

FULLY DEVELOPED PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE COUNTRY

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: Enhancing Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through Adaptation Actions in the Tourism Sector in La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in the Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)

Country: Dominican Republic

Thematic Focal Area: Multisector Project

Type of Implementing Entity: Regional Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: CAF, Corporación Andina de Fomento (Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina y El Caribe)

Executing Entities: UNDP, United Nations Development Programme

Amount of Financing Requested: 10,000,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Letter of Endorsement (LOE) signed: Yes No

NOTE: LOEs should be signed by the Designated Authority (DA). The signatory DA must be on file with the Adaptation Fund. To find the DA currently on file check this page: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/designated-authorities>

Stage of Submission:

1. This proposal has been submitted before including at a different stage (concept, fully-developed proposal)
– Concept Note submitted on 03 July 2025.
2. This is the first submission ever of the proposal at any stage.
3. In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: [Click or tap to enter a date.](#)

Please note that fully-developed proposal documents should not exceed 100 pages for the main document, and 100 pages for the annexes.

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION | i |
| Acronyms | iv |
| Project/Programme Background and Context:..... | 1 |
| Summary | 1 |
| Introduction to the Project Area | 1 |
| Social, Environmental, and Economic | 3 |
| a) <i>Demographic data in the project area</i> | <i>3</i> |
| b) <i>Main economic activities (livelihoods).....</i> | <i>4</i> |
| c) <i>Key Ecosystems.....</i> | <i>5</i> |
| d) <i>Governance in the Project Area.....</i> | <i>7</i> |
| e) <i>Climate Context</i> | <i>8</i> |
| f) <i>Non-climatic drivers.....</i> | <i>14</i> |
| g) <i>Risk to the population linked to the prioritized site.....</i> | <i>14</i> |
| h) <i>Risk to ecosystems linked to the prioritized site.....</i> | <i>15</i> |
| i) <i>Barriers to adaptation</i> | <i>16</i> |
| Project/Programme Objectives: | 17 |
| Project/Programme Components and Financing: | 18 |
| Projected Calendar: | 18 |
| PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION | 19 |
| A. <i>Describe the project/programme components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities of the project, and how these activities contribute to climate resilience. For the case of a programme, show how the combination of individual projects will contribute to the overall increase in resilience.</i> | <i>19</i> |
| B. <i>Describe how the project/programme provides economic, social and environmental benefits, with particular reference to the most vulnerable communities, and vulnerable groups within communities, including gender considerations. Describe how the project/programme will avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.....</i> | <i>41</i> |
| C. <i>Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project/programme.....</i> | <i>44</i> |
| D. <i>Describe how the project/programme is consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, including, where appropriate, national adaptation plan (NAP), national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications, or national adaptation programs of action, or other relevant instruments, where they exist.....</i> | <i>48</i> |
| E. <i>Describe how the project/programme meets relevant national technical standards, where applicable, such as standards for environmental assessment, building codes, etc., and complies with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.</i> | <i>49</i> |
| F. <i>Describe if there is duplication of project/programme with other funding sources, if any.</i> | <i>51</i> |
| G. <i>If applicable, describe the learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned.....</i> | <i>53</i> |
| H. <i>Describe the consultative process, including the list of stakeholders consulted, undertaken during project preparation, with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.....</i> | <i>54</i> |
| I. <i>Provide justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning.....</i> | <i>60</i> |
| J. <i>Describe how the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes has been taken into account when designing the project/programme.</i> | <i>60</i> |
| K. <i>Provide an overview of the environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project/programme....</i> | <i>62</i> |
| PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS | 64 |
| A. <i>Describe the arrangements for project/programme implementation.....</i> | <i>64</i> |
| B. <i>Describe the measures for financial and project/programme risk management.....</i> | <i>67</i> |
| C. <i>Describe the measures for environmental and social risk management, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.</i> | <i>68</i> |
| D. <i>Describe the monitoring and evaluation arrangements and provide a budgeted M&E plan, in compliance with the ESP and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.....</i> | <i>69</i> |

| | | |
|--|---|-----------|
| E. | <i>Include a results framework for the project proposal, including milestones, targets and indicators, including one or more core outcome indicators of the Adaptation Fund Results Framework, and in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.</i> | 71 |
| F. | <i>Demonstrate how the project/programme aligns with the Results Framework of the Adaptation Fund</i> | 82 |
| G. | <i>Include a detailed budget with budget notes, a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use, and an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs.</i> | 83 |
| H. | <i>Include a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones.</i> | 93 |
| PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY | | 94 |

RESILTUR Annexes

| | | |
|----------------|---|----|
| Annex 2 | – Stakeholder Engagement Report | 1 |
| Annex 3 | – Gender Assessment | 23 |
| Annex 4 | – Gender Action Plan | 34 |
| Annex 5 | – Evidence Based Risk Identification (EBRI) | 52 |
| Annex 6 | – Environmental & Social Management Plan (ESMP) | 78 |

List of Tables

| | | |
|------------------|---|----|
| Table 1. | Correspondence between the main climate threats and impacts and adaptation actions, grouped by impact area. | 11 |
| Table 2. | Project/Programme components and financing | 18 |
| Table 3. | Projected calendar | 18 |
| Table 4. | Cost-benefit analysis of the activities of components 2 and 3 | 45 |
| Table 5. | National laws that must be complied with in all types of project activities. | 49 |
| Table 6. | Regulations by intervention type | 50 |
| Table 7. | Project complementarity with completed and ongoing interventions | 51 |
| Table 8. | Actors consulted throughout the consultation process. | 55 |
| Table 9. | Summary of the consultations carried out. | 56 |
| Table 10. | Checklist of environmental and social principles & Potential risks identified. | 63 |
| Table 11. | Measures for financial and project/programme risk management | 67 |
| Table 12. | M&E costed budget. | 70 |
| Table 13. | Results Framework – Core indicators – Impact level | 72 |
| Table 14. | Results Framework – Project Indicators per component | 73 |
| Table 15. | Alignment of the project with de Results Framework of the Adaptation Fund | 82 |
| Table 16. | Detailed budget | 83 |
| Table 17. | IE management fee | 93 |
| Table 18. | Disbursement schedule | 93 |

List of Figures

| | | |
|-------------------|---|----|
| Figure 1. | Map of the general location of the prioritized area. | 2 |
| Figure 2. | Population map | 3 |
| Figure 3 | Map of key ecosystems | 6 |
| Figure 4 | Key governmental actors of the project and those relevant to the project. | 7 |
| Figure 5 | Major hazards and impacts in the project area. | 13 |
| Figure 6 | Map of exposure, vulnerability, and climate risk of the resident population of the five coastal municipalities of the province of Puerto Plata. | 15 |
| Figure 7 | Exposure, vulnerability and climate risk map of the ecosystems linked to the prioritized sites. | 16 |
| Figure 8. | Theory of Change of the Project | 20 |
| Figure 9 | Admiral's House in La Isabela National Park. Google Earth aerial view from December 2023 (left) and photo taken in April 2024 during the proposal origination mission (right). Approximately one-third of the house's enclosure has collapsed due to coastal erosion. | 32 |
| Figure 10 | Operational level organization chart. | 65 |
| Figure 11. | Steering and Technical Committees | 67 |

Acronyms

AAL: Average annual loss
ADOA: Dominican Aquaculture Association (“Asociación Dominicana de Acuicultores”)
AECID: Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo)
AF: Adaptation Fund
AFD: French Development Agency (Agence Française de Développement)
ANAMAR: National Authority for Maritime Affairs (Autoridad Nacional de Asuntos Marítimos)
CAF: Development Bank of Latin America (Corporación Andina de Fomento)
CATHALAC: Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (Centro del Agua del Trópico Húmedo para América Latina y el Caribe)
CEBSE: Center for the Conservation and Ecodevelopment of the Bay of Samaná and its Surroundings (Centro para la Conservación y el Ecodesarrollo de la Bahía de Samaná y su Entorno)
CEMEP: Center for Environmental Management and Planning
CMD: Municipal Development Councils (“Concejos Municipales de Desarrollo”)
CODOPESCA: National Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture (“Dirección Nacional de Pesca y Acuicultura”)
COE: Emergency Operations Center (Centro de Operaciones de Emergencias)
CRA: Climate Risk Assessment
CZMS: Coastal Zone Management Strategy
DM: Municipal districts
DR: Dominican Republic
EAP: Economic Active Population
ECLAC: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
EE: Executing Entity
EI: Implementing Entity
ENCFT: Continuous National Labor Force Survey (“Encuesta Nacional Continua de Fuerza de Trabajo”)
FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDI: Foreign Direct Investment
FEDOMU: Federation of Dominican Municipalities (Federación Dominicana de Municipios)
FUNDEMAR: Marine Studies Foundation (Fundación Dominicana de Estudios Marinos)
GAP: Gender Action Plan
GCF: Green Climate Fund
GDP: Gross Domestic Product
GEF: Global Environment Facility
GHG: Greenhouse Gas
GVA: Gross Value Added
HDI: Human Development Index
INDRHI: National Institute of Hydraulic Resources (Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidráulicos)
INFOTEP: National Institute of Technical Vocational Training (Instituto Nacional de Formación Técnico Profesional)
IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IVACC: Climate Shock Vulnerability Index (spanish acronym)
JICA: Japan International Cooperation Agency
LMD: Dominican Municipal League (“Liga Municipal Dominicana”)
MEPYD: Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development (Ministerio de Economía, Planificación y Desarrollo)
MITUR: Ministry of Tourism (Ministerio de Turismo)
MMARN: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales)
NAP: National Adaptation Plan
NCCP: National Climate Change Policy
NDC: Nationally Determined Contribution
NDS: National Development Strategy
ONAMET: National Meteorological Office (Oficina Nacional de Meteorología)
PAGCC: Gender and Climate Change Action Plan
PANA: National Climate Change Action Plan
PLANEG: National Plan for Gender Equality and Equity
PNACC: National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (Plan Nacional de Adaptación al Cambio Climático)
QLI: Quality of Life Index
RCP: Representative Concentration Pathways
RD: Dominican Republic (República Dominicana)
SINI: National Information System (Sistema Nacional de Información)
SISMAP: Public Administration Monitoring System (Sistema de Monitoreo de la Administración Pública)
SIUBEN: Single System of Beneficiaries (Sistema Único de Beneficiarios)
SNIA: National Environmental Information System (Sistema Nacional de Información Ambiental)
TNC: The Nature Conservancy
UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
US: United States
USAID: United States Agency for International Development
USD: United States Dollar
USP: Unidentified Sub-Projects
WB: World Bank
WWF: World Wildlife Fund

