plan is currently under development.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS (IP)

Implementation progress is rated as moderately satisfactory. The project is being well managed with minor deviations in terms of financial delivery, mostly due to contextual reasons.

As mentioned previously, the project had suffered important delays in the activities under component 3, specially on field work. Because of this, the resources and efforts are planned and being dedicated mostly to accomplishing this component for project finalization, which is expected to happen in 2020. Once the extension is approved.

In 2019, activities planned for the year are being implemented on time, expecting to accomplish all of them by the end of the year. Supporting training and marketing process, strengthening of the monitoring process, and new data generation are activities planned for 2019 that will allow for end of project targets to be met in 2020.

In terms of key project milestones, the Midterm Evaluation of the project was carried above the midterm of the project. Nevertheless, the MTR was carried out when the financial execution was around 50% of the resources, allowing for the recommendations to still be relevant.

Although, the project has shown adaptative management capacities, the project still is missing speed to adapt to several barriers along the way. This has led to postponing several activities through the years of implementation, leading the execution of the project and the accomplishments of several outcomes to suffer. That is why, the project team has been working on creating new partnerships for project activity implementation and sustainability of results.

In terms of risks, the project has identified substantial risks related to the political context in terms of changes inside the government at the national and subnational level. The team is working hard to overcome these risks. The risks are being constantly monitored, so specific activities can be applied in order to mitigate them. For example, getting the approval of the highest levels of decision-making in the different spaces.

The cumulative Global Ledger delivery against total approved in the Prodoc is 70.33% showing some delay in the financial disbursement, specially from component 3 of the project because of the reasons mentioned previously. The plan of financial disbursement for 2019 and 2020 has been carried out and presented for the project extension, showing detailed expenses of each activity.

The project has managed to secure an important amount of co-financing. Private sector, national government, and the NGO Solidaridad play an important role. The accounted figures at the MTR showed that over 50% of the resources planned had been already delivered, meaning that co-financing is proceeding as planned.

The project has important partnerships with the private sector. Key players have been included in the project as well as co-financing resources have been secured. ADM, Cargill, MFS and LDC have supported different components of the project as well as co-financing resources have been mobilized with these companies. Since component 3 is the one that is missing most of the work to accomplish the end of project targets, the team must secure partnerships for achieving these targets.

In conclusion, considering the complexity and scope of the project, it has evolved satisfactorily to accomplish its end of project targets. In order to accomplish all the targets, the project needs to be extended as planned until 2020 and special attention must be paid to political risks specially in the implementation of the Component 3. The project team has worked to develop a detailed work and financial plan until July of 2020 in order to carry this project to its successful term, which makes me confident that all of the end of project targets are going to be achieved.

H. Gender

Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning. The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

Gender Analysis and Action Plan: PIMS 4836 LD BD Paraguay Green Production Landscapes Plan Acción Género PPV 2018.pdf
Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.
Plan Acción Género PPV 2018.pdf
Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):
Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: No
Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes
Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: No
Not applicable: No
Atlas Gender Marker Rating
GEN2: gender equality as significant objective
Please describe any experiences or linkages (direct or indirect) between project activities and gender-based violence (GBV). This information is for UNDP use only and will not be shared with GEF Secretariat.
n/a
Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.
Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.
The project has been making efforts in the participation and empowerment of women in agribusiness and environmental conservation, especially agribusiness, a space led mostly by men. This is reflected in the active participation of women in spaces such as the Platforms for Sustainable Commodities and events that constitute spaces for multidisciplinary dialogue. For example, the event

“Empowerment, strengthening and creation of organizational and business capacities of cooperative rural women” was organized on October 25, 2019 in COPRONAR, Naranjal, Itapúa, where 500 women were expected to be present. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather it had to be canceled that day.

On November 6 and 7, in Asuncion, the South-South Exchange event called “Sustainable Livestock and its relationship with forests” was successfully held, where an exclusive module for women was opened, they were able to exchange experiences and opinions for the analysis of livestock activity and its link with international goals, commitments and agreements on climate change and forest conservation.

Within the framework of the conformation of the National Platform for Sustainable Beef, at the beginning of the reported period, meetings have been conducted where 10 women were interviewed. Likewise, an average of 25 women have participated in meetings, which represents 30% of the total participation, in the meetings of dialogue spaces. It is important to mention that in all events the importance of women's opinions and claims are given special attention.

Regarding trainings, within the Diploma in Environmental Governance, 56% of the participants were woman.

It is also important to consider that in 2018 the project hired a consultant to elaborate a Gender Action Plan for the project.

Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.

The activities carried out to date are insufficient to indicate improvements in environmental and/or resilience outcomes. Measurement indicators need to be established in order to respond this indicator.

I. Social and Environmental Standards

Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)

The Project Manager and/or the project's Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?
No
If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.
n/a
2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.
No
If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.
n/a
SESP: PIMS 4836 LD BD Paraguay Green Production Landscapes Signed ESSP.pdf
Environmental and Social Management Plan/Framework: <i>not available</i>
For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.
No
If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.
What has been done are free and informed prior consultations for the certification of environmental services of forested remnants in indigenous communities located in the buffer zones of Caazapá Park and the San Rafael Reserve.
4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential)?

No
If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.
n/a

J. Communicating Impact

Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's lives.

(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)

<https://stories.undp.org/hacia-una-agricultura-sostenible>

Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media

Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.

Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file library' button in the top right of the PIR.

<http://greencommoditiesparaguay.org/proyectopaisajesdpv/>

http://www.py.undp.org/content/paraguay/es/home/operations/projects/poverty_reduction/paisajes-de-produccion-verde--commodities-sustentables.html

<https://www.facebook.com/paisajesdeproduccionverde/>

<https://twitter.com/greenparaguay>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnbk-co6MoSmT5CsAgKRJOA>

<http://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impresa/economia/noticias-breves-1671554.html>

<http://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impresa/economia/el-jueves-sera-el-foro-de-finanzas-1674107.html>

<http://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impresa/economia/haran-foro-de-finanzas-sostenibles-1674318.html>

<http://www.cronica.com.py/2018/02/13/bancos-preparan-foro-finanzas-sostenibles/>

<http://www.lanacion.com.py/negocios/2018/02/12/primer-foro-internacional-de-finanzas-sostenibles/>

<https://www.ip.gov.py/ip/bancos-preparan-foro-de-finanzas-sostenibles-con-expositores-internacionales/>

<https://www.ultimahora.com/manana-habra-foro-finanzas-sostenibles-n1133551.html>

<https://www.ultimahora.com/bancos-impulsan-planes-sostenibles-y-haran-foro-sus-beneficios-n1133390.html>

<http://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impresa/economia/incorporar-reglas-ambientales-1675587.html>

<http://www.ultimahora.com/empresas-pueden-ser-rentables-y-amigables-el-medioambiente-n1133937.html>

https://www.lanacion.com.py/negocios_edicion_impresa/2018/02/16/se-unen-a-la-busqueda-del-desarrollo-sostenible/

<http://sicompy.blogspot.com/2018/02/pnud-destinara-unos-usd-200000-dolares.html>

<http://prensa-latina.cu/index.php?o=rn&id=156033&SEO=pnud-destina-fondos-para-proteger-bosque-atlantico-paraguay>

<http://www.undp.org/content/gcp/en/home/presscenter/articles/paraguay-woman-leader/>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2018/03/26/proyecto-conservacion-integra-productores-carne-soja/>

<http://www.ultimahora.com/proyecto-conservacion-integra-productores-carne-y-soja-paraguay-n1139978.html>

<https://www.efe.com/efe/cono-sur/sociedad/un-proyecto-de-conservacion-integra-a-productores-carne-y-soja-en-paraguay/50000760-3565336>

<http://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impresa/suplementos/abc-rural/gobernanza-ambiental-en-la-facultad-de-ciencias-agrarias-de-la-una-1694992.html>

<http://www.ultimahora.com/infona-reconoce-deforestacion-pero-no-contribuye-evitarlo-n1143273.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FGq9ZrlcaFY>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2018/05/22/atp-capacita-funcionarios-la-municipalidad-domingo-martinez-irala/>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2018/05/09/ninos-aprenden-educacion-ambiental-pulmon/>

<http://uni.edu.py/2018/06/14/seminario-promueve-una-itapua-comprometida-con-el-medio-ambiente/>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2018/06/19/se-realizo-lanzamiento-colosos-la-tierra-la-pantalla-grande/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JznUU5Y8Bil>

<https://www.ultimahora.com/soja-proponen-uso-tecnologia-cultivo-sostenible-n1303479.html>

<http://itapuanoticias.tv/impulsan-proyecto-paisajes-de-produccion-verde/>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2018/07/12/comercio-lena-paraguay-seria-formalizado-la-reglamentacion-decreto/>

<http://www.ppn.com.py/html/noticias/noticia-ver.asp?id=146732&rss=go>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2018/07/18/quinientos-treinta-nueve-arboles-inscriptos-colosos-la-tierra/>

<http://www.economiavirtual.com.py/pagina-general.php?codigo=18016>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2018/07/23/atp-realiza-talleres-arborizacion-urbana-manejo-residuos-finca/>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2018/07/25/se-prepara-expedicion-premiar-al-arbol-mas-grande-del-paraguay/>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2018/08/02/comienza-la-aventura-9-dias-encontrar-al-arbol-mas-grande-del-paraguay/>

<http://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impresa/locales/primera-expedicion-para-hallar-a-cinco-colosos-1728123.html>

<http://www.abc.com.py/nacionales/culmino-la-emocionante-travesia-en-busca-del-coloso-paraguay-1728049.html>

<http://www.5dias.com.py/primer-guia-ambiental-y-social-para-la-agroindustria/>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2018/10/27/productores-naranjal-restauran-bosques-protectores-cauces-hidricos/>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2018/11/02/mas-70-expertos-regionales-discuten-ganaderia-sostenible-bosques/>

<http://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impres/a/economia/abogan-por-un-desarrollo-sostenible-en-ganaderia-1757057.html>

<http://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impres/a/suplementos/abc-rural/reunion-internacional-ganaderia-sostenible-y-bosques-1755369.html>

<https://www.ip.gov.py/ip/expertos-regionales-discutiran-en-asuncion-sobre-ganaderia-sostenible-y-bosques/>

<http://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impres/a/suplementos/abc-rural/produccion-de-carne-y-soja-cierra-el-ano-con-avances-en-sustentabilidad-1761391.html>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2018/10/09/presentacion-de-proyectos-liderados-por-el-mades-en-coordinacion-con-el-pnud/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2018/09/19/proyectos-liderados-por-el-mades-presentaron-avances-de-sus-actividades-al-ministro-del-ambiente/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2018/12/04/mades-realizo-capacitaciones-a-productores-rurales-de-caazapa/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2018/10/05/itapua-iniciativa-liderada-por-el-mades-fue-presentada-a-tecnicos-de-la-eby/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2018/09/19/mades-y-arp-coordinan-acciones-para-beneficio-del-sector-y-el-medio-ambiente/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2018/09/06/ministro-del-ambiente-participo-de-la-premiacion-de-la-7-edicion-del-concurso-colosos-de-la-tierra/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2018/08/20/temas-ambientales-fueron-tratados-en-la-capacitacion-realizada-a-tres-municipios-de-alto-parana/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2018/05/30/vivero-del-parque-nacional-de-caazapa-sera-fortalecido-para-promover-la-reforestacion/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2018/09/04/promueven-proteccion-del-baapa-a-traves-de-un-concurso/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2019/03/13/una-vision-que-trasciende-el-tiempo/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2019/04/08/mades-fortalecera-el-parque-nacional-caazapa/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2019/04/22/aprueban-plan-operativo-para-proteger-al-baapa/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2019/04/08/mades-realiza-seguimiento-al-estado-de-fincas-con-produccion-de-yerba-mate-en-tavai/>

<https://www.ultimahora.com/lanzan-plataforma-soja-sustentable-n2835014.html>

<https://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impres/a/suplementos/abc-rural/2019/06/27/manual-restauracion-de-bosques-protectores-de-cauces-hidricos-y-naranjal-sustentable/>

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2019/04/06/reunion-con-el-intendente-de-tavai-sobre-acciones-a-implementarse-en-la-zona/>

<https://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impresaeconomia/2019/07/31/herramientas-para-la-produccion-sustentable/>

<https://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impresasuplementos/abc-rural/2019/07/31/se-lanzo-plataforma-nacional-de-soja-sustentable/>

<https://www.abc.com.py/edicion-impresasuplementos/abc-rural/2019/08/07/para-alimentar-al-mundo-primero-hay-que-alimentar-el-suelo/>

https://elpais.com/elpais/2019/06/17/planeta_futuro/1560767144_572683.html

<http://www.mades.gov.py/2019/06/10/mesa-de-trabajo-de-la-plataforma-regional-de-soja-sustentable-en-itapua/>

K. Partnerships

Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagement

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important! All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?
Yes
Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?
Yes
Does the project work with the Private Sector?
Yes
Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?
No
Does the project work with UN Volunteers?
No
Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?
Yes
CEO Endorsement Request: PIMS 4836 LD BD Paraguay Green Production Landscapes CEO Endorsement.doc
Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.
<p>The project managers permanently seek the participation of the different stakeholders with whom they interact. In this sense, it has been possible to form the Board of the Platform prior to the launch of the National Platform for Sustainable Soy and propose the incorporation of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MIC). Likewise, the incorporation of the Paraguayan Chamber of Oilseed and Cereals Processors (CAPPRO) is analyzed. Also, the next semester is being attended the meeting of the Project Board, with the participation of the new representatives of the local governments (Governorates).</p> <p>The Annual Work Plan (AWP) is still under construction in a participatory manner, through the technical committee instance to adjust details or request changes and then it goes through the Project Board for final approval, as well as report on the progress or changes in the draft. Each</p>

result, product and/or activity is linked to a specific instance of the government or private sector organization, with MADES always being the main leader of the project.

Coordinated work is maintained with local committees (Government, municipality and local stakeholders) in order to plan actions that meet the needs of the linked communities. The implementation of actions established as priorities in the beef and soy departmental action plans has contributed to respond to the requirements identified by local stakeholders. For the next months, new stakeholders will be joining, based on the implementation of the National Platform for Sustainable Soy, as well as the conformation of the Regional Platform for Sustainable beef in the Chaco.

In the dialogue spaces (Platforms), the participation of indigenous women and communities is fostered for the discussion spaces, thus they can express their concerns and needs. On the other hand, we work with indigenous communities to promote the conservation of the forests in their territories, through certification.

We constantly aim to demonstrate the financial sustainability of the implementation of a more sustainable production model, for example, by highlighting the incorporation of good practices or the certification processes or the actions associated with them. The crisis in the agricultural and livestock sector during the reporting period has contributed significantly to the producers' understanding that they must change the traditional production model to a more efficient one that allows them to optimize their incomes and effectively address social and environmental issues. The discussions and trainings promoted by the project aim to spread this idea that is being considered as a possible way out for the crisis they are going through.

L. Annex - Ratings Definitions

Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.