



2021
Project Implementation Report (PIR)



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Resilient nations.*

GEF 6: Coastal/Marine BD

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A. Basic Data

Project Information	
UNDP PIMS ID	5750
GEF ID	9804
Title	Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in coastal marine production landscapes
Country(ies)	Panama, Panama
UNDP-NCE Technical Team	Ecosystems and Biodiversity
Management Arrangements	CO Support to NIM
Project Implementing Partner	Government
Joint Agencies	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Project Type	Medium Size - 2 steps
Implementation Status	2nd PIR
GEF Fiscal Year	FY21
Trust Fund	GEF Trust Fund

Project Description
<p>13. The GEF alternative scenario will mainstream conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into production landscapes for the integrated environmental management of coastal marine areas and for the benefit of the coastal populations. It is framed within the GEF biodiversity focal area strategy, more specifically Objective 4 (BD-4): Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes/seascapes and sectors; Program 9: Managing the Human-Biodiversity Interface.</p>

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Other Partners	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

B. Overall Ratings

Overall DO Rating	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall IP Rating	Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	low

C. Development Objective Progress

It is mandatory for all reported progress to be substantiated by evidence. Please upload evidence files for each objective/outcome via the DO PROGRESS section in the online PIR platform. If there is no evidence to upload, the Project Manager is required to provide an explanation.

Description					
Objective					
To mainstream the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into production land/seascapes for integrated environmental management of coastal marine areas and for the benefit of the coastal population					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2020	Cumulative progress since project start
Number of people benefiting from strengthened livelihoods through solutions for management of coastal marine natural resources and ecosystems services	0	1,560	4,467	<p>Cumulative progress: 972</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 122 Small Grant Programme grantees (91 men, 31 women) - 732 beneficiaries of the Small Grant Programme grantees' activities (data reported by the grantees on their project documents) - 13 participants: Geographic Information System (GIS) workshop with Environmental Ministry, August 27, 2019: 9 women, 4 men - 42 participants. Local Governing Board installation event: 	<p>Cumulative progress: 1870. 1073 men (57%), 778 women (41%) and 19 no specified (1%).</p> <p>From June 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9 beneficiaries, basic diving course, PADI Open Water certification. 7 men y 2 women. - 29 beneficiaries, training course in gastronomy techniques with local products. Tonosi District, Bucaro and Isla Cañas communities. 25 women and 4 men. - 30 participants, technical workshop in use and handling of agrochemicals and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for farmers in Tonosi District. 20 men and 10 women.

				<p>composed of 4 mayors and the Governor of the province. January 23, 2020</p> <p>- 27 participants: Training courses.Strengthening of capacities of the Coasts and Oceans Direction of the Ministry of Environment. From June 29 to July 7 2020</p> <p>- Technical assistance and participation in the Watershed Committees 124 and 126: 22 and 14 members respectively</p>	<p>- 20 participants in the Women Leaders Network for the Coastal and Marine Resources in South Azuero. Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts.</p> <p>- 8 participants in training course in coral reef monitoring in South Azuero. Theory and practice. 5 men and 3 women.</p> <p>- 9 beneficiaries of the beekeeping communal strengthening program in the Wildlife Refuge Isla Cañas, Tonosi District. 5 men and 4 women.</p> <p>- 80 public servants of the Aeronaval National Service, trained in fishing regulations. 77 men and 3 women.</p> <p>- 62 beneficiaries of 21 families participants of the reforestation program of 30 hectares with native species in the Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts. 31 men and 31 women.</p> <p>- 31 beneficiaries of 6 families participants of the biodigester installation program for pig farmers in the Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts. 12 men and 19 women.</p> <p>- 10 members of the Communal Base Organization LifeGreen, beneficiaras of the reforestation program. After receiving technical training and guidance, they were in charge of the nursery of 8000 plants for the reforestation program. 7 men and 3 women.</p>
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					<p>- 92 participants in the virtual training about the new fishing law in the Republic of Panama (held on June 24, 2021). 57 men, 19 women and 16 did not specify.</p> <p>- 38 participants. In person training about the new fishing law of the Republic of Panama. Pocri and Tonosi Districts. July 6 and 7, 2021. 33 men and 5 women.</p> <p>- 236 participants in the public consultation of the National Oceans Policy. Metropolitan Forum, June 22, 2021. Eastern Forum (Darién), June 25, 2021. Western Forum (Chiriquí), June 29, 2021. Central Forum (Veraguas), July 2, 2021. 105 men, 128 women and 3 did not specify.</p>
Area (hectares [ha]) of land/seascape with improved management	0 Ha	102,540 ha	292,970 ha	24,288 ha	<p>In progress:</p> <p>-Reforestation of 35 hectares: 30 hectares with local and fruit species and 5 hectares of mangrove in the Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts.</p> <p>- Fishing Management Plan for the Special Marine Coastal Zone of South Azuero (ZEMMC) that includes the proposal for a responsible fishing zone that covers the ZEMMC (292,970 ha)</p> <p>24,284 ha correspond to Refugio Vida Silvestre Isla de Cañas where Azuero Sostenible is helping to develop institutional agreements with the participation of the local community to prevent the illegal extraction of sea turtle eggs.</p> <p>4 ha correspond to the area of influence of the projects co financed through the Small Grants Program</p>

The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	On track				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 1					
Strengthening the regulatory and institutional frameworks					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2020	Cumulative progress since project start
National Coastal and Marine Policy	There is no National Coastal and Marine Policy	National Policy Proposal being discussed and in development	National Coastal and Marine Policy approved	A National Ocean Policy is under development. A public process was launched in March 2020 and it is expected to be adjudicated on August-September 2020. The company has one year to develop the policy, at the end of which it will be approved by the Environmental Policy Department of the Environment Ministry of Panama.	National Oceans Policy is on its final revision. Public Consultation Forums have been held nationwide with the participation of 236 people. 105 men, 128 women and 3 did not specify. Progress: 1- Workplan 2- Diagnosis 3- National Oceans Policy draft 4- 1 focus group 5- 4 public consultation forums nationwide
Number of existing Environmental Advisory Committees (EAC), Watershed Committees (WC), and an Institutional	-EAC: 0 -WC: 0 -SIA: 0	-EAC: in process -WC: in process -SIA: in process	-EAC: 1 -WC: 1 -SIA: 1	EAC: in progress WC: in progress	EAC: in progress WC: in progress

<p>Environmental System (SIA) strengthened.</p>				<p>The project consolidated the creation of a local governing board to oversee the activities of the project. It is also expected to be the seed of a larger environmental group/committee/council that oversees topics related to the Coastal Marine Special Management Zone (ZEMMC) of the southern part of the Azuero peninsula, with the support and participation of representatives from the civil society, groups such as Community Based Organizations, leaders of artisanal fishing groups, sustainable tourism groups and others.</p> <p>This local governing board is constituted by the Mayors of the three districts (Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosí) of the ZEMMC, and also by the province Governor and the Mayor of Las Tablas, a neighbor district. This structure was initiated in January 2020.</p> <p>In the case of the Watershed Committees, in 2019, the project assisted as guests to two meetings of the Watershed</p>	<p>The establishment of the District Environment Advisory Commissions (Comisiones Consultivas Distritales Ambientales) within the Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Municipalities is under progress. The initiative was presented during June 2021 to the Municipality Boards in the three districts.</p> <p>Also, a survey on gender considerations was applied to the members of the Watershed Committee 124 and 126. Based on the results, a training program for their members is under development.</p>
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				<p>Committee 126 and one meeting of the Watershed Committee 124.</p> <p>The intention was to listen and observe their interactions in order to identify areas where the project could assist.</p> <p>In the case of the Watershed Committee 124, Azuero Sostenible gave them assistance with the development of their annual activity plan.</p> <p>Azuero Sostenible also attended two physical meetings of the Watershed Committee 126 (one on November 2019 and one on January 2020) and gave presentations about its activities and the launching of a brand contest.</p> <p>In April 2020, the coordination unit (coordinator, administrative assistant) were included in the Whatsapp group of Watershed Committee 126 and on June 2020 were included in the Whatsapp group of Watershed Committee 124.</p>	
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				<p>The Watershed Committee 124 has 22 active members, 4 of which are women.</p> <p>The Watershed Committee 126 has 14 active members, 5 of which are women.</p> <p>Both Watershed Committees have stopped formal activities since the beginning of the quarantine in Panama (March 2020) and the situation continues equal as of June 2020.</p>	
Increased government financing for the integrated environmental management of the coastal marine areas	\$806,000 (budget assigned 2019) (included as discussed during the 2020 PIR Review)	\$900,000	\$1,000,000	<p>The project estimated the baseline, and targets during this PIR period.</p> <p>According to the Coastal and Oceans Direction of the Ministry of Environment, the baseline for this indicator is US\$806,000 (budget assigned in 2019).</p> <p>The mid-term target is US\$900,000</p> <p>The end of project target is US\$1,000,000.</p>	Not achieved due to pandemic budgetary cuts. According to the Coastal and Oceans Direction (DICOMAR) of the Ministry of Environment, their assigned budgeted in 2021 was US \$201,300.00 which represents approximately 30% of what they expected to receive this year (US \$700,000). Severe budgetary cuts due to the pandemic were faced across the Ministry of Environment in 2021.

				It is important to note that these amounts were estimated before the current COVID-19 situation and they might be reduced.	
Change in capacity of decision makers for marine coastal biodiversity conservation, sustainable use, and reduced threats through the UNDP Capacity Development Scorecard	<p>-MiAmbiente: 67% (24)</p> <p>-ATP: 67% (24)</p> <p>-MIDA: 67% (24)</p> <p>-ARAP: 64% (25)</p> <p>-Districts: 30% (11)</p> <p>-NGOs: 70% (23)</p> <p>-Producer's Associations: 67% (24)</p>	<p>-MiAmbiente: 72%</p> <p>-ATP: 72%</p> <p>-MIDA: 72%</p> <p>-ARAP: 69%</p> <p>-Districts: 35%</p> <p>-NGOs: 75%</p> <p>-Producer's Associations: 72%</p>	<p>-MiAmbiente: 77%</p> <p>-ATP: 77%</p> <p>-MIDA: 77%</p> <p>-ARAP: 74%</p> <p>-Districts: 40%</p> <p>-NGOs: 80%</p> <p>-Producer's Associations: 77%</p>	<p>The project is proposing to reduce the number of stakeholders which will receive training to increase their capacity on the conservation and management of coastal and marine resources. The proposed stakeholders are MiAmbiente, Districts, ATP, NGOs, and Producers Associations. This is because these are the stakeholders that are likely to make a difference in terms of contributing to the sustainable management of marine and coastal resources. The project will seek the approval of the Steering Committee for this adjustment.</p> <p>A key priority for MiAmbiente is to improve its capacity to interact with other stakeholders in the area. This information is an important planning and action tool for the Ministry of Environment in the territory.</p> <p>In this context, the project carried out an analysis of social actors in the three main districts of the</p>	<p>MiAmbiente progress 69% (indicator 5: existence of educational programs on environmental themes. GEF Score Card moves from 2 to 3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Educational programs in place for personnel of the Ministry of Environment in coral reef monitoring are in place and didactic materials are systematized. Also, materials from courses in Strategic Planning and Project Formulation. <p>ATP progress 70% (indicator 3: degree of knowledge of the global problems of the sector moves from 2 to 3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active participation in the National Oceans Policy development as official members Commission for the formulation, development and monitoring of the National Oceans Policy (created by Executive Decree No 431, October 25th, 2018). As evidenced in the reports and attendance lists of the National Oceans Policy, ATP has had active participation in the formulation of the policy. <p>MIDA progress 69% (indicator 11: availability of technical knowledge and technology transfer moves from 0 to 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical workshop in use and handling of agrochemicals and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for farmers in Tonosi District. 30 participants. 20 men and 10 women.

			<p>project. The analysis included governmental representatives, mayors, environmental NGO and activists, research and religious organizations, local actors whose means of life depend on natural resources, such as: fishermen associations, agricultural and cattle industry representatives and tourism operators, among others.</p> <p>The project also developed a roadmap together with the Ministry of Environment for the strengthening of capacities for their technical, administrative and management personnel that started in June 2020 with courses in strategic planning related topics. A second phase (under development) includes training courses on financial strategies for the sustainability of the ZEMMC and Integrated Coastal and Marine Management.</p> <p>Districts: Mayors of the three districts (Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi) are aware of the environmental problems on their territories and are actively participating in the implementation of local solutions with the social and governmental actors. They are part of a local</p>	<p>ARAP progress 72% (indicator 2: cooperation with local stakeholders moves from 2 to 3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new National Fishing Law approved in March 2021 has been disseminated among local stakeholders through virtual and in presence activities in the districts of Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi. ARAP has also held public sessions at the ZEMMC in 2021 to initiate the regulation of the law with the participation of key stakeholders of artisanal, sport and commercial fishing. <p>Districts progress 33% (Indicator 1: mandate to lead actions related to environmental conservation moves from 1 to 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active participation from the three municipalities (Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi) in the local board of Azuero Sostenible <p>NGO progress 72% (Indicator 4: NGO's have access and share information about biodiversity, climate change and sustainable soil use moves from 2 to 3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Small Grants Program has quality information publicly available through its local website for the use of NGOs https://www.pdpdpanama.org/conocenos/publicaciones.html and also, NGOs currently co-financed by Azuero Sostenible and the SDG have published information about biodiversity (see NGOPublicationTortugasPedasi in evidence) <p>Producers Associations 67%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are working with three producers' associations in different initiatives that involve strengthening of capacities
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				<p>governing board that represents a first step towards a local and participatory governance structure for the coasts and marine management.</p> <p>NGO: through the Small Grants Programme the capacity of NGOs has been improved through training in administrative and planning topics, co-financing and monitoring during project implementation. This training is covered by grants for 7 NGOs that aim to implement initiatives related to conservation of biodiversity and sustainable land use. Support includes</p> <p>Producers associations: through the Small Grants Programme the capacity of two local producer associations to formulate project proposals was improved through sustainable tourism projects.</p> <p>Under development: actions with ARAP, ATP and MIDA.</p>	but in order to advance an indicator is necessary to systematize the information and make it publicly available.
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	On track				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				

Outcome 2					
Integrated environmental management of the target ZEMMC in the southern part of the Azuero Peninsula					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2020	Cumulative progress since project start
Number of female olive Ridley sea turtles (<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>) nesting in 1.8 kilometers of protected beaches: La Marinera (0.8 km) and Isla de Cañas (1 km, natural nursery site)	-Isla de Cañas: 6,486; females -La Marinera: 15,000 females	-Isla de Cañas: 6,486; females -La Marinera: 15,000 females	-Isla de Cañas: 6,486; females -La Marinera: 15,000 females	The 2019 monitoring report of the Ministry of Environment presents the following numbers: - 2019 Isla de Cañas: 8,425 nests - 2019 La Marinera: 31,078 nests A consultancy organization is carrying out activities in Isla de Cañas to reach an agreement with the community to regulate the current situation of extraction of sea turtle eggs. There will be an analysis of economic alternatives to this practice in order to offer solutions to the people of the community. The consultancy also includes the analysis and proposals regarding the situation of coastal lights that can affect the sea turtles. The consultancy organization started on April 2020 with the analysis of documentation but the quarantine	Isla Cañas reported a reduction and La Marinera reported an increase of the baseline during 2020. The 2020 monitoring report of the Ministry of Environment presents the following numbers: - 2020 Isla de Cañas: 1,867 nests - 2020 La Marinera: 19,960 nests In 2020 took place the first communal meeting in the Wildlife Refuge Isla Cañas to present the initiative of a turtle egg use/consumption plan. The plan was developed and presented to the community for public consultation on July 2021. Also, a social diagnosis of the Wildlife Refuge population was developed and an analysis of previous experiences of the community with turtle egg use/consumption, to propose concrete actions to be implemented in the next years by the Ministry of Environment.

				situation in the country as of June 2020 has delayed the field work.	
Coverage of mangroves in the southern part of the Azuero Peninsula	6,072.3 ha	6,072.3 ha	6,072.3 ha	<p>The number of hectares is stable, according to the Ministry of Environment 2019 mangrove coverage map in Peninsula de Azuero.</p> <p>See map https://tinyurl.com/y8gqjcvg</p> <p>A publication about Mangrove Restoration with local examples is under development by the Ministry of Environment with the support of Azuero Sostenible. This publication represents a technical tool that will be shared and promoted among local actors in the region. It is expected to be launched on September-October 2020.</p>	<p>The updated 2020 information has not been published by the Ministry of Environment.</p> <p>The Ministry of Environment is updating the 2019 coverage of mangroves map. It is expected to be available by the last trimester of 2021.</p>
Sizes of fish species of commercial importance by project end	<p>-Grouper (Epinephelus spp.): X</p> <p>(Baseline will be determined during project implementation)</p>	<p>-Grouper (Epinephelus spp.): equal to the baseline</p> <p>-Snapper (Lutjanus spp.):</p>	<p>-Grouper (Epinephelus spp.): equal to the baseline</p> <p>-Snapper (Lutjanus spp.):</p>	<p>A consultancy to elaborate the baseline sizes of fish species is under development. It started on June 2020 and it is expected to last for 10 months.</p>	<p>According to a study developed in 2020 by the NGO Mar Alliance with co financing of PPD PNUD/GEF Azuero Sostenible MiAMBIENTE in the ports of El Arenal, El Ciruelo and Punta Mala within the Special Marine Coastal Zone of South Azuero (ZEMMC), the average capture size of pargo manchado (Lutjanus guttatus) is 43 centimeters.</p>

	-Snapper (Lutjanus spp.): 30.7 cm (Baseline will be confirmed during project implementation)	equal to the baseline	equal to the baseline		Size data for the Epinepheus is being gathered during 2021.
Percentage of small-scale fishing cooperatives that adopt best practices for biodiversity-friendly and sustainable fishing practices based on the FAO code of conduct	0% (10 cooperatives are currently operating in the ZEMMC in the southern part of the Azuero Peninsula)	10%	20%	0% Through the analysis of social actors in the three districts (Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi) we identified five small scale fishing associations with interest to implement sustainable fishing initiatives. Currently we are working with these associations on project ideas to participate in the call of proposals for the second Small Grants Program that was launched on June 22, 2020.	10% Members of the Asociación de Pescadores Pedasieños Unidos in Pedasi District have participated in workshops for responsible dolphins sighting. Also, around six members of this association are participating in a Pilot Program for Communal Fishing Monitoring to identify interactions with marine mammals and other mega fauna during fishing activities. Two female members of the Bucaro Fishing Association (Tonosi district) are part or the Women Leaders Network for the Coastal and Marine Resources in South Azuero. In the Candelaria port, Pocri District, there is an initiative of comanagement of the Longoron and Lobster species with local fishers, led by the National Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP). We are currently working with ARAP to collect the scientific data necessary to support the proposal and to organize the public consultations required to advance the comanagement proposal.

Average income of the small-scale fishers who adopt biodiversity-friendly and sustainable fishing practices	\$400/month	\$400/month	\$500/month	We will be able to measure this indicator once we have activities under development with local fishing associations.	Progress: A survey on average income of the artisanal fishers in the ZEMMC will be conducted as part of the work for the Fishing Management Plan for the Special Marine Coastal Zone of South Azuero (ZEMMC).
Number of MiPyME associated with sustainable tourism throughout the marine coastal area with environmental management plans (EMP)	0 (65 tourism businesses registered in the Province of Los Santos, without EMP)	2 MiPyMEs associated with sustainable tourism with EMP	4 MiPyMEs associated with sustainable tourism with EMP	Two (2) organizations whose activities are related to sustainable tourism were awarded Small Grants Program in 2020. Project 1: Conservation and promotion of environmental activities in El Arenal beach, Pedasi district. Proponent: Asociación de Pescadores Pedasieños Unidos. The project includes the development of a Good Practices Guide for fishing and tourism activities of the association. It also includes the rehabilitation of 3km of riparian forests. Project 2: Community empowerment for the conservation of natural resources in Los Santos province. Proponent: Tourism Chamber,	We are working with the National Tourism Authority (ATP) to implement their recently launched Tourism Sustainability Norm. A public call for interested MiPyME in South Azuero was launched in June 2021 and around six MiPyME are interested in participating. The program includes mentoring and orientation to implement the Tourism Sustainability Norm within their businesses.

				Los Santos. The project includes the identification of species and signposting of a natural trail to promote ecotourism activities.	
Number of agreements between the districts of Pocrí, Pedasí, and/or Tonosí and the urban sector for the prevention, reduction, and control of land-based contamination and the management of trash and solid waste	0	3	5	No agreements have been established to date. The project is working with the districts to formalize this agreements.	In progress: - Review of the current environmental Municipality regulations in the Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts, as well as the environmental national regulations applicable to Municipalities. After this review and consultations with the Municipality Boards, environmental agreements will be proposed for each Municipality. - For the Tonosi District a waste management plan is under development and as part of the results and recommendations included in this plan, at least one agreement for the district is expected.
Number of farms and cattle ranches with sustainable production certified by MiAmbiente or another competent authority	-7 agro-tourism farms certified in the Province of Los Santos -0 agricultural farms and cattle ranches certified	-1 new agro-tourism farms -1 agricultural farm or cattle ranch certified	-2 new agro-tourism farms -2 agricultural farms or cattle ranches certified	During 2019 there were conversations with officials of the Ministry of Agriculture (MIDA) about certification schemes for farms and cattle ranches. MIDA has a joint certification with the Tourism Authority of Panama for Eco -Agritourism Farms. MIDA also has a best practices and traceability certification program. There are three certified agricultural and cattle ranches certifies by MIDA-ATP and three	Six farmers are participating in the biodigester installation program in the Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts (2 on each district). This program includes the production of biogas and organic fertilizer from the pig farms waste. It is expected that by the end of 2021, the six farms will be certified by the Agriculture and Livestock Development Ministry of Panama (Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario).

				<p>other identified ranches with potential and interest for certification.</p> <p>Azuero Sostenible contacted the representatives of these three ranches with potential for certification to identify ways in which we can collaborate with their certification process.</p> <p>Conversations are under development but slowed down during the quarantine situation.</p>	
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	On track				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 3					
Gender Mainstreaming, Knowledge Management and Learning					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2020	Cumulative progress since project start
Progress in the in the implementation of the Project Gender Mainstreaming Plan (see Gender Mainstreaming Plan, Annex M)	0%	50%	100%	National Oceans Policy: gender aspects were included in the Terms of Reference of the process. Public consultations, including citizen participation, should be conducted according to the law and assuring gender equity. Also, it is required that the methodology for gender	The Project Gender Mainstreaming Plan is under progress. Progress:

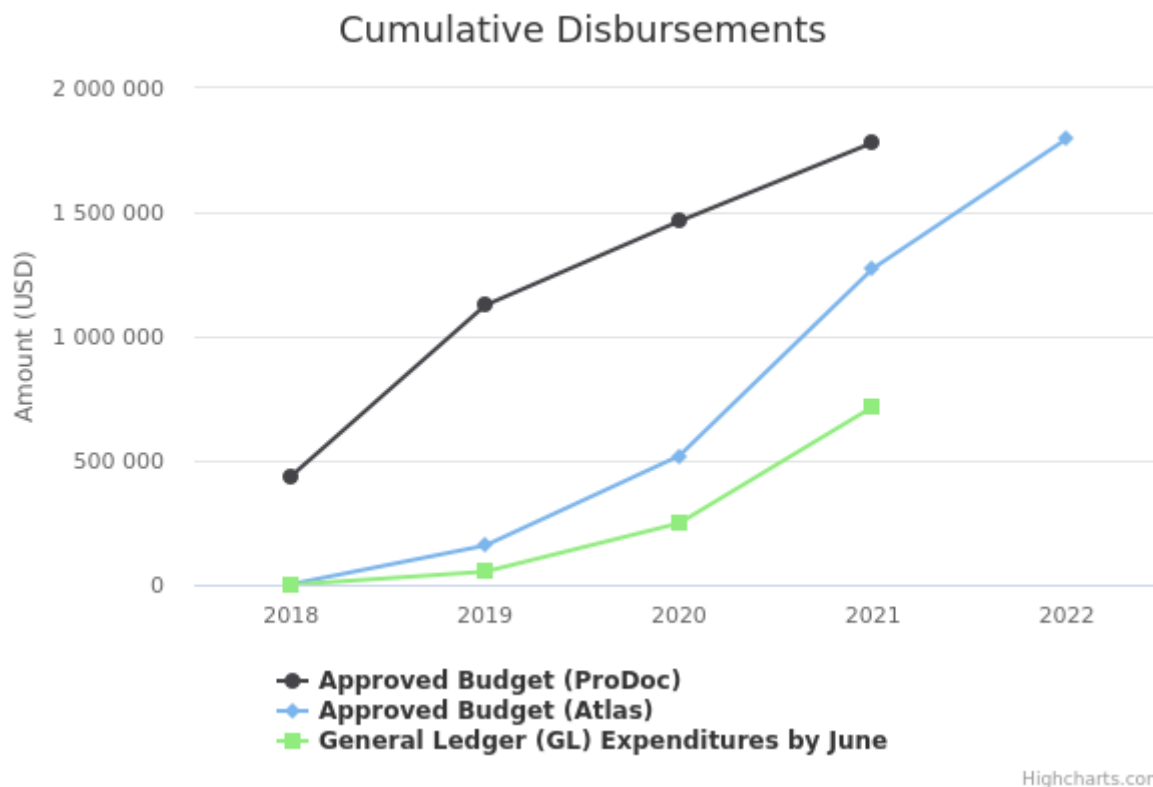
			<p>perspective includes a proposal specially oriented to gender and assure gender perspective inclusion not only on participative processes, but also in the proposals and instruments included in the public environment policy. Furthermore, gender perspective should include gender differentiated diagnosis.</p> <p>In terms of the Small Grants Programme, six out of nine projects adjudicated in 2019 are led by women (67%) and 25% of the participants/members reported by these organizations are women (31 out of 122).</p> <p>In the case of Pedasieños Unidos Association their main activities include training in sustainable tourism and reforestation of riparian forests and the participation of women includes the wives and daughters of the associates, that until now have only participated in administrative tasks within the organization.</p> <p>NGO Fundaproverde is developing a rainwater harvesting project where they will train 10</p>	<p>- Gender considerations were incorporated in Terms of Reference and methodological processes in all new contracts during 2020 and 2021.</p> <p>-Gender considerations were examined within the National Oceans Policy on each stage of the process, from the diagnosis until the public forums methodologies.</p> <p>-The two Watershed Committees that cover the Azuero Peninsula were applied a rapid diagnosis tool to identify gender gaps within the activities of the Committees in order to propose trainings and workshops.</p> <p>-A Women Leaders Network for the Coastal and Marine Resources in South Azuero on Poci, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts is under progress with 20 active participants and two workshops held in 2020 and 2021.</p> <p>- A training course in gastronomy techniques with local products was held in Tonosi District, Bucaro and Isla Cañas communities. 25 women participated. We are following these group of women to offer other trainings such as fishing products processing with the help of technicians of the National Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP).</p>
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				<p>women to operate the harvesting system and two women to bottle purified water for them to obtain income through this activity.</p> <p>NGO Fundación Pro Eco Azuero Organización is working on community led gardens to produce raw materials for artisan women of Paritilla and Bajo Corral in Los Santos province.</p>	
Information management and monitoring system on coastal marine biodiversity	0	Information management and monitoring system on coastal marine biodiversity in the planning process	Information management and monitoring system on coastal marine biodiversity operating	<p>Development of six maps and a digital database based on official coverages provided by the Environmental Information Direction of the Ministry of Environment (DIAM), to establish a baseline for some core indicators and logical framework indicators, a database structure and a visual tool for activities such as local workshops for community mapping.</p> <p>These maps will be the basis of an information system for the coastal marine biodiversity.</p> <p>The six maps are:</p> <p>1. ZEMMC of southern part of Azuero Peninsula: hectares of</p>	<p>Development of three maps with the areas impacted by the activities of Azuero Sostenible, including watersheds and coastal and marine areas and divided by Watershed and small towns/villages within the Special Marine Coastal Zone of South Azuero. These maps are regularly updated as the initiatives are progressing.</p> <p>These maps with the six already developed and reported in the 2020 PIR, will be the basis of an information system for the coastal marine biodiversity.</p>

			<p>the official zone and the proposed extension zone</p> <p>2. Watersheds: includes the delimitation of the sub watersheds associated to the watersheds that influence the ZEMMC.</p> <p>3. Land use and coverage</p> <p>4. Economic activity disaggregated by districts: population over 10 years, number of people employed on any economic activity, unemployed people and people who reported no economic activity</p> <p>5. Conservation areas established inside the ZEMMC</p> <p>6. Fishing operations and fishing arts more prevalent in the ZEMMC</p> <p>These maps were delivered to the Ministry of Environment for their integration to SINIA (National Environmental Information System) and guidelines to add information to this system are being analyzed to contribute all relevant data generated by the project to this system.</p>	
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				Furthermore, Small Donation Program grantees will receive instructions and training to deliver their data based on these guidelines.	
Number of documents on best practices and lessons learned made available to other ZEMMCs in the country and internationally	0	0	1	<p>A guide for Mangrove Restoration with examples of species and restorations in different territories in the country is under development by the Ministry of Environment with the support of Azuero Sostenible (expected publishing date: August 2020) The guide will be circulated thoroughly among stakeholders and work is under development to have it permanently posted on the Municipalities websites.</p> <p>Also, a publication based on the analysis of 86 social and environmental stakeholders of Azuero is under development and expected to be published by the end of 2020.</p>	<p>-A Manual for Mangrove Restoration with examples of species and restorations in different territories in the country was launched by the Ministry of Environment with the support of Azuero Sostenible in 2021.</p> <p>-Development of an infographic about a citizen science activity developed in Tonosi district, consisting in quantifying and classifying the amount of waste generated in ten homes during seven days.</p> <p>-Development of an infographic about the profile/X-ray of an informal recycler in Panama</p> <p>-Under development is the reedition of the Panama Mammals and Marine Reptiles Guide (Guía de Mamíferos y Reptiles Marinos de Panamá), expected to be launched by the end of 2021.</p>
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	On track				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				

D. Implementation Progress



Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc):	40.27%
Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year:	40.27%
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June:	717,158

Key Financing Amounts	
PPG Amount	45,662
GEF Grant Amount	1,780,822
Co-financing	5,603,208

Key Project Dates	
PIF Approval Date	Mar 20, 2017
CEO Endorsement Date	Apr 11, 2018
Project Document Signature Date (project start date):	Sep 20, 2018
Date of Inception Workshop	Mar 27, 2019
First Disbursement Date	Dec 31, 2018
Expected Date of Mid-term Review	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

Actual Date of Mid-term Review	(not set or not applicable)
Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation	Jun 20, 2022
Original Planned Closing Date	Sep 20, 2022
Revised Planned Closing Date	(not set or not applicable)

Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2020 to 1 July 2021)
2021-06-17

Project Manager: Please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones outlined in the above 'Key Project Dates' table. Include comments on COVID-19 related challenges, delays and impact. If there are no delays, please indicated 'not applicable'.

not applicable

CO Programme Officer: Please include specific measures to manage the project's implementation performance

In the remaining period, the Project must accelerate the production of knowledge products, to share how the processes have been, the lessons learned, and leave tools that may be useful to other initiatives concerning the dynamics that often is not reflected in the technical or political results but is essential, the work with the people, the achievement of agreements, trust, social cohesion around achieving prosperous communities that require a healthy environment to complete wellbeing. Similarly, in this period, it will be essential to establish alliances with other initiatives in the area that can better consolidate the appropriation of these processes, for example, with initiatives with culture and environment (Orchestra Network), and the bicycle path that the Municipality of Pedasi is advancing with a loan from the IDB. At the level of the municipalities, it will be important that the Project can leave a roadmap for follow-up and scaling up of initiatives and replicability and a way to mobilize resources.

Project risks overall are moderate. With the direct participation of local community organizations, entrepreneurs and NGOs, the risks of social conflicts increased in a small proportion because interactions among human activities and those and ecosystems superpose. MiAMBIENTE is responsible for managing these risks; however, the institution does not have sufficient resources and public servers trained at the local level mediation. UNDP CO monitors these risks very closely because despite the executing is MiAMBIENTE; the grievance mechanism is within UNDP. Therefore, the Coordinator and her team must keep a follow-up plan to ensure conciliation is developing effectively.

NCE RTA: Please include specific measures to manage the project's implementation performance.

Although, implementation during this PIR period was rated as 'Satisfactory', implementation during the first PIR period was 'Moderately Unsatisfactory' and the project still needs to catch up

with several targets of project indicators (see the RTA c comment in the Overall Assessment tab). Hence the following measures are recommended to expedite project implementation:

1) Continue increasing the political profile of the project within government institutions and leaders through brief trimestral reports on achievement of project outputs/outcomes and share these reports with the Environment Minister, the governor of the Province, local mayors and the UNDP Resident Representative; and

2) Assign a person from the project management unit to be in charge of the following tasks: i) monitoring and evaluation of project's activities, ii) progress and compliance with indicators of the logical framework, iii) monitoring of the project's delivery rate, and iv) monitoring of the disbursement rate of co-financing and contribution of co-financing sources to the project's outcomes. The total co-financing for this project is US\$5.6 m and only \$345,341 have materialized to date.

3) Monitor Risk 3 which identified a complaint from the community regarding restrictions to the consumption of turtle eggs (see risk management tab). The project addressed this issue through a couple of meetings with the community and a revised turtle egg plan, but the issue still needs to be monitored to ensure that agreements stated on the plan are implemented.

E. Project Governance

Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021). Please also upload all meeting minutes using the FILE LIBRARY button.

2021-06-17

F. Ratings and Overall Assessments

Role	2021 Development Objective Progress Rating	2021 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser	Moderately Satisfactory	Satisfactory
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Moderately Satisfactory	Satisfactory

Role	2021 Overall Assessment
UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser	<p>This the second PIR of a 4-year project aiming to mainstream the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into the Coastal Marine Special Management Zone (ZEMMC) in the southern part of the Azuero Peninsula of Panama. The project is granted a rating of Moderately Satisfactory (MS) as current evidence indicates that it is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings. This rating is granted taking into account the impact of COVID-19 which affected project activities during the second half of 2020 and January-March 2021 in Panama due to mandatory lockdowns and mobility restrictions. Nonetheless, the government has been removing these restrictions and the project has also adapted to the circumstances by implementing virtual meetings and carrying out mandatory biosafety and social distancing measures.</p> <p>To date, the project with the support of the Small Grants Programme and other sources of co-financing has strengthened the livelihoods of about 1,870 people (41.8% of the project's target) through solutions for management of coastal marine natural resources and ecosystems services and is working with local communities to improve the management of the Refugio Vida Silvestre. Local communities have been involved in the reforestation of a total of 35 hectares with local and fruit species (30 ha) and mangrove seedlings (5 ha) in the Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts. Progress for this indicator is significantly low considering that the project needs to have 292,970 ha of land/seascape with improved management by project closure. The project is strongly encouraged to work with project partners to strengthen actions for activities under this indicator.</p> <p>Under Outcome 1 (Strengthening the regulatory and institutional framework) the project has worked diligently to ensure that the National Oceans Policy is approved by 2022. The project supported the drafting process of the policy which is currently on its final revision, following a public consultation process held nationwide with local stakeholders. The institutional framework and governance of local Environmental Advisory Committees (EAC), Watershed Committees (WC), and an Institutional Environmental System (SIA) is also being strengthened. In January 2020, a local governing board was created to oversee the activities of the project. The local governing board is constituted by the mayors of the three districts (Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosí) of the ZEMMC, and also by the province Governor and the Mayor of Las Tablas, a neighboring district.</p> <p>This governing board is also expected to be the genesis of a larger environmental group, committee, or council that oversees topics related to the ZEMMC with the support and participation of representatives from the civil society, groups such as Community Based Organizations, leaders of artisanal</p>

fishing groups, sustainable tourism groups and others. The project is also supporting Watershed Committees (WC) with their annual activity plans. These WCs stopped activities in March-June 2020 due to COVID-19 but they resumed work that year in August-September. In early 2021, the project contributed to the establishment of the District Environment Advisory Commissions for the Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Municipalities. This initiative was socialized with the Municipality Boards of the three districts in June 2021. The project is also mainstreaming gender considerations into the WCs through a survey that will identify needs for a training program.

The project estimated the baseline and targets for increased government financing for the integrated environmental management of the coastal marine areas. Unfortunately, COVID-19 priorities have cut the budget of the Coastal and Oceans Direction (DICOMAR) of the Ministry of Environment. Therefore, DICOMAR will only receive 30% of their 2021 budget which is US\$700,000. In fact, the pandemic affected the budget of all units within the Ministry. The project is strongly encouraged to start identifying finance mechanisms such as crowdfunding linked to the support of rangers and biodiversity friendly production options for local communities.

The project is already training staff of the Environment Ministry, the Panama Tourism Authority (ATP), the Ministry for Agriculture Development (MIDA), the Authority of Aquatic Resources of Panama (ARAP), Districts, NGOs, and producer organizations. The impact of this training was measured by the UNDP Capacity Development Scorecard which determined that the capacity of each of these organizations has increased between 0 to 8 percentage points with respect to their baseline values. Key activities to increase the capacity of these stakeholders include the development of a roadmap together with the Ministry of Environment to strengthen capacities for their technical, administrative and management personnel. Staff from the Ministry has already been trained on coral reef monitoring and strategic planning and project development. Staff from ATP has increased their capacity to develop policies through their active participation in the development of the National Oceans Policy. Staff from MIDA has also been trained on the use and handling of agrochemicals and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and this knowledge has already been shared with farmers from the Tonosi District. ARAP contributed to the development of the new National Fishing Law which was approved in March 2021 and the implications of this regulation have already been disseminated among local stakeholders through workshops in the districts of Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi. ARAP has also held public sessions at the ZEMMC in 2021 to initiate the implementation of the law with the participation of artisanal, sport and commercial fishers. The project is also carrying out training courses on financial strategies for the sustainability and Integrated Coastal and Marine Management of the ZEMMC. The capacity of NGOs has also been improved through training in administrative and planning topics, co-financing and monitoring of projects. The producer's associations capacities to formulate project proposals has also been improved through sustainable tourism projects funded by the Small Grants Programme.

Under Outcome 2 (Integrated environmental management of the target ZEMMC in the southern part of the Azuero Peninsula) the project is consolidating key partnerships with local organizations and making preliminary progress in the delivery of outcomes that show improvements in the environmental management of ZEMMC. Nonetheless, the project is

strongly encouraged to focus and consolidate efforts in terms of tangible and measurable progress for each indicator reported under this outcome during the next 2021-2022 PIR period.

Although, the number of nests of the olive Ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) reported by the project reveal a relatively healthy population, the 2020 count of nests in La Marinera (1,867 nests) and Isla de Cañas (19,960 nests) are below the target for this indicator. Also, please note that the project indicator is on number of females and not number of nests. The project is encouraged to count the number of females for the next time this indicator is measured which should be prior to the terminal evaluation. Also, there is a need to assess the impact of coastal lights on turtles. One of the main impacts on the turtle population is the consumption of eggs by the human population. In July 2020, the plan to manage the consumption of eggs of turtle was presented to the community of the Isla Cañas Wildlife Refuge for public consultation in July 2021. The project will continue working with the community to regulate the consumption of turtle eggs. Also, a social assessment of the Wildlife Refuge population was developed and an analysis of previous experiences of the community with turtle egg use/consumption delivered concrete actions to be implemented within the next years by the Ministry of Environment.

Another positive outcome of the project is that the current area of mangroves (6,072 ha) in the southern part of the Azuero Peninsula is the same as the one reported in the baseline. Information on this area, however, will be updated by the Ministry of Environment in late 2021. The project together with the Environment Ministry launched a publication about mangrove restoration in 2021. This publication will guide restoration activities of the mangrove ecosystem to be carried out by the project in the future.

Ensuring that small-scale fishing cooperatives adopt best practices for biodiversity-friendly and sustainable fishing practices based on the FAO code of conduct is a key priority. The project reports that 10% of these cooperatives have adopted the FAO code of conduct in Pocri, Pedasi, and Tonosi. The average size of the Snapper (*Lutjanus guttatus*) is 43 cm which is above the baseline for this indicator. Unfortunately, the project has not calculated the baseline for the average size of *Epinephelus* spp. The project is strongly encouraged to estimate this value as soon as possible so that it can be used to evaluate the state of the population. Members of the Fishers Association of Pedasi have participated in workshops for responsible dolphins sighting. Also, six members of this association are participating in a Pilot Program for Community-based Fishing Monitoring to identify interactions with marine mammals and other megafauna during fishing activities. It should be noted that two female members of the Bucaro Fishing Association (Tonosi district) are part of the Women Leaders Network for the Coastal and Marine Resources in South Azuero. This is one of the impacts of project's efforts to mainstream gender considerations into the fishing community.

One of the project's challenges is to demonstrate that the income of small-scale fishers that adopt biodiversity-friendly and sustainable fishing practices is not affected. The project will conduct a survey to analyze average income of these fishers in the ZEMMC as part of the work for the Fishing Management Plan for the Special Marine Coastal Zone of South Azuero (ZEMMC).

Unfortunately, the project does not report progress on the small and medium-size enterprises (MiPyMEs) that are carrying out sustainable tourism. Nonetheless, the project is working with the ATP to implement their recently launched Tourism Sustainability Norm which might pave the way for MiPyMEs interested in sustainable tourism. In addition, a public call for MiPyMEs willing to carry out sustainable tourism practices in South Azuero was launched and six MiPyME responded to it. Hopefully next year the project will be able to report organizations that are actively engaged in sustainable tourism efforts.

The coastal and marine ecosystems of the ZEMMC are being severely affected by pollution and solid waste. The project needs to facilitate agreements between the districts of Pocrí, Pedasí, and/or Tonosí and the urban sector for the prevention, reduction, and control of land-based contamination and the management of trash and solid waste. The process started with a review of the current environmental Municipality regulations in the Pocrí, Pedasí and Tonosí Districts, as well as the national environment regulations on pollution and solid waste applicable to Municipalities. Following this assessment, the project will work with municipality boards to facilitate agreements for the prevention, reduction, and control of land-based contamination and the management of trash and solid waste. In the meantime, the Tonosí District is working on a waste management plan which is recommending the development of one of these agreements.

Farms and cattle ranches also have a significant impact on the coastal and marine environments and the project is addressing this issue with training on good production practices and certificates issued by MiAmbiente or another competent authority. In 2019, the project had conversations with the Ministry of Agriculture about certification schemes for farms and cattle ranches. MIDA has a joint certification with the Tourism Authority of Panama for Eco - Agritourism Farms. To date three agricultural and cattle ranches have been certified by MIDA-ATP and three other ranches are interested in receiving training on best practices so that they can be certified. The project contacted the representatives of these three ranches with potential for certification to identify their needs. Six farmers are also participating in a biodigester installation program in the Pocrí, Pedasí and Tonosí Districts for the production of biogas and organic fertilizer from the pig farms waste. It is expected that by the end of 2021, the six farms will be certified by MIDA.

Under Outcome 3 (Gender Mainstreaming, Knowledge Management and Learning) the project advanced on the implementation of its Gender Mainstreaming Plan by including gender aspects in the terms of reference for the development of the National Oceans Policy. Gender considerations were taken into account during the policy's consultation process. The project has also applied the gender lens through the grants of the Small Grants Programme where six out of nine projects adjudicated in 2019 are led by women (67%) and 25% of the participants/members reported by these organizations are women (31 out of 122).

Women from the Pedasieños Unidos Association are participating in sustainable tourism and in the reforestation of riparian forests. The NGO Fundaproverde is also training 10 women for the operation of a rainwater harvesting project and two women have also been trained on the purification and sale of this water as an alternate source of income. The NGO Fundación Pro Eco Azuero Organización is also working on community led gardens to

produce raw materials for artisan women of Paritilla and Bajo Corral in Los Santos province.

The project is also supporting an information management and monitoring system on coastal marine biodiversity which developed six maps and a digital database based on official coverages of mangrove and three maps on areas impacted by production activities in the Special Marine Coastal Zone of South Azuero. This system is managed by the Environmental Information Direction of the Ministry of Environment. This system is also being used for updating information for the core indicators and the logical framework indicators. A key publication under this outcome includes a guide on Mangrove Restoration with examples of species and restoration examples from several areas in the country. The guide was launched by the Ministry of Environment with the support of the project in 2021. The project is also supporting another edition of the Panama Mammals and Marine Reptiles Guide which is expected to be launched by the end of 2021.

In terms of implementation during this PIR period, the project is granted a Satisfactory (S) rating as the cumulative delivery of 40.27% is the same as the delivery indicated by the ProDoc at this moment of implementation. The project has disbursed \$717,158 to date and it still needs to disburse \$1.063 m in about 13 months before September 2022. The final evaluation should be scheduled for June 2022.

Although, implementation during this PIR period was rated as "Satisfactory", implementation during the first PIR period was "Moderately Unsatisfactory" and the project still needs to catch up with several targets of project indicators (see DO Rating comment). The project will need to strengthen efforts in order to reach the targets of most of the key project indicators during the last 13 months of project implementation. For example, the project needs to demonstrate that 292,970 ha of land/seascape are under improved management as progress towards this indicator is less than satisfactory. Similarly, more small-scale fishing cooperatives need to be trained on biodiversity-friendly and sustainable fishing practices based on the FAO code of conduct. It should also be noted that the project proposes 5 agreements between the districts of Pocrí, Pedasí, and/or Tonosí and the urban sector for the prevention, reduction, and control of land-based contamination and the management of trash and solid waste. Unfortunately, there are no agreements signed to date and the project ends in 13 months.

The RTA proposes the following action plan in order to expedite implementation and the achievement of outcomes during the remaining period of project implementation: 1) continue increasing the political profile of the project within government institutions and leaders through brief trimestral reports on achievement of project outputs/outcomes and share these reports with the Environment Minister, the governor of the Province, local mayors and the UNDP Resident Representative; 2) assign a person from the project management unit to be in charge of the following tasks: i) monitoring and evaluation of project's activities, ii) progress and compliance with indicators of the logical framework, iii) monitoring of the project's delivery rate, and iv) monitoring of the disbursement rate of co-financing and contribution of co-financing sources to the project's outcomes. The total co-financing for this project is US\$5.6 m and only \$345,341 have materialized to date; and 3)

	<p>Monitor Risk 3 which identified a complaint from the community regarding restrictions to the consumption of turtle eggs (see risk management tab). The project addressed this issue through a couple of meetings with the community and a revised turtle egg plan, but the issue still needs to be monitored to ensure that agreements stated on the plan are implemented.</p>
<p>UNDP Country Office Programme Officer</p>	<p>Azuero Sostenible is proving to be a successful project in different ways. On the one hand, local stakeholders have been effectively integrated not only through a regional project board but also through involvement with the various local initiatives in chemical management, reforestation and restoration, including mangroves, waste management, best practices in sustainable tourism, fishing, and specific actions aimed at biodiversity conservation with the creation of nurseries for sea turtles, community science with mammals in the area, and marine mammal guide. And local stakeholders range from mayors and deputy mayors to community-based organizations and NGOs with a local presence and the productive sector and liaisons in the territory of various key government agencies. Similarly, as designed in the ProDoc, the strengthening of local committees, such as the watershed committees, two of which have been directly trained, are provided with assistance and participate in mainstreaming to increase the participation of women. The territorialization of the SDGs and integrated environmental management and climate action is reflected in initiatives of this type, where solutions to the challenges are led from the local territory. Another aspect to highlight is the consolidation of a team between the executing unit and the regional MiAMBIENTE squad in the same place, thus facilitating engagement with local actors, coexistence for the cohesion of goals and shared goals, and reducing travel costs.</p> <p>All project indicators are on track, and the forecasts for execution and achievement of objectives are encouraging.</p> <p>MiAMBIENTE's Directorate of Coasts and Seas has also been strengthened. It exercises an open leadership to allow other entities such as the Panama Aquatic Resources Authority, the Ministry of Agricultural Development, and the municipalities to participate actively, achieving considerable inter-institutional coordination and a multidimensional approach.</p> <p>This Project has also achieved exciting synergies by taking advantage of the benefits provided by UNDP as an implementing agency through the Small Grants Program, which managed to leverage one hundred thousand dollars for grants in Azuero (9 of 15 local small grants). And the UNDP Acceleration Laboratory, which has become involved with the municipalities and communities for learning processes on waste management. And through the low-value grant, more local organizations have been able to join in supporting the implementation led by MiAMBIENTE.</p> <p>Regarding public policies and technical, regulatory instruments, the Project's contribution to the national process for the oceans policy has been significant considering that the policy also has an inter-institutional platform at the highest level involving the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Panama Maritime Authority, among others. And the Mangrove Restoration Manual that began its design with a project financed by Germany (IKI), has been operationalized after contributions through Azuero Sostenible to ensure that examples were from mangroves in the Panamanian Pacific.</p>
<p>Project Manager/Coordinator</p>	<p>The cumulative progress during the last twelve months of implementation is rated as moderately satisfactory and it is considered the project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets.</p>

Between June 2020 and June 2021 steps were taken to improve the moderately satisfactory rating by looking after the shortcomings and catching up on the delivery expected. The coordination unit was reinforced with specialized professionals that are helping to advance the National Oceans Policy, the fishing and gender activities and two full time personnel have continued to work in south Azuero. During this year, training activities have been held in virtual settings or limited capacity on site events combined with virtual participation, such as the public consultations of the National Oceans Policy.

OUTCOME PROGRESS

Progress under outcome 1: strengthening the regulatory and institutional frameworks

In terms of regulatory frameworks, the project has accompanied the process of the National Oceans Policy. To this date the draft of the policy is complete and nationwide public consultations have been held. It is expected that in 2021 the policy will be officialized by the Ministry of Environment of Panama.

In terms of the strengthening of capacities for the Coastal and Oceans Direction of the Ministry of Environment, 120 hours divided in three courses were taught in the last 12 months, following the two courses dictated previously in strategic planning and related topics. These three courses included: project formulation and evaluation, project following and monitoring and teamwork.

At the local level the project followed the governing board created to oversee the activities of the project, composed by the Mayors of the three districts (Pocrí, Pedasi and Tonosí) of the ZEMMC, and also by the province Governor and the Mayor of Las Tablas, an adjacent district. Two meetings of this governing board were held during 2020.

Progress under outcome 2: Integrated environmental management of the target ZEMMC in the southern part of the Azuero Peninsula

The last 12 months the project has implemented multiple activities with outcomes that impact the medium and low watersheds that run into the ZEMMC, as well as the coastal marine area covered by the ZEMMC.

In the medium and low watersheds we have worked with local small farmers with the help of the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA) to strengthen their knowledge on the use and handling of agrochemicals and Personal

Protection Equipment (PPE). This initiative was born as a response to concerns about the incorrect use of these products and the consequences to their health and the environment.

During this period, we developed an extensive program of visits to livestock and agricultural farm owners around the Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts to create awareness about the importance of reforestation and incorporate them to the reforestation program of 30 hectares with local and fruit species. It is important to point out that the producers visited agreed on the importance of the program, but many were not willing to participate in the reforestation. It was a slow but successful process, and as a result 21 families are participating in the reforestation program with 1 or 2 hectares, summing up 62 beneficiaries within the Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts.

Also in terms of waste management we have worked with local pig farmers to install biodigesters that allow them to produce biogas and organic fertilizer, preventing the contamination of water sources, reducing the odors and allowing farmers to reduce production costs.

With the Tonosi District Municipality and with the collaboration of the UNDP Accelerator Lab a waste management diagnosis and plan was developed during 2021 and actions to implement the plan, including Municipality agreements, trainings and collaboration with recycling companies in the province will follow within the next months.

In terms of biodiversity we are working with a group of residents of the Wildlife Refuge of Isla Cañas in a beekeeping program within the protected mangrove area that helps with its conservation and flowering. and gives the participants the possibility of a sustainable income activity.

Within the coastal marine areas, we are working in the reforestation of 5 hectares of mangrove in the Las Tablas, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts. The reforestation process started with the identification of sites during 2020 and 2021, the identification of the species suitable for each place and the preparation of a mangrove nursery in the project's office. Finally, the reforestation day activities are organized with the involvement of local NGO, community groups, volunteers and Municipalities. By the end of september 2021, the 5 hectares will be planted.

Also during this period, we worked with the Ministry of Environment to develop standardized formats for sea turtle monitoring within the areas monitored by Ministry technicians as well as areas monitored by local groups and NGOs nationwide. In the Wildlife Refuge of Isla Cañas we worked on a turtle egg use/consumption plan. This plan was developed during 2020 and the first months of 2021 and presented to the community for public consultation and validation in 2021.

Finally, we launched a call for community projects in 2021 resulting in four projects from local NGO and community groups co financed with a total of

\$75,000. These projects started activities on January 2021. Themes include sea turtle nursery and monitoring in Lagarto Beach in Pedasi District, installation of trap cameras for biodiversity monitoring on the Wildlife Refuge of Pablo Arturo Barrios and the development of tourism aquatic path in the Wildlife Refuge of Isla Cañas called “The Mangrove Route” operated by local boatmen with seven mangrove stations signalized, among others.

Progress under outcome 3: Gender Mainstreaming, Knowledge Management and Learning

The Project Gender Mainstreaming Plan is under development. It includes 12 outcomes and 12 indicators. Last revision was on June 2021 and the overall progress is 45% (based on the indicators achieved). Highlights include the incorporation of gender considerations in the terms of reference and methodological processes in all new contracts during 2020 and 2021. Also, gender considerations were included in the National Oceans Policy on each stage of the process, from the diagnosis until the public forums methodologies.

A Women Leaders Network for the Coastal and Marine Resources in South Azuero in Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts was created with 20 active participants and three workshops held in 2020 and 2021.

In terms of knowledge management, two publications have been developed: a guide for Mangrove Restoration with examples of species and restorations in different territories in the country, launched by the Ministry of Environment with the support of Azuero Sostenible PNUD/GEF on 2021 and the reedition of the Panama Mammals and Marine Reptiles Guide (Guía de Mamíferos y Reptiles Marinos de Panamá), expected to be launched by the end of 2021.

COVID-19 pandemic-related challenges include the cancellation or rescheduling of in person events or field activities due to COVID-19 outbreaks and the struggle of some community groups to advance on their field activities due to mobility and gathering restrictions, resulting in schedule delays. Also, outreach activities such as open visits to the mangrove nursery at our offices had to be canceled.

Final remarks: initial challenges have been overcome and it is considered that the project is on track to achieve its end of project targets. In spite of the COVID-19 pandemic-related challenges, tangible results have been achieved during this period.

GEF Operational Focal point

We consider this project is effectively supporting the objectives of the Ministry and the environmental priorities of our country. Despite the challenges posed

	<p>by the COVID-19 pandemic, the coordinating unit has managed to advance their indicators and have carried out activities redirecting and adapting them to the measures and situations of the moment, demonstrating capacity for adaptation and resilience.</p> <p>During this period, the project has included key personnel in the coordinating unit that is contributing to improve its execution in terms of gender equity, fishing, and sustainable use of marine resources. This support has proven to be key in responding to international commitments such as collecting the Panamanian contributions regarding the information available about the West Indian manatee (<i>Trichechus manatus</i>) for the Species Status Assessment (SSA) process of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service); support MiAMBIENTE's personnel with the review of documents and responses to questionnaires from the International Coral Reef Alliance; support in the preparation of a proposal for monitoring coral reefs and seagrasses within the Ministry and support in attending informal sessions in preparation for SBSTTA-24 (CBD).</p> <p>The project has also follow-up closely the process for the elaboration of the National Policy of the Oceans, ensuring that the outcome's quality is up to expectations.</p> <p>The developing of standardized formats for sea turtle monitoring in important sea turtle nesting areas, the turtle egg use and consumption plan in the Wildlife Refuge of Isla Cañas and the socioeconomic diagnostic are important contributions to our country's commitments with the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles.</p> <p>Regarding important marine-coastal ecosystems, Azuero Sostenible has contributed to the operationalization of the Mangrove Restoration Manual designed initially with a project financed by Germany (IKI), which includes useful examples of mangrove restoration in the Panamanian Pacific. Additionally, the elaboration of the baseline and monitoring of reefs and coral communities in the Project area and the beginning of the elaboration of the Artisanal Fisheries Management Plan will contribute with information and tools that will contribute to a better management and conservation of the marine ecosystems while contributing to the country's efforts to comply with SDG 14, the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity, among others.</p>
<p>Project Implementing Partner</p>	<p>We consider that the progress during the last twelve months of implementation of Azuero Sostenible has been significant. The project has effectively supported processes led by the Ministry of Environment in the ZEMMC of South Azuero, such as the proposal for the extension of the protected area in the Wildlife Refuge of Isla Iguana. The project has helped spreading key information and technical documentation about this process to key stakeholders, thus helping to the outreach of the public consultation process.</p> <p>In addition, the results presented by Azuero Sostenible demonstrate the cohesion accomplished by the project with key stakeholders such as local producers and land owners for the reforestation of 30 hectares in the three districts of the ZEMMC (Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi), with local NGOs and</p>

communal groups through the SDG program, giving not only financing but local accompanying and monitoring for their initiatives, and with communities in protected areas, such as the Wildlife Refuge of Isla Cañas, to promote sustainable tourist alternatives such as the “Mangrove Route” that put in value more than one thousand hectares of mangrove that go around the refuge.

Also, through Azuero Sostenible our personnel at the Coasts and Oceans Direction have been trained in key areas such as strategic planning, project formulation and project implementation; areas that will allow us to diversify our project portfolio and apply to national and international funding opportunities, especially since the pandemic has represented a severe cut in our budget for 2021.

This project has also allowed MiAMBIENTE to influence key areas in south Azuero, such as waste management at the municipality level, advancing the goals of our Marine Waste Action Plan. Also, in 2021, the official Manual for Mangrove Restoration was launched by MiAMBIENTE in Los Santos and the techniques included in this manual are being implemented by the project in the reforestation of 5 hectares of mangrove across the ZEMMC. A protocol for monitoring and tracking of the reforested areas will be generated by the project for continuity of the Coasts and Oceans Direction and the Regional branch of MiAMBIENTE in Los Santos.

In terms of protected areas and biodiversity, we highlight the work in the Wildlife Refuge of Isla Cañas with the development of a Turtle egg Use Plan that has involved an exhaustive compilation of historical and scientific information, a social study with a sample of 195 people, an inventory of domestic dogs (depredators of turtle nests) and recommendations for the installation of artificial lighting at the beach. More importantly, this plan has involved several public consultations to reach an agreement with the community about the activities and actions proposed. Also, during this period a coral reef monitoring program has been developed with the support of international specialists who have trained personnel from the Ministry to continue this program in the ZEMMC and other coral reef areas in the country.

We would also like to highlight the advancements of the gender plan of the project, that includes implementing gender considerations in all the ToR and verifying its compliance, the development of the National Oceans Policy and the creation of a Women Leader Network in south Azuero, to name a few.

The challenges faced by the project include the delay or cancellation of some field activities due to COVID-19 restrictions some of which has been reprogrammed or taken to virtual spaces, whenever possible.

Finally, we continue to work closely with the Coordination Unit, meeting regularly, planning the activities, and monitoring the results and we consider the project is on track to achieve its end of project goals.

Other Partners

(not set or not applicable)

G. Gender

Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

<p>1) 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.</p>
<p>PlanGeneroAvances_May2021_MM_PIR.docx</p>
<p>Atlas Gender Marker Rating</p>
<p>GEN2: gender equality as significant objective</p>
<p>2) 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):</p>
<p>Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes</p>
<p>Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes</p>
<p>Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes</p>
<p>Not applicable: No</p>
<p>3) Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>The Gender Plan is the tool that guides the inclusion of gender considerations in the terms of reference for consultancy contracts. All contractors are asked for a gender approach plan that includes for example: evidence of the participation and contributions differentiated by sex and direct participation and empowerment of women in local development processes. Contractors must implement this plan during their work and also report on the lessons learned from its implementation.</p> <p>In the period reported, gender considerations have been incorporated into all the project intervention processes, ensuring the participation of women and men in equal opportunities both in the participatory consultation processes and in the selection of direct beneficiaries; either in capacity building processes (training workshops, participation in surveys and interviews for quick diagnoses) as well as in development actions from the conservation and sustainable use of marine-coastal resources (mangrove beekeeping; biodigester installation on pig farms; reforestation of mangrove and farms).</p> <p>A Women Leaders Network for the Coastal and Marine Resources in South Azuero. Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts has been formed, with representatives of community-based organizations,</p>

environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs, s); community activists; Fishermen's Association; Local authorities (Vice-Mayor of Tonosí) and governing entities (Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Agricultural Development).

This network of women leaders is in the process of strengthening capacities to initiate advocacy actions that allow them to make a difference and present themselves in political and community spaces for the sustainable management and conservation of marine-coastal resources. Currently they have the definition of their identity and an action plan with a one-year projection, which was built in a participatory process.

Also, rapid diagnostic tools have been developed to identify the levels of knowledge related to the gender perspective in the governance structures to initiate training processes at the 124 and 126 watershed committees level, as well as the municipalities of Pocrí, Pedasí and Tonosí, which are expected to be implemented between the months of July and August 2021.

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

On Outcome 1 gender considerations were included within the National Oceans Policy on each stage of the process, from the diagnosis until the public forums methodologies.

On Outcome 2 A Women Leaders Network for the Coastal and Marine Resources in South Azuero on Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts was created to contribute to strengthen capacities for environmental resilience in the region.

On Outcome 3 all gender considerations implemented during consultancies and gender related lessons learned are being gathered to systematize the experiences.

H. Risk Management

A) Review of Risks outlined in Risk Register and PIMS+ risk tab

<p>NCE RTA:</p> <p>Please provide an assessment of project risk management (including risks reported in Risk Register and risks included in the project's risk tab in PIMS+) undertaken in the reporting period and summarize the key risk management measures to be taken in the coming year. This text will be pulled into the risk management action plan in this project's risk tab in PIMS+.</p>
<p>The overall risk categorization of this project continues to be Moderate. The project updated the SESP during this PIR period and identified a new situation under Risk 3 (Changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods) where a local community complained to the Environment Ministry about turtle egg consumption restrictions outlined the Turtle Egg use Plan of the Wildlife Refuge Isla Cañas. Consequently, the project organized two meetings to address this issue. In the first meeting (November 2020) the project presented the Turtle Egg plan to the community and obtained comments and recommendations to adjust the plan. In the second meeting (July 2021) the project validated the adjusted plan together with the community. Although, it seems that the situation was already resolved, the project and UNDP Country Office should continue monitoring this risk. The current significance of Risk 3 is "Moderate".</p> <p>The project is also recommended to update the SESP before the end of 2021 using the updated SESP template with the support of a safeguard's consultant. One of the issues that needs to be addressed is that the current SESP states that there are no indigenous peoples present in the Project area (including Project area of influence) and this needs to be explained and justified in the revised SESP given the known presence of indigenous communities in Panama.</p> <p>COVID-19 affected project activities during the second half of 2020 and January-March 2021 due to mandatory lockdowns and mobility restrictions. Nonetheless, the government has been removing these restrictions and the project has also adapted to the circumstances by implementing virtual meetings and carrying out mandatory biosafety and social distancing measures.</p>

B) Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards) Risks

<p>1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?</p>
<p>Yes</p>
<p>If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during the reporting period please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.</p>
<p>Under Risk 3 (Changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods)</p> <p>local communities that use the eggs of turtles for human consumption complained to the Environment Ministry about restrictions to use this resource proposed in the Turtle Egg use Plan of the Wildlife Refuge Isla Cañas. In response, the project organized two public consultations. In November 2020, the project explained the initiative to the community and obtained feedback to</p>

adjust the proposed plan. In July 2021, the project held a validation meeting with the community to present the revised proposal and obtained additional feedback.
2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks become more severe and/or has the project's SESP categorization changed 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 become more severe and/or if the project's SESP categorization has changed during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
3) Have any social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared or updated, and/or has the SESP been updated in the reporting period, as required? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.
Yes
If yes, please upload the document(s) above using the FILE LIBRARY button. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?
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.
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
5) Is the preparation and./or implementation of the project's safeguards management plan(s) on track, including monitoring?
Not Applicable
If no, please explain:
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

I. Knowledge Management & Communications

The **Project Manager** must complete the three questions below.

<p>1) Please provide progress on the implementation of the project's Knowledge Management approach approved at CEO Endorsement/Approval. If there is no KM approach/strategy, please comment on how the project is capturing and disseminating best practices and lessons learned.</p>
<p>Knowledge management activities advanced in this period:</p> <p>- Development of documentation regarding mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into production landscapes/seascapes for the integrated environmental management of coastal marine area:</p> <p>* Official launch of the Manual for Mangrove Restoration with examples of species and restorations in different territories in the country, lead by the Ministry of Environment with the support of Azuero Sostenible PNUD/GEF.</p> <p>* Infographic about a citizen science activity developed in Tonosi district, consisting in quantifying and classifying the amount of waste generated in ten homes during seven days.</p> <p>* Infographic about the profile/X-ray of an informal recycler in Panama</p> <p>* Under progress is the reedition of the Panama Mammals and Marine Reptiles Guide (Guía de Mamíferos y Reptiles Marinos de Panamá), expected to be launched by the end of 2021.</p>
<p>2) Please provide URLs specific to this project in the relevant field below. Please categorize the URLs appropriately (for example: project websites, social media sites, media coverage, etc.)</p>
<p>Stock of professional photos</p> <p>https://www.flickr.com/photos/155976344@N02/albums/72157703703941112</p> <p>Photos II Junta Local Azuero Sostenible – September 5, 2020</p> <p>https://www.flickr.com/photos/155976344@N02/albums/72157715900657852</p> <p>Reforestation event ProEcoAzuero – PPD/PNUD GEF Project – IPTA Tonosí – September 9, 2020</p> <p>https://www.flickr.com/photos/155976344@N02/albums/72157715913469977</p> <p>https://www.instagram.com/p/CE7Bt_hIMFd/</p> <p>https://www.instagram.com/p/CE_rmWaBbi_/</p> <p>https://www.instagram.com/p/CE7aBnkB7kw/</p>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CE-bQJLhZGz/>

Mangrove Ecological Tracks, Santo Domingo, Las Tablas, September 2020. PPD/PNUD GEF MiAMBIENTE Azuero Sostenible

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/155976344@N02/albums/72157715940875446>

Beach cleaning, La Yeguada, Pocri District, Septiembre 16, 2020

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/155976344@N02/albums/72157716001792137>

Mar Alliance workshop. PPD/PNUD GEF Project. September, 29

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CFks5ygFVCe/>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CFvFfPeFFT4/>

Project page and press releases on the UNDP website

<https://www.pa.undp.org/content/panama/es/home/blog/ciencia-ciudadana--construyendo-soluciones-colectivas.html>

<https://www.pa.undp.org/content/panama/es/home/blog/sumergiendonos--virtualmente--en-la-gestion-de-residuos-solidos-.html>

<https://www.pa.undp.org/content/panama/es/home/blog/manejo-de-residuos-en-azuero--un-problema-perverso.html>

<https://www.pa.undp.org/content/panama/es/home/projects/conservacion-y-uso-sostenible-de-la-biodiversidad-en-las-zonas-d.html>

<https://www.pa.undp.org/content/panama/es/home/presscenter/articles/2019/biodiversidad--ecoturismo-y-pesca-sostenible---arranca-proyecto-0.html>

<https://www.pa.undp.org/content/panama/es/home/presscenter/articles/2019/empoderando-a-las-comunidades-locales-de-azuero-para-lograr-solu.html>

Outreach/Media Coverage

<https://somosimpactopositivo.com/impacto-social/mujeres-empendedoras-e-identidad-cultural-con-la-biodiversidad-en-azuero/>

<https://www.miambiente.gob.pa/empoderando-a-las-comunidades-locales-de-azuero-para-lograr-soluciones-basadas-en-la-biodiversidad/>

<http://www.enterate507.net/municipio-de-pedasi-representado-por-su-alcalde-miguel-batista-participa-en-la-firma-de-la-junta-local-del-proyecto-azuero-sostenible/>

<https://www.metrolibre.com/nacionales/126330-siete-millones-para-el-desarrollo-economico-proteger-los-manglares-y-conservar>

<https://sertv.gob.pa/crisolfm/azuero-sostenible-ii-convocatoria-cofinanciamiento-de-proyectos-comunitarios/>

Virtual Event Call for proposals - Community Projects 2020

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79RY9jEt_Zo

Project video

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/luh3gkzzfwu3btX/2020-gef-pir-pims5750-gefid9804.docx?dl=0>

Small Grant Programme outreach

<https://www.miambiente.gob.pa/azuero-sostenible-ii-convocatoria-cofinanciamiento-de-proyectos-comunitarios/>

<https://mailchi.mp/undp/boletn-ppd-julio-2020-azuero-sostenible?e=b59fb5448c>

Photos of SGP project with NGO Mar Alliance

https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipOZSUEK8Uc_zfK2paLbJZOtOoVCQxNxD09W2PA3slQt6UcezqpFDn0f4au2EeTK2Q?key=UThhWGEyVE5sOENxVU9DNXJ4enBXTETvMldPUHZR

Social media coverage

<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1418684075322355712>

<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1418684089440296961>

<https://twitter.com/MiAmbientePma/status/1418332050151641091>

<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1418338534159683587>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1417274199589232640>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDLAC/status/1416563424268533762>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1410724095872831493>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1407479181689163779>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1405681032247009284>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1405657506496581637>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDLAC/status/1405575983747551233>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1405176553403817991>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1403371817205702662>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1270137153314488322>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1259894607107837953>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1278378746614091783>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1278329364388724738>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1277691814842171394>
<https://twitter.com/PNUDPanama/status/1275889094241988609>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CRsMGvvLD-M/>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CRr37yOrbuQ/>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CRr2ZlYl4id/>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CRpdoqzrVmb/>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CRH-IRGr5Pc/>
https://www.instagram.com/p/CRAUt1xL2_7/
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CQtUDu2Lr5Z/>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CEwc5RTBZnt/>

https://www.instagram.com/p/B_219lxJiUM/
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B7sAp3Dh9D0/>
https://www.instagram.com/p/B7r2Jm_B8hS/
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CCHH3qEBUJz/>
https://www.instagram.com/p/CCB_cfshbrE/
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CB1Rx6bBpeg/>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CB2z0RVhuTV/>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CB3AjAvpblz/>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CCGbr2kpvxV/>

Branding contest

https://www.instagram.com/p/B6UdGScBMQI/?utm_source=ig_web_button_share_sheet

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8_ZdL9O8bXA

3) In the PIR platform, please upload any supporting files, including the project's Communications Strategy, photos, videos, stories and other communication/knowledge materials.

[NGOPublicationTortugasPedasi.pdf](#)

J. Stakeholder Engagement

(A) Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent documentation submitted at CEO Endorsement/Approval.

(B) Upload all available documentation of the project's stakeholder engagement, including surveys, FPIC reports and others using the FILE LIBRARY button in the upper right corner of the PIR.

(C) If the project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been updated during the reporting period, please upload that file using the FILE LIBRARY button above.

A governing board to oversee the activities of the project is constituted by the Mayors of the three districts (Pocrí, Pedasi and Tonosí) of the ZEMMC, and also by the province Governor and the Mayor of Las Tablas, an adjacent district. This structure was initiated in January 2020 and had meetings on September and December 2020.

4 new community projects were cofinanced during 2020 through the Small Grants Programme (SGP) PNUD GEF MiAMBIENTE Azuero Sostenible, proposed by local NGOs and community based organizations (\$75,000 were assigned to these 4 projects). Since 2019, a total of \$315,000 has been allocated to 15 projects in the Azuero region through the SGP PNUD GEF MiAMBIENTE Azuero Sostenible.

We have worked with local producers' associations and the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA) to identify farms for reforestation and to implement green production practices such as the installation of biodigesters in the Pocri, Pedasi and Tonosi Districts. This program includes the production of biogas and organic fertilizer from the pig farms waste.

Also, as part of the reforestation program, we have engaged with the local community. The production of plants was developed by a local Community Based Organization of the Tonosi District. We gave them the tools and supplies and offered them training and guidance for the nursery.

In the case of the Watershed Committees 124 and 126, we participated in their regular meetings during 2020 and 2021 and they have showed interest in training and workshops on gender considerations for the activities of the Committee.

With governmental institutions such as the National Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP) we have partnered to organize virtual trainings to members of the Aeronaval National Service and to fishers on the new national fishing law, approved in 2021.

K. 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.