Project/Programme Background and Context:

Summary

4. Tourism in the Dominican Republic began in 1931. The country is considered a "Caribbean Hotspot" due to its high levels of biodiversity. Its marine ecosystems have been classified as one of the five priority ecoregions for conservation in the world, according to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Conservation International. It is home to unique ecosystems that host over 6,000 species of flora, 7,000 species of fauna, and 2,788 marine species. For the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (**MMARN**), there are financial and technical challenges in developing activities related to biodiversity conservation and climate change.
5. For the tourist area of Estero Hondo and La Isabela, in the province of Puerto Plata, in the north of the Dominican Republic, the analysis of **climate scenarios** reveals a challenging outlook. In recent years, there has been an increase in the average temperature, warmer nights, and a higher frequency of heatwaves, a decrease in rainfall, rising sea levels, increased intensity of hurricanes, higher sea surface temperatures, and ocean acidification.
6. The extreme climate events of recent years have already caused significant **impacts** in this area, which has three urban centers, a dispersed population, and two large, protected areas: the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and the La Hispaniola National Park. The most recent prolonged drought, lasting over six years, resulted in substantial agricultural and livestock losses, increased restrictions on water supply to the population, and wreaked havoc on ecosystems, affecting both flora and fauna, especially the manatees, which rely on freshwater to survive. On the other hand, Hurricanes Irma and María, both of which struck in September 2017, caused significant coastal erosion, displacing much of the beach sand into offshore sandbanks, thereby reducing the areas accessible to swimmers and further impacting the region's already vulnerable tourism sector. Additionally, rising sea levels combined with stronger storms are putting the historical heritage of La Isabela at risk - the site of Christopher Columbus' first settlement on the island. Located at the edge of the sea for over 500 years, this site now faces severe damage not only from the passage of time but also from accelerated coastal erosion. At sea, fishers can no longer find fish near the coast, and some species—such as snappers (Lutjanidae) and groupers (Serranidae)—have disappeared entirely. Coral reefs have been severely affected by rising sea temperatures and ocean acidification, leading to widespread bleaching. Additionally, seagrass beds are in decline due to human pressures such as overfishing and tourism, with the rising sea temperature further exacerbating stress on these vital ecosystems.
7. In addition to climate-related challenges, the region faces multiple **non-climatic factors that worsen the impacts of climate change**, such as upstream deforestation in the Unijica and La Jaiba watersheds, which has been driven primarily by livestock activity and has contributed to arid conditions. Additionally, poor waste and effluent management, harmful boating practices that damage the reef and seabed with anchors and affect marine mammals due to high speeds, and the overexploitation of fishery resources are also significant contributing factors.
8. The above has led to this area being largely **overlooked** in terms of investment. Faced with a lack of opportunities, young people often choose to **migrate** to cities or abroad. However, the entire area possesses significant natural and cultural attractions, both on land and at sea, which could serve as the foundation for inclusive, community-based ecotourism that could provide a sustainable livelihood for the local population.
9. Within this framework, the project aims to reduce the vulnerability of coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems in the protected areas of La Hispaniola and the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary, and to enhance the adaptive capacity of local communities and their livelihoods by promoting sustainable tourism that is resilient to risks such as heatwaves, droughts, coastal erosion caused by sea level rise, the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme events, ocean acidification, and rising sea surface temperatures. The project will focus on: strengthening coastal and marine area planning and monitoring (Component 1); enhancing the resilience of terrestrial and marine ecosystems to climate change impacts (Component 2); supporting the livelihoods of vulnerable communities exposed to climate change impacts (Component 3); and building the capacities of key stakeholders while improving climate change knowledge to boost stakeholder engagement in climate action (Component 4).
10. The total expected number of **beneficiaries** is 8,665 people (47% women), as some of the planned investments—such as the improvement of socio-environmental registry systems and the development of integrated plans—will indirectly benefit the entire population of the municipalities of Villa Isabela and Luperón, as well as tourists visiting Puerto Plata. In terms of direct support to enhance adaptive capacities through concrete adaptation solutions or capacity-building efforts, the project will directly reach 4,087 community members (47% women) and representatives from provincial and national government. Additionally, through restoration interventions, 906 **hectares will be made more resilient**: 106 hectares of marine and coastal ecosystem restoration, and 800 hectares of reforestation and vegetation integration in upstream silvopastoral and agroforestry systems.
11. The project will be led by MMARN, which is the national designated authority to the Adaptation Fund. **CAF**, the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, will serve as the Implementing Entity (IE). The Executing Entity (EE) will be the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

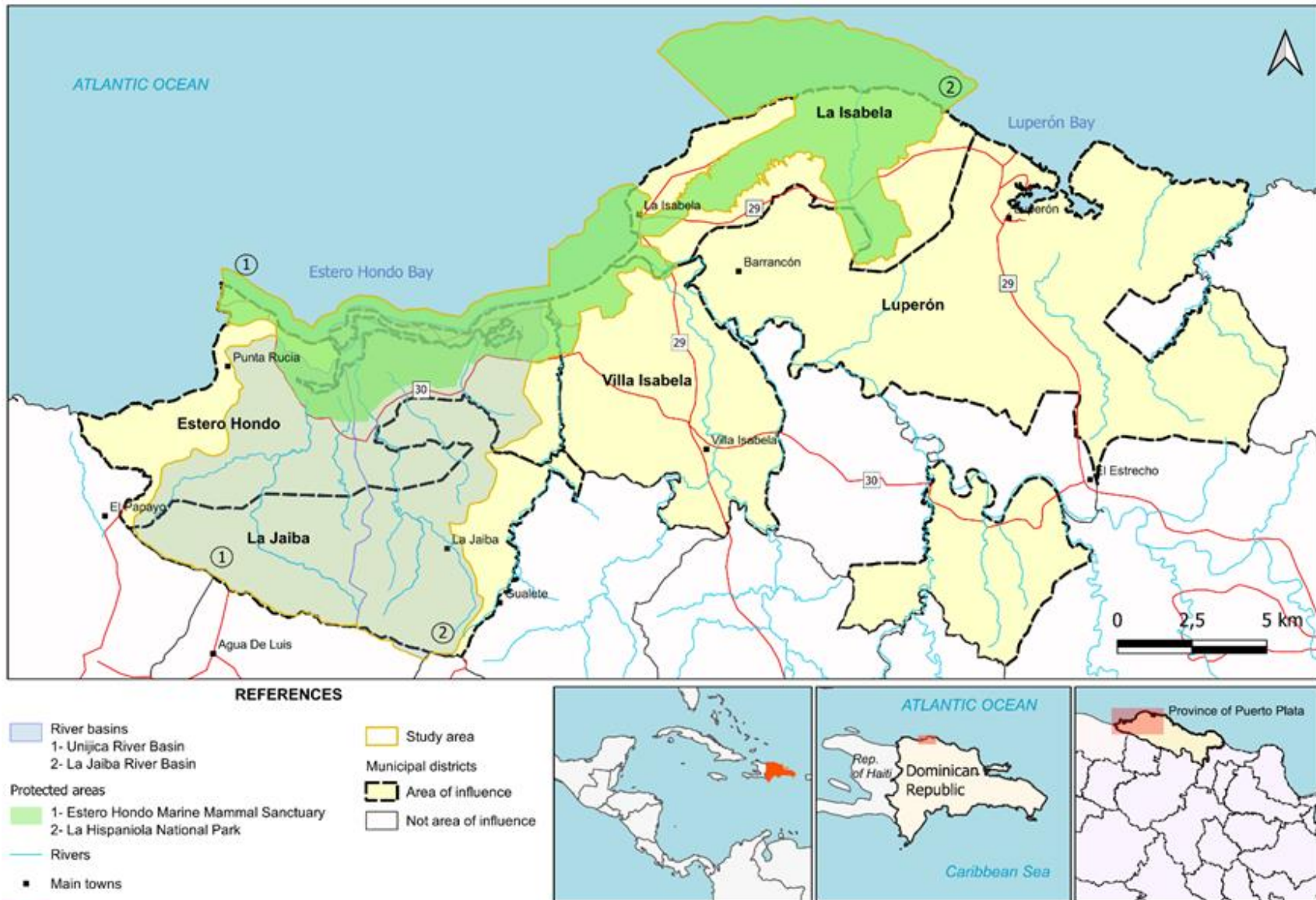
Introduction to the Project Area

12. The territory of the Dominican Republic is divided into 31 provinces and one National District, 17 of which are located along the coastal zone and concentrate nearly 70% of the total population. The Dominican coastline on the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean is approximately 1,576 km long (including the adjacent islands), the majority of which corresponds to the Atlantic Ocean. These ecosystems are utilized by urban and rural

establishments, as they provide essential goods and services for economic activities such as fishing, agriculture, livestock farming, tourism, navigation, and port development projects, as well as for social activities related to recreation and environmental care.

13. The project is located in the coastal province of Puerto Plata in the Cibao Norte region, specifically in the municipalities of Luperón and Villa Isabela, in the municipal districts (D.M.) of La Isabela, Estero Hondo, and La Jaiba, where the protected areas of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park extend, as well as the watersheds of the Unijica River and the La Jaiba River. The project area covers 16,500.767 hectares of surface and 34.795 km of coastline (Figure 1). The selection of this area was made following the following criteria: 1) The Climate Change Risk Study of Coastal and Marine Systems, conducted by DAI in 2022¹, was reviewed, and the ranking and results of the most vulnerable and climate-change-threatened coastal municipalities were considered. These results were cross-referenced with data on the potential for sustainable tourism, multifactorial poverty levels, and the presence of climate finance and development projects in the area. Additionally, the prioritization criteria established by the Adaptation Fund (AF) were considered, and 3) the priorities of the MMARN were combined with those of the AF, leading to the selection of the sites presented below. It is important to highlight that, according to the results of the vulnerability analysis—presented later in this section—the entire project area presents significant levels of climate risk. See Figure 1 for a visualization of the locations described above.

Figure 1. Map of the general location of the prioritized area.



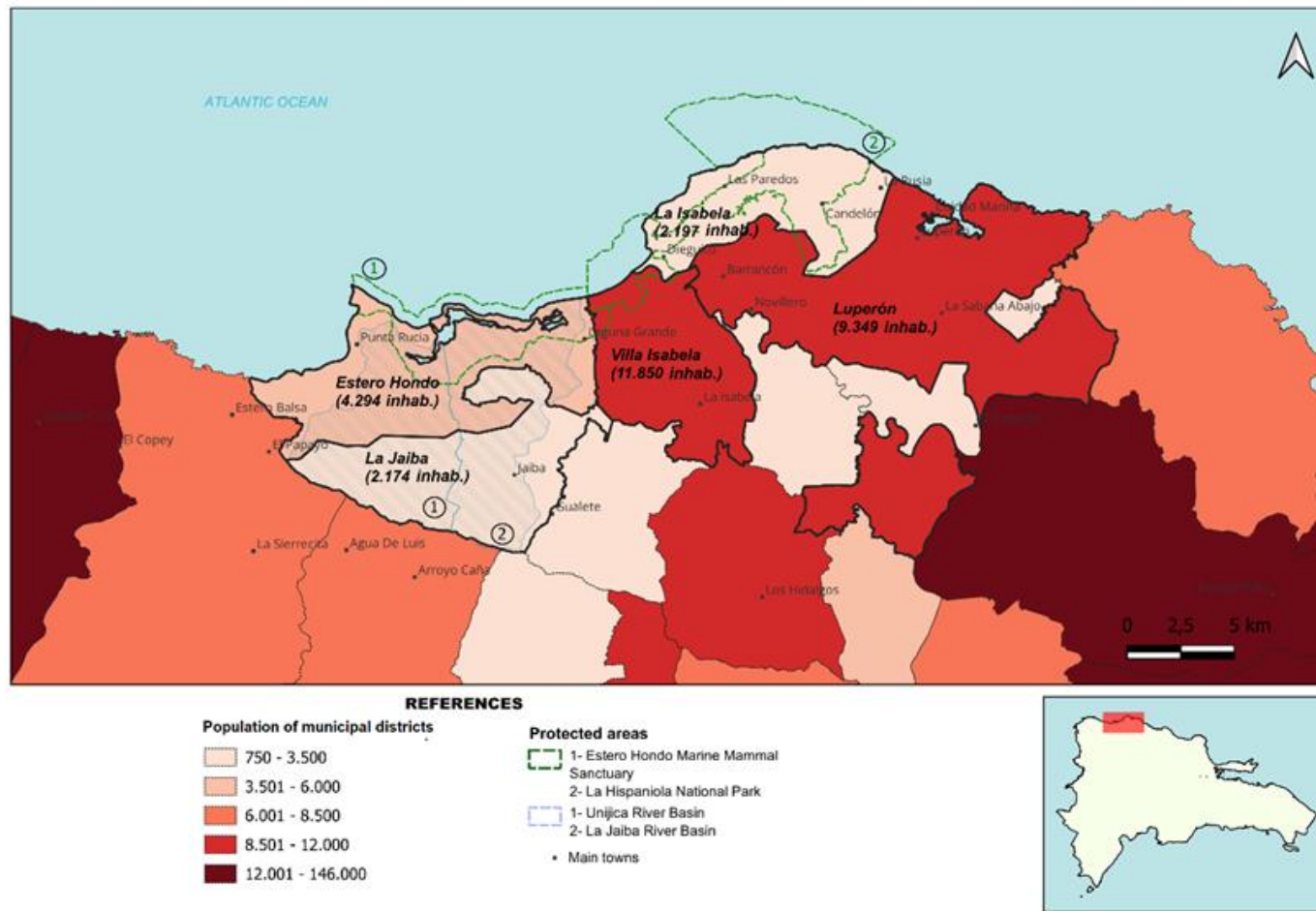
¹ DAI Study 2022 - Climate Change Risk Study in Coastal Areas.

Social, Environmental, and Economic

a) Demographic data in the project area

14. **Population:** According to data from the 2022 National Population and Housing Census, the Dominican Republic has a population of 10,760,028 people and a population density of 223 (people/km²). In the Municipality of Luperón, there are 17,577 people with a population density of 72 (people/km²), and in the Municipality of Villa Isabela, there are 20,278 people with a population density of 93 (people/km²). See figure 2 for a visual representation.

Figure 2. Population map



15. Education level: In 2021², the illiteracy rate for the population over 15 years old was 6.3%, with the highest illiteracy rate in rural areas (11.8%) compared to urban areas (5.1%). For the municipalities of Luperón and Villa Isabela, data from SIUBEN³ for 2018 shows an illiteracy rate of 10.2% and 10.8%, respectively.
16. In 2021, 35% of women over 25 years old only had primary education, while another 26% had tertiary or university education⁴. The illiteracy rate for women is about 0.1 percentage points lower than that for men. The number of students enrolled in school during the 2020-2021 academic year was fairly balanced between genders, with 50.2% male and 49.8% female. However, in university enrolments, 38% were men and 62% were women.
17. Life expectancy: By 2024⁵, the life expectancy at birth is 75.1 years. The difference between genders is 72.38 years for men and 77.89 years for women.
18. Disability: The percentage of people in the country, registered in SIUBEN, with difficulties in seeing, hearing, walking, remembering, personal care,

² Data based on the National Workforce Survey (ENFT), BCRD. ONE Statistical Yearbook 2021.

³ The Single Beneficiary System (SIUBEN) is the institution of the Dominican Government responsible for identifying and prioritizing families eligible to receive benefits from social programs and subsidies funded with public resources. Approximately 65% of the Dominican population is registered, and around 73% of the population in the municipalities of Luperón and Villa Isabela are enrolled.

⁴ Data based on the National Workforce Survey (ENFT), BCRD. ONE Statistical Yearbook 2021.

⁵ Data based on information from National Population Estimates and Projections 1950-2100, 2014. ONE Statistical Yearbook 2021.

or communication was 2.3% in 2018⁶, of which 52.2% are women. Within the municipalities, Luperón has 8.8% and Villa Isabela has 7.2% of the population.

19. Human settlements: The Climate Shock Vulnerability Index (IVACC⁷) of the country calculates the probability that a household (assigning values from 0 to 1) is vulnerable to hurricanes, storms, and floods, given certain socioeconomic characteristics, and proximity to risk areas. The closer the value is to 1, the more vulnerable the household is. In 2018⁸, 25.1% of households registered in SIUBEN had a high index value (> 0.7). Households headed by women, on average, show slightly lower vulnerability than those headed by men (0.469 vs. 0.479, respectively). The average IVACC value in Luperón is 0.541, and in Villa Isabela, it is 0.625.
20. Quality of Life Index (ICV): The SIUBEN calculates the Quality-of-Life Index (ICV), which combines various characteristics of the housing, household, and its members. It assigns each household a value from 0 to 100 and divides it into four categories, from the poorest to the least poor. The closer the value is to 0, the greater the scarcity and lower the quality of life for the household. In 2018⁹, 6.7% of households registered in SIUBEN were in extreme poverty (ICV I) and 35.4% were in moderate poverty (ICV II), meaning that 42.1% were considered poor with a multifactorial approach. 39.5% of households headed by women were categorized as poor. Among the major deficits, it is noted that in rural areas, 75.2% of homes have zinc as the predominant roofing material. In Luperón and Villa Isabela, households under the ICV I and II categories account for 52.7% and 49.8%, respectively, with 48.5% and 45.4% of households, respectively, using a water source for domestic use other than the water supply system.
21. Monetary poverty: The national average of per capita family¹⁰ income for the year 2023, according to the ENCFT¹¹, was RD \$15,906 (almost USD \$274). The Gini Index is 0.378 for 2023. However, when looking at the monetary poverty indicator for 2023, it corresponds to 23% of the population. Regarding monetary poverty by gender, 21.8% are men and 24.1% are women.
22. Human Development Index: The HDI is the geometric average of the indices calculated for health, education, and income. In 2016¹², the country had a value of 0.522; however, the province of Puerto Plata had a value of 0.502, showing relatively lower development.
23. Access to information technologies: In 2022¹³ 91.7% of households used mobile phones, and 47.8% had access to the internet (in the province of Puerto Plata, this value increases to 54.4%); however, 84.4% of the population aged 10 and older used the internet in the three months prior to the survey (in the province of Puerto Plata, this value decreases to 81.7%). SIUBEN calculates the digital divide as the distribution of people aged 7 to 65 based on computer knowledge. In 2019¹⁴, in Luperón and Villa Isabela, 72.4% and 74.9% of people, respectively, had no or basic levels of computer knowledge.

b) Main economic activities (livelihoods)

24. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the Dominican Republic in 2022, according to the World Bank (WB)¹⁵, was USD 113.54 billion, and the GDP per capita was USD 10,111, positioning the country as a middle-income nation. The Cibao Norte region contributes 15.3% of the economic activity¹⁶. According to data from the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic, in 2022, the tertiary sector represented 59.8% of the Gross Value Added (GVA), the secondary sector 34.9%, and the primary sector 5.3%. For the Cibao Norte region, the agricultural sector contributes 5.4% of the GVA, manufacturing industry 17%, and services such as commerce, hotels, restaurants, and transportation 28.7%. The following are the main economic sectors developed in the project area, whose productivity is influenced by the climate.
25. The tourism sector is highly relevant to the economic activity of the coastal population in terms of income levels and employment generation. In 2019, the tourism sector¹⁷ accounted for 8.4% of the national GDP and had a 36.4% share of the country's income from exported goods and services. This sector contributes on average between 14% and 19% of the provincial product in Puerto Plata.¹⁸ It also generates a significant number of jobs: in 2022¹⁹ 12.3% of total formal jobs were in accommodation and food services, transportation, and recreational activities. Of the registered companies, those dedicated to these services represent 10.2% of the total in the country, 13% in Luperón, and 21% in Villa Isabela²⁰. The Puerto Plata Tourist Hub is popular for sun and beach tourism and has significant infrastructure along the entire coastline, accounting for 15% of the country's²¹; housing supply. However, the municipalities of Luperón and Villa Isabela do not have a specific strategy to promote the development of the sector in the area to enhance their tourist attractions. They also have limited investment in tourism services, with only 9 hotels, of which 4 are microenterprises, 2 are small, 1 is medium, and 2 are classified as large, with between 30 and 50 employees.²²
26. In the province of Puerto Plata, there is significant visitation from the cruise ports of Taíno Bay and Amber Cove, with around 230,000 visits per year. These visitors have access to a variety of natural and cultural attractions, including the famous Damajagua Waterfalls and the multiple beaches along the Atlantic coast. In the vicinity of the project area, there are high-value tourist spots such as Cayo Arena in Punta Rucia, as well as scenic routes like the Ecotourism Corridor of the Northern Mountain Range, which connects the coastline with the mountains and includes, among other

⁶ Ibidem.

⁷ National Council for Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism. [Interactive Map of the IVACC](#). SIUBEN.

⁸ III Socioeconomic Household Study (ESH). Single Beneficiary System (SIUBEN).

⁹ Ibidem

¹⁰ For the estimation of household per capita income, the total household income is added up and divided by the number of household members.

¹¹ Continuous National Labor Force Survey 2023 by the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic.

¹² Human Development Office, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

¹³ National Household Survey of Multiple Purposes (ENHOGAR) 2022, National Statistics Office (ONE)

¹⁴ Third Socioeconomic Household Study (ESH), Single Beneficiary System (SIUBEN)

¹⁵ Available from: [World Bank national accounts data](#)

¹⁶ Regional GDP Results Report for the Dominican Republic 2015–2022, Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development

¹⁷ Central Bank of the Dominican Republic (BCRD)

¹⁸ Local Economic Development Plan for Puerto Plata Province, Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development, 2016

¹⁹ National Statistics Office (ONE), based on the Directory of Companies and Establishments (DEE) 2021

²⁰ Directory of Companies and Establishments (DEE) 2023, National Statistics Office (ONE)

²¹ Provincial Productive Profiles for Export Promotion and Investment Attraction for Development, ProDominicana 2022

²² Directory of Companies and Establishments (DEE) 2023, National Statistics Office (ONE)

things, the Paso de los Hidalgos. Also notable are agrotourism experiences focused on the sustainable cultivation of cocoa and coffee, such as those led by a women's organization at the Chokolala factory in Altamira, and the Agrotourism Farm La Protectora, located along the agrotourism route connecting El Mamey, La Jaiba, and Estero Hondo. These spaces represent strategic points to replicate best practices in sustainable community-based agrotourism.

27. **Fishing** is an important sector in the project area. In 2019²³, the province of Puerto Plata registered 2,653 fishers (84% men and 16% women), making it the third-largest fishing community in the country. Commonly captured species include mahi-mahi, jack, tuna, needlefish, snapper, grouper, parrotfish (a species under ban), cojinúa, bocayate, jurel, shark, ray, machuelo, sardine, shrimp, conch (restricted), lobster (species under ban), octopus, squid, cucumber (species under ban), clam, mussels, and crab.
28. According to the 2019 Fishermen Census, in the Municipal Districts of La Isabela and Estero Hondo, there are 649 and 104²⁴ fishermen, respectively (28% of the total provincial fishermen, 18% of whom are women), with a weekly production of 165 metric tons, 90% of which is for sale and the rest for personal consumption. The fishers come from the communities of Estero Hondo, La Isabela, and Punta Rucia. Approximately 56% of the fishers in Villa Isabela do not belong to any association; however, during community consultations, the recent creation of an eel fishing cooperative and another for artisanal marine fishing was identified. Many fishers have migrated to eel fishing because it is much more profitable; however, this type of fishing is regulated and can only be done for 4 months a year. For the rest of the year, they focus on harvesting other species and transporting tourists.
29. The most commonly used fishing methods are hand lines, nets, traps or pots, and diving. Diving is done both by free diving (apnea) and with compressors (also known as hookah or narguile). The latter is particularly harmful to the health of fishers. It involves supplying air to the diver from a surface compressor through a hose connected directly to a regulator. This technique is associated with high rates of mortality and morbidity, potentially leading to permanent disability. Although it is prohibited, many fishers in the area continue to use it. Additionally, divers often catch parrotfish—a protected species that is key to coral reef health—so this method also contributes to environmental damage. For all these reasons, CODOPESCA is promoting the transition from compressor diving to raft fishing²⁵, and trap (*nasa*) fishing.²⁶
30. The coastal and marine ecosystems where most fishing takes place are primarily rocky environments, followed by coral reefs and sandy bottoms. To a lesser extent, fishing also occurs in muddy bottoms, seagrass beds, bays, and finally, mangroves. Aquaculture is still in its early stages; the country produces between 18,000 and 20,000 tons of fishery products, with 15% coming from aquaculture—mainly tilapia, shrimp, and pacu—across approximately 150 aquaculture farms.²⁷
31. **The agricultural sector** contributes one-tenth of the province's total production²⁸. In terms of output, in 2015²⁹, Puerto Plata had 12,276 productive units occupying 52% of the provincial area, with a total production surface of 95,758 hectares. Of these productive units, 14% are located in Luperón and 19% in Villa Isabela, while 7% of the productive hectares are in Luperón and 21% in Villa Isabela. The main agricultural products in the study area are cassava, corn, sweet potato, pumpkin, beans, broad beans, lime, plantain, tobacco, and cocoa.
32. In the higher areas, such as Solimán and Guatele, the predominant crop used to be coffee, but it was severely affected by the coffee leaf rust plague, leading many producers to switch to cocoa cultivation. In both cases, these are agroforestry practices that combine trees with crops, indicating that this is a group naturally receptive to the incorporation of greater vegetation cover.
33. The livestock sector is focused on pig, cattle, and goat production. Farmers in the area are organized into cooperatives, including at least one in Estero Hondo and another in La Jaiba, each with varying levels of current activity. Traditional practices in this sector have significantly contributed to deforestation, worsening the effects of drought. Around 15 years ago, there was a widespread belief that livestock and trees were incompatible, which led many farmers to cut down native vegetation to maximize grazing space. Drought is one of the biggest challenges they face, affecting both their pastures and production. Many now recognize that after years of deforestation, integrating livestock with agroforestry systems could bring significant benefits. This approach not only helps improve the productivity of their land but also increases the soil's capacity to absorb and retain water, helping to mitigate the impacts of future droughts.
34. In La Isabela, it is estimated that there are around 400 livestock farmers, of whom approximately 250 do not own land. This situation creates several problems, as many must drive their cows through the streets and, in some cases, cut fences to allow the animals to graze freely, which causes damage in various areas.

c) **Key Ecosystems**

35. The Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary covers a total area of 32.55 km², of which 68.88% is land and 31.12% is marine surface³⁰. Its main objective is the protection of marine mammals and the ecosystems on which they depend for survival. The La Hispaniola National Park covers a total area of 54.77 km², with 50.08% of the area being land and 49.92% marine. Of this total, 47.62% of the surface belongs to the Municipality of Luperón, and 7.44% to the Municipality of Villa Isabela. Its primary goal is to protect the cultural and archaeological heritage found in this area, as well as the ecosystems with high environmental sensitivity.

²³ First National Fisheries Census, National Statistics Office (ONE)

²⁴ However, during consultations with local fishermen, it was recorded that there were around 400 active fishermen in Punta Rucia and La Ensenada.

²⁵ Raft fishing is a method that some fishermen in the area have already begun using. It involves small fish aggregating platforms made from biodegradable materials (e.g., palm leaves), accompanied by buoys. These devices attract herbivorous fish that serve as bait for larger predatory species. Fishermen gather around the buoys and practice selective line fishing, mainly capturing large fish such as mahi-mahi. This technique provides greater economic benefits and reduces pressure on ecosystems and species.

²⁶ The trap (*nasa*) is a passive fishing method that consists of a trap typically made from plastic or metal mesh, designed to allow fish, crustaceans, or other marine organisms to enter but make it difficult for them to escape. It is placed on the seafloor and left for a period of time, attracting target species with bait. It is a low-impact technique when used responsibly.

²⁷ Polanco, M. (2021, February 11). The Dominican Republic produces only 20% of the fish it consumes. *El Caribe*.

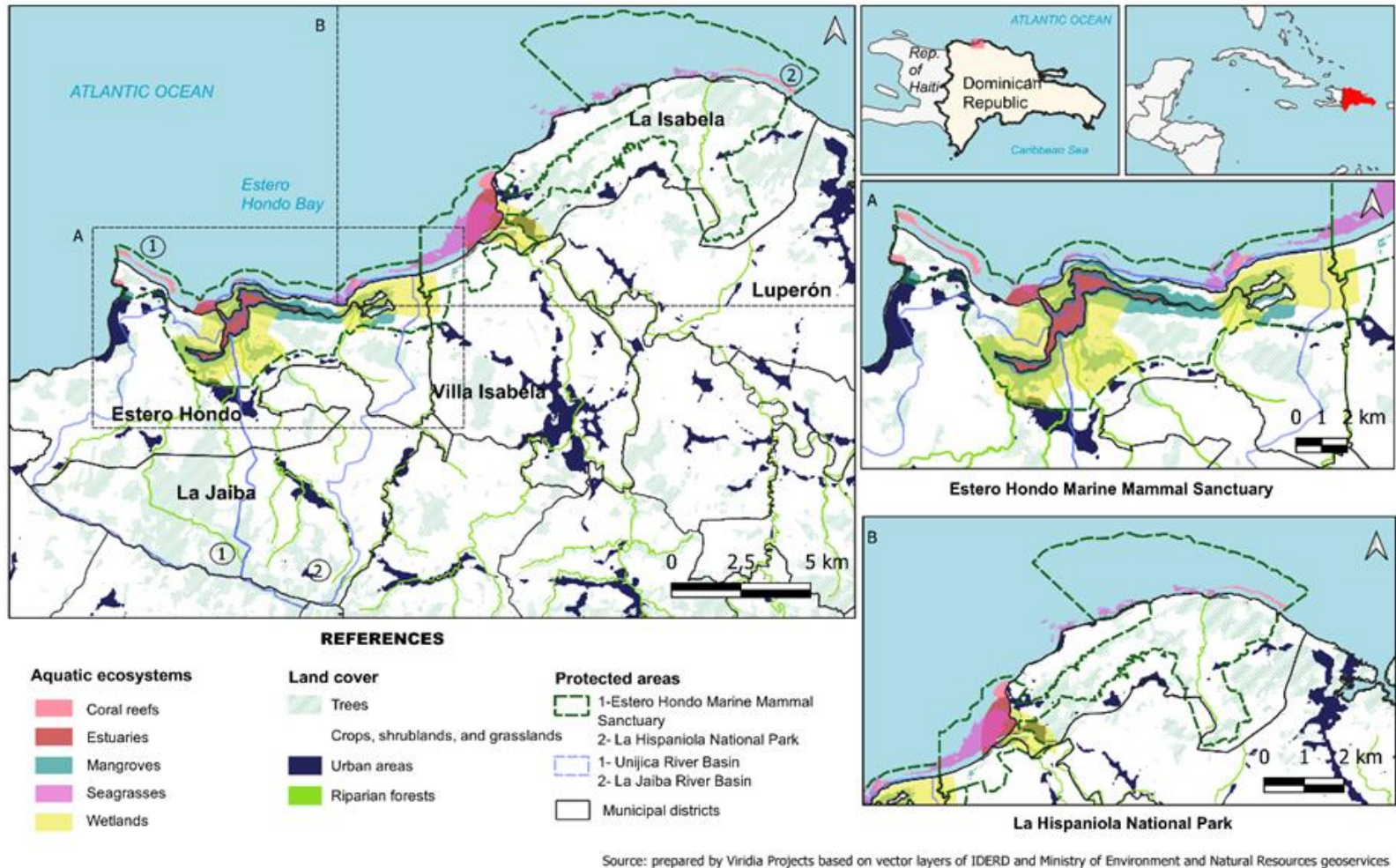
²⁸ Plan for the Local Economic Development of the Province of Puerto Plata, Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, 2016.

²⁹ 2015 National Agricultural Pre-Census. National Statistics Office (ONE).

³⁰ Sánchez, R. 2023a. Update of the Management Plan for the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary. Product 2: Environmental and Socioeconomic Assessment. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

36. The marine portion is characterized by the presence of **coral reefs** parallel to the coast on both the western and eastern sides of the study area. **Marine mammals** such as dolphins and whales are frequently spotted using this area as a passage zone, while sea turtles and manatees can be seen feeding between the wetland and the marine area.
37. Moving toward the coast, where the incidence of sunlight is higher, there are **seagrass meadows, rocky environments** in the intertidal zone, and **fish** communities associated with the most productive ecosystems in the area: coral reefs, seagrass beds, and mangroves. At the boundary of the terrestrial portion lies the beach area, which extends along the study area. The width of the dry beach is not very wide, with most of the area ranging between 10 and 15 meters in width, with some exceptions where it reaches up to 30 meters. In some sections, it is interrupted by mangrove forests and rocky promontories that reduce its size. Mangroves border the wetlands throughout the study area, associated with the beaches and wetlands. In Estero Hondo, they line the entire wetland, while in La Hispaniola, there is a forest of approximately 2 kilometres associated with the mouth of the Bajabonico River, parallel to the coast. The main ecosystems are shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3 Map of key ecosystems.



38. The coastline features significant rock formations, including **cliffs and coastal caves**. In Estero Hondo, notable formations such as Cerro de Burén and Punta de Estero Hondo showcase caves of unique beauty, surrounded by dry forest and coastal vegetation or in direct contact with the sea. The fauna in these areas is adapted to survive in harsh conditions such as waves, temperature, and sun exposure.
39. In the La Hispaniola National Park, a 7 km long³¹ **rocky cliff** formed by reef limestone generated in the Pleistocene, hosts secondary forests and a well-preserved remnant of primary forest. This diversity of tree layers supports a rich variety of resident fauna.
40. The area also includes important wetlands, such as the Estero Hondo wetland, which receives freshwater from several rivers and is protected by mangroves. This wetland is home to the Antillean manatee (*Trichechus manatus manatus*), which feeds on seagrass meadows and depends on the

³¹ López, A. 2019. Exploring the Villa of La Isabela and the La Hispaniola National Park: Interpretation Guide to the Archaeological Site of the Villa of La Isabela, the First European City in the Americas, and the La Hispaniola National Park.

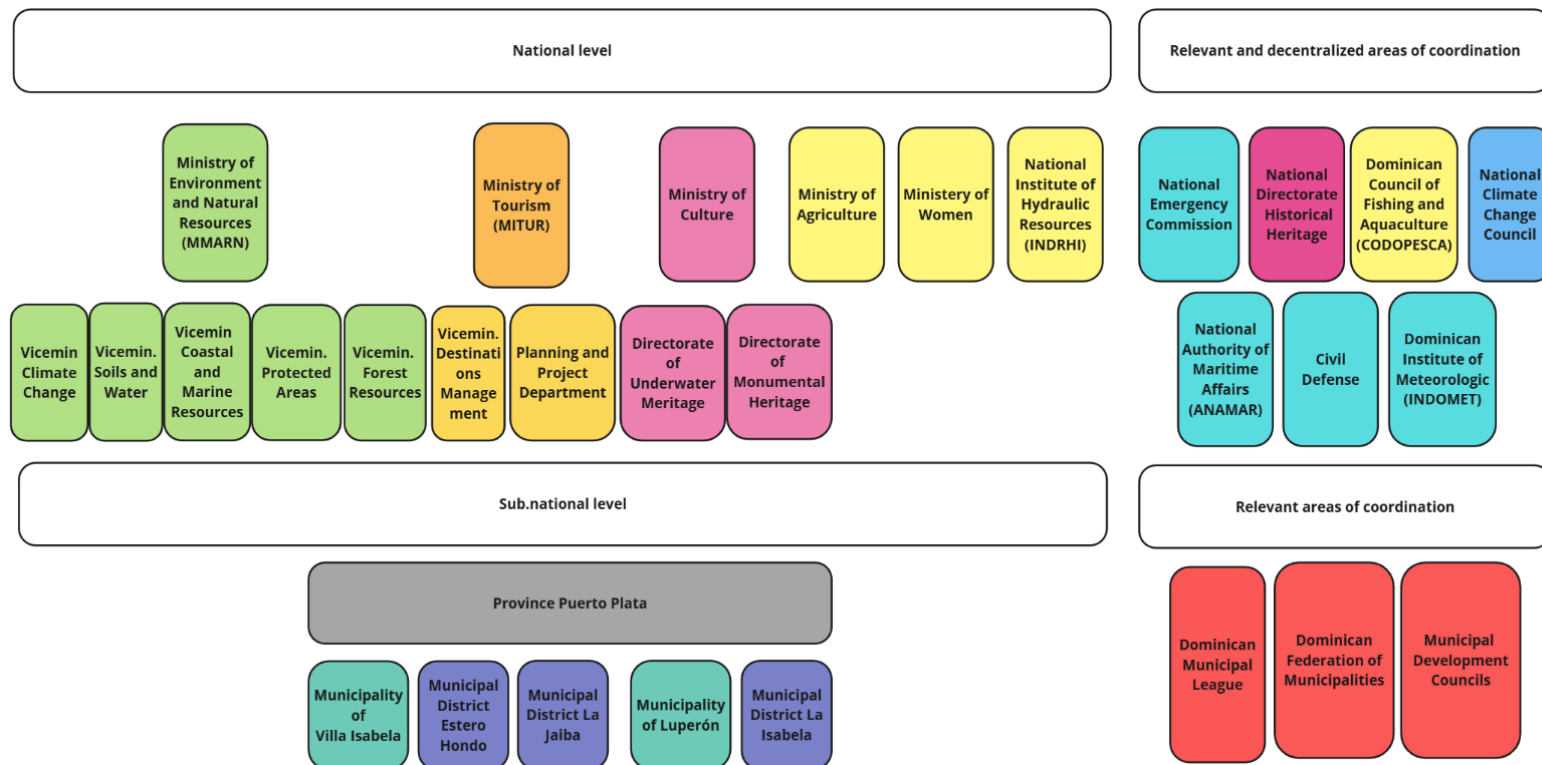
freshwater from the tributaries to survive.

41. On the eastern edge, within the flood zone of the estuary, are the wetlands "Sabana Pescao and Corto Pies," and further east, just before reaching the mouth of the Bajabonico River, lies the Las Colés lagoon, surrounded by mangroves. The Bajabonico River, the most important river in the Puerto Plata Province, forms the second most significant estuary in the study area.
42. **Riparian forests** are present in the upper basins of Unijica and La Jaiba, bordering freshwater bodies such as La Ciénaga, Los Pilonos, and Caño Miguel, as well as those that drain into Estero Hondo. In the La Hispaniola National Park, riparian forests are found around the Bajabonico River and the La Culebra stream.
43. The natural characteristics of the study area and its diversity of ecosystems host many **native and endemic species** of La Hispaniola. In Estero Hondo, 82.22% of the plant species are native, and 6.66% are endemic. Of the reptiles, 55% are native, and 45% are endemic, representing 5% of the country's endemic reptiles. 5% of the country's endemic amphibians are found in this area, and 17% of the birds are endemic. In the La Hispaniola National Park, 16% of the species are endemic, with 80% of plants being native and 16% endemic. In the marine zone, the manatee and sea turtles, native and endemic species of Hispaniola, are found.

d) Governance in the Project Area

44. This section describes the key governmental and non-governmental actors for the project and identifies those who should be considered to improve governance in the work area.
45. Key Governmental Actors: In the Dominican Republic, there are three levels of government: the national government, which encompasses the central institutions of the country and whose decisions at this level affect the entire national territory; the regional government, represented by the country through the provincial governorships for administrative and planning purposes; and finally, the municipal government, which is composed of municipalities and municipal districts. Each municipality and municipal district have its own city council, which is responsible for local administration. The city councils are headed by mayors (syndics) and have councillors (regidores) who are elected by popular vote.
46. Although in the Dominican Republic there is Law No. 176-07 of the National District and the Municipalities, granting them the responsibility and role of ordering their territory, the budgets, and capacities of municipal governments for these purposes are considerably limited. Given this reality, it is common for sectoral institutions to establish the rules and guidelines from the national level for their sectors, with limited participation and autonomy of local governments in decision-making. As a result, these decisions do not always reflect local realities.
47. Figure 4 shows the key governmental actors of the project and those relevant to the project.

Figure 4 Key governmental actors of the project and those relevant to the project.



48. The MMARN (Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources) is the entity responsible for the protection and sustainable management of the

environment and natural resources in the Dominican Republic. Through the Vice Ministry of Protected Areas, it oversees managing and conserving the country's protected areas. Both the La Hispaniola National Park and the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary have management plans that are currently in the process of being reviewed/updated. In the particular case of the Sanctuary, there is also an ongoing process of designing and implementing a co-management mechanism for the protected area, focused on the Estero Hondo community. Additionally, there is no integrated watershed management plan in place.

49. On the other hand, MITUR (Ministry of Tourism) is responsible for promoting and developing tourism in the Dominican Republic. Through its Vice Ministry of Destination Management, it ensures that tourist destinations meet quality and sustainability standards. No tourism strategies have been identified or implemented for the study area. Tourism management in protected areas is delegated to the MMARN and its ecotourism division (a department under the Vice Ministry of Protected Areas). There are initiatives in the region that could serve as a reference to promote community tourism initiatives in the work area.
50. The Ministry of Culture plays a key role in the management of the La Hispaniola National Park, as it works through this ministry and in coordination with the National Directorate of Monumental Heritage, which is a co-managing entity alongside the MMARN. They implement policies and programs for the preservation of the historical cultural heritage present in the park. Currently, the ruins of the La Isabela settlement, listed on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List, are in the process of being re-nominated for recognition as a World Heritage site, considering the richness of all the different types of heritage present in the area.
51. The Ministry of Agriculture is involved due to agricultural and livestock activities, and in coordination with CODOPESCA, it works on the management and regulation of fishing and aquaculture in the country, as well as promoting responsible and sustainable fishing practices and the development of aquaculture as a productive sector.
52. Other relevant institutions due to the nature of this project include the Ministry of Women, the National Council on Climate Change, and the National Emergency Commission.
53. **Key Non-Governmental Actors:** At the local level, a civil society group, primarily composed of women, has been identified in Estero Hondo. Similarly, in the Estero Hondo community, there is a group of tour guides who have joined initiatives to implement a co-management scheme for the protected area based on community involvement. In the fishing sector, fishers are an important group that is partially organized, with about a third of the fishers forming cooperatives or associations, while the remaining fraction is not organized.
54. Despite the limited number of groups and associations identified, there are ongoing spaces for participation outlined by Dominican laws. One of these spaces is the Municipal Development Councils, where social organizations, governmental institutions, and academia come together.
55. Other ways in which the relevant presence of non-governmental organizations is evident include through international cooperation. For example, in the case of La Hispaniola National Park, the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) has collaborated on actions to improve and facilitate visitation to this protected area. In the case of Estero Hondo, the presence of the Dominican Foundation for Marine Studies (FUNDEMAR) is notable, as it conducts monitoring and periodic manatee censuses as part of a national outreach project.

e) **Climate Context**

Observed Climate

56. The Dominican Republic, located in the Caribbean, enjoys a tropical climate with seasons marked by rainfall. Due to its topography and the influence of trade winds, various microclimates are recorded.³² For the study area, the two recorded climates are: a. Subhumid tropical regime with contrasting seasons (TsHEC) and b. Dry tropical regime with contrasting seasons (TSEC). There is a slight variation between their characteristic annual average temperatures (a. 25°C and 27°C, and b. 26.5°C and 29°C) and a marked difference in their rainfall regimes.
57. **Temperature:** In the northern coast, the largest extent of this area shows a regular temperature range fluctuating between 26°C and 28°C, with exceptions around the Bay of Luperón where the average temperature is 25°C. This phenomenon occurs due to a particular convergence of winds in the central sector of the foothills of the Northern Mountain Range, caused by the narrowing of the trade winds in the Bajabonico River basin and the local "slope-valley" effect. The intra-annual temperature fluctuation for the entire study area is 4°C.³³
58. The projections made in the framework of the Capacity Building project to advance the process of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) in the Dominican Republic (2022)³⁴ under 4 RCP scenarios for the period 2021-2100 reported for the province of Puerto Plata that temperature will increase by 0.5C to 1C until 2040 in all scenarios. In the 2041/2060 period the temperature increase will be from 0.5C to 1C for RCP 2.6 and from 1C to 1.5 C for the rest of the scenarios. In the 2061/2080 interval the temperature increase will be from 0.5C to 1C in the 2.6 scenario and from 1C to 1.5C in the RCP 4.5 and 6.0 scenarios while for RCP 8.5 it is estimated to be from 1.5C to 2C. For the 2081 to 2100 time range the temperature increase is projected to be 0.5C to 1C (RCP 2.5) and 1.5C to 2 C for the 4.5 and 6.0 scenarios and 2C to 3C in the worst-case scenario (RCP 8.5).
59. The historical analysis observed between 1960 and 2018³⁵ indicates a decrease of up to 20% in cold days, an increase of between 10% and 20% in the frequency of hot days/heatwaves, and a 20% increase in the frequency of warm nights. As well as the average annual temperature has risen by about 0.45°C, with the most pronounced warming occurring during the summer months (June, July, August) and the fall (September, October, November)³⁶.
60. Regarding **sea surface temperature (SST)**, an increase of 0.6°C has been recorded over the past 30 years (from 1990 to 2019). Long-term (1957–

³² [Climatic Description of the Dominican Republic](#) by the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development, with data from INDOMET (Dominican Institute of Meteorology)

³³ DAI Study 2022 – Risk Study on Climate Change in Coastal Areas

³⁴ Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Dominican Republic. [Project NAP: Building capacity to advance the national adaptation plan process in the Dominican Republic.](#)

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ World Bank – Climate Change Knowledge Portal. Dominican Republic. Retrieved October 2021

2020) SST trends study shows clear warming trends for Caribbean Sea **total SST** change [°C] 0.97 ± 0.10 , Warming rate [°C/dec] 0.15 ± 0.02 . This study reveals that in comparison with other places the Caribbean Sea **SST** is warming fast³⁷

61. **Precipitation:** In the area of **La Hispaniola National Park**, near Luperón and Villa Isabela, the rainfall regime corresponds to the *subhumid tropical regime with contrasting seasons (TsHEC)* and is characterized by precipitation peaks in May and October, with an annual accumulated rainfall volume between **800–1200 mm**. Toward the west, the **climate becomes more arid**—this is the case, for example, in the **Estero Hondo** area. The classification corresponding to this area is the dry tropical regime with contrasting seasons (TSEC), which also shows precipitation peaks in May and October, but with a lower total annual accumulated rainfall of **400–800 mm** and the **presence of a seasonal drought** lasting approximately **1–2 months**.³⁸
62. For the province of **Puerto Plata**³⁹ the 2021/2040 interval, the increase in **precipitation** will be 0 to 5% (RCP 2.6 and 6.0) and a decrease of 0 to 5% is estimated for scenarios 4.5 and 8.5. By 2041/2060 there will be an increase in precipitation of 0 to 5% in RCP 2.6 while in the rest of the scenarios a decrease in precipitation of 0 to 5% is projected. In the period 2061 to 2080 there will be an increase in precipitation from 0 to 5% in RCP 2.6 while in the rest of the scenarios the precipitation is projected to decrease from 5 to 10% in RCP 4.5, from 0 to 5% in RCP 6.0 and from 15 to 20% in RCP 8.5. For the period 2081 to 2100 there will be a reduction in precipitation of 0 to 5% in RCP 2.5, 5 to 10% in RCP 4.5, 10 to 15% in RCP 6.0 and 20 to 25% in RCP 8.5.
63. Analysing the periods between 1988 and 2018 for rainfall patterns, the northern coast has shown a **total annual decrease of between 11% and 25%**. In terms of daily precipitation analysis, an increase of 14 mm has been recorded, along with a **7% rise in the number of days with accumulated rainfall above the 95th percentile**⁴⁰. This is related to the increase in extreme weather events in the Dominican Republic, which rose from nearly one average event per year during 1980–1999 to two per year in the period from 2000–2021⁴¹.
64. In recent years, the province of Puerto Plata has faced a severe drought, considered one of the worst in the past 20 years^{42,43}. This situation has been exacerbated by a significant decrease in rainfall, with records showing, for example, that in February 2019, rainfall was 52% below expected levels.
65. **Sea Level:** The Caribbean Sea has experienced an average sea level rise of 1.7 mm/year (+/-1.3) during the period from 1993 to 2010⁴⁴. According to the NAP study⁴⁵ the sea level rise will have the follow behaviour, during the period 2021 to 2040 sea level rise will range from 0.2 to 0.4 cm for scenarios 2.6, 4.5, 6.0 and for RCP 8.5 sea level rise will increase from 0.4 cm to 0.6 cm. In the 2041/2060-time frame, sea level rise will increase by 0.2 cm for each scenario starting in the range of 0.8 cm to 1 cm up to 1.6 cm to 1.8 cm in the RCP 8.5 scenario. 2061/2080 sea level rise will be from 1cm to 1.2cm (RCP2.6), up to 1.6cm to 1.8cm RCP 8.5 (with a difference of 0.2cm for each scenario). As in the previous scenarios, for the 2081/2100 interval, sea level rise is estimated to increase by about 0.2 cm for each scenario, starting in a range between 1.2 cm to 1.4 cm and 1.8 cm to 2 cm (RCP 8.5).
66. **Cyclonic Storms and Hurricanes:** In the Caribbean Sea basin, the **cyclone season** occurs between **June and November**, with peak activity between mid-August and late October—these are the most intense months for the Dominican coast. However, and variably, cyclonic storms can occur at any time during the season and even outside of it⁴⁶. Approximately 10 tropical storms form each year over the Atlantic Ocean, the Caribbean, and the Gulf of Mexico. **According to historical data from the 20th century, of the hurricanes that reached the Caribbean area, 42% made landfall.**
67. Between 1982 and 2020, the Caribbean, its surrounding regions, and the main Atlantic hurricane development area have experienced a marked increase in **storm intensity**. Sea surface temperatures (**SSTs**) in these areas are rising annually at a rate of 0.0219 °C per year, and per season at 0.0280 °C per year. In addition, the **Atlantic Warm Pool**—a key driver of regional climate and hurricane activity—is expanding by approximately 0.51 km² each decade⁴⁷.
68. During the study period between 1981 and 2021, a total of 42 tropical storms were recorded, with up to 6 occurring in a single municipality⁴⁸.

Projected Climate

69. In order to visualize the **projected climate for the years 2030, 2050, and 2070** based on historical data on precipitation (maximum accumulated in a day) and **temperature** (number of hot days), the following projections have been made using the RCP 8.5 scenario of the MPI-ESM-LR model (MPI). For the analysis of **sea level rise**, the RCP 4.5 scenario has also been used.
70. **Temperature:** Regarding changes in average temperature, the models indicate an incremental trend in values between **1°C and up to 3°C by the**

³⁷ Kessler, A., Goris, N., & Lauvset, S. K. (2022). Observation-based Sea surface temperature trends in Atlantic large marine ecosystems. *Progress in Oceanography*, 208, 102902. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pocean.2022.102902>

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Dominican Republic. [Project NAP: Building capacity to advance the national adaptation plan process in the Dominican Republic.](#)

⁴⁰ Kessler, A., Goris, N., & Lauvset, S. K. (2022). Observation-based Sea surface temperature trends in Atlantic large marine ecosystems. *Progress in Oceanography*, 208, 102902. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pocean.2022.102902>

⁴¹ Brassiolo, P., Estrada, R., Vicuña, S., Odrizola, J., Toledo, M., Juncosa, F., Fajardo, G., Schargrotsky, E. (2023). [Global challenges, regional solutions: Latin America and the Caribbean in the face of the climate and biodiversity crisis \(report\).](#)

⁴² Newsroom Infobae. (2023, November 6). [Goodbye uncertainty: Check out the weather conditions in Puerto Plata.](#) Infobae.

⁴³ Tejeda, L. (2019, March 13). [In 20 years, the country has experienced six cycles of severe drought.](#) Listín Diario.

⁴⁴ WHO, PAHO UNCCD, Health and climate change: country profile 2021: Dominican Republic

⁴⁵ Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Dominican Republic. [Project NAP: Building capacity to advance the national adaptation plan process in the Dominican Republic.](#)

⁴⁶ DAI Study 2022 – Climate Change Risk Assessment in Coastal Areas.

⁴⁷ Keneshia Hibbert, Equisha Glenn, Thomas M. Smith and Jorge E. González-Cruz. 2023. Changes to Sea Surface Temperatures and Vertical Wind Shear and Their Influence on Tropical Cyclone Activity in the Caribbean and the Main Developing Region. *Atmosphere* 2023, 14(6), 999; <https://doi.org/10.3390/atmos14060999>

⁴⁸ Ibid.

year 2050 and changes greater than **2°C and up to 6°C by 2070**⁴⁹. As for the increase in hot days/heatwaves, the projections suggest an increase of 24% to **90%** towards the final analysis period (RCP 4.5), and between 58% and 100% in the RCP 8.5 scenario.

71. Regarding **sea surface temperature**, in the **RCP 4.5** scenario, an increase of +2°C is observed, reaching a temperature slightly below 28°C by 2070. In the RCP 8.5 scenario, the projected increase is +1.5°C, but by 2070, it reaches 28.5°C.
72. **Precipitation:** Future climate scenarios have been based on historical climate data from the Dominican Republic provided by the Dominican Institute of Meteorology (INDOMET) and analysed by experts from the Water Centre for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC). The conclusions of these studies indicate that **total annual precipitation by the 2050 horizon would decrease by an average of 15% nationwide**. By **2070**, this value would worsen to a **17% decrease** based on the baseline average (1960–2000). According to the Dominican Republic's 2021 NDC, the consistency of the results among models under a radiative forcing of 8.5 W/m² is 87%.
73. The southern and western regions of the country will be the most affected by the decrease in precipitation by 2050 and 2070, while the eastern and northern regions could even experience slight positive⁵⁰ changes. Beyond the 2070 horizon, a decrease in precipitation is projected across the entire national territory.
74. In areas where seasonal drought occurs, **the period of relative drought between the months of July and August is expected to become more intense**. Particularly noteworthy is the observation that *“at a local level and under any type of radiative forcing, the models largely agree on a decrease in total rainfall of up to 50% compared to historical values in the provinces of Independencia, Puerto Plata, San Juan, and Santiago”*⁵¹.
75. **Sea Level:** On average, for the entire period from 2020 to 2070, an **increase of 0.14 m.** is expected under the **RCP 4.5** scenario, while under the **RCP 8.5** scenario, an **increase of 0.16 m.**⁵² is projected.
76. **Cyclonic Storms and Hurricanes:** Although the results are not conclusive due to high variability⁵³, projections suggest a decrease in the number of storms toward the end of the century, but an **increase in their intensity and in the frequency of Category 4** storms (winds between 209–251 km/h) **and 5** storms (winds over 252 km/h)⁵⁴. Additionally, the World Bank's Climate and Development Report for the Dominican Republic indicates that under the RCP 8.5 scenario, a sea level rise of +0.5 meters is projected by 2050, and an average of +0.6⁵⁵ meters by 2069.
77. **Marine Climate Risks:** In the Caribbean, the physical effects or hazards of climate change include rising sea surface temperatures, an increase in extreme weather events, changes in precipitation patterns, sea level rise and flooding, and ocean acidification, among other factors (CEMEX 2021).
78. Monnereau *et al.* (2015) compared the **exposure of the fisheries sector** across various Caribbean countries, based on parameters such as sea level rise, changes in sea surface temperature, and ocean acidification. It was reported that both the islands of the Greater Antilles, including the Dominican Republic, and the main arc of the Lesser Antilles are experiencing **the highest levels of hazard exposure**.

Observed Impacts

79. The Dominican Republic is among the countries most exposed to natural disasters⁵⁶. An analysis of Climate Change Vulnerability Hotspots shows that 13 provinces exhibit high to very high⁵⁷ levels of vulnerability. **Puerto Plata** is located in one of the provinces classified as **high-risk**.
80. Among the **main vulnerabilities** are: **i) exposure to extreme events; ii) the impact of rising sea temperatures**, which affects coral reefs and, in turn, has consequences for coastal protection, tourism, and fisheries; **iii) sea level rise, impacting coastal infrastructure and communities; and iv) changes in precipitation patterns**⁵⁸.
81. The last prolonged **drought**, lasting more than six years, caused significant agricultural and livestock losses, increased water restrictions for the population, and wreaked havoc on ecosystems, affecting both flora and fauna—especially manatees, which need fresh water to survive. On the other hand, **hurricanes** Irma and Maria, both in September 2017, caused significant coastal erosion, **displacing much of the beaches into offshore sandbanks**, thereby reducing accessible areas for swimmers and further impacting tourism in the region. Additionally, **the rise in sea level** combined with the increase in **storms** is threatening the **historical heritage** of La Isabela, where the remains of Christopher Columbus's first settlement on the island are located. Situated on the seashore for over 500 years, the wear of time is being exacerbated by severe damage caused by accelerated coastal erosion. Out at sea, fishers report that they can **no longer find fish near the shore, and some species**, such as snappers (Lutjanidae) and groupers (Serranidae), **are no longer present**. **Corals** have been affected by rising temperatures (in 1987–1988 was reported coral **bleaching event**, affecting reefs up to 85m in depth in DR)⁵⁹ and ocean acidification, causing bleaching; and **seagrass** meadows are declining due to anthropogenic pressures such as overfishing and tourism, with rising sea temperatures adding an extra layer of stress for these species.
82. **Marine heatwave (MHW)** events are increasing in both frequency and duration across the Caribbean coral reefs now experience on average 5 MHW events annually, compared to 1 per year in the early 1980s with recent events lasting on average 14 days⁶⁰. Caribbean coral reefs have warmed during the last 150 years (1871–2020) by an average of 0.18°C per decade⁶¹. The most extreme warming events on coral cover in the Caribbean

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ WHO, PAHO UNCCD, Health and climate change: country profile 2021: Dominican Republic

⁵¹ NDC 2021 Dominican Republic.

⁵² DAI Study 2022 – Risk Assessment of Climate Change in Coastal Areas.

⁵³ World Bank (2023). Dominican Republic: Climate and Development Report.

⁵⁴ PAHO UNCCD, Health and climate change: country profile 2021: Dominican Republic

⁵⁵ Information referenced from the “Risk Analysis on Climate Change” by Fundación Plenitud, DAI SPRL, and IRMA.

⁵⁶ “World Bank Supports the Dominican Republic to Be Better Prepared for Disaster Risks” World Bank, 2022.

⁵⁷ “Climate Change in the Dominican Republic”, National Council for Climate Change of the Dominican Republic.

⁵⁸ “Climate change and The Dominican Republic”, Walter Vergara and Seraphine Haeussling, (MEPYD).

⁵⁹ Jackson JBC, Donovan MK, Cramer KL, Lam VV (editors). (2014) Status and Trends of Caribbean Coral Reefs : 1970–2012. Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network, IUCN, Gland, Switzerland. Impact studies that directly inform the proposed measures.

⁶⁰ Bove CB, Mudge L, Bruno JF (2022) A century of warming on Caribbean reefs. PLOS Clim 1(3) : e0000002. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.Pclm.0000002>

⁶¹ Ibid.

occurred in 1998, 2005, and 2010.

83. The NOAA Coral Reef Watch which monitors daily global 5 km (0.05°) satellite coral **bleaching heat stress** since 1985, to present, reported that the first and second global **coral bleaching events** occurred in 1998 and 2010, respectively. The third event took place between 2014 and 2017, during which 68.2% of the world's reef area experienced bleaching-level heat stress. The fourth and most recent event occurred from 1 January 2023 to 31 May 2025, affecting 83.9% of the world's coral reef area. Along the northern coast of the Dominican Republic, coral reefs reached Bleaching Alert Level 4, indicating extreme **heat stress** that can lead to multi-species or near complete mortality of reef ecosystems.

Projected Impacts

84. The projected impacts in the 2017⁶² USAID study for the 2050–2070 horizon show results in 5 main areas: in coastal zones (1), areas dedicated to tourism would be affected. At the same time, there would be an increase in the salinization of aquifers. Other notable impacts include **beach erosion and the loss of fish habitats**, and consequently, fishing areas. **The quantity and quality of available water would decrease** (2), generating an additional **impact on the agricultural sector** (3), where increased pests and diseases, soil erosion, and damage to crops and livelihoods are projected, and the **health sector** (4), with a rise in food insecurity and an increase in waterborne and vector-borne diseases. **The loss of ecosystem and forest diversity** (5), as well as increased hillside erosion, is also projected.
85. It has been estimated that by 2050, the coastal areas of the Dominican Republic could experience an average sea level rise of +0.5 meters (under RCP 8.5 scenario), and by 2069, an average of 0.6 meters (RCP 8.5 scenario). **Because of this sea level rise, coastal erosion is expected to worsen, ecosystems will be affected, population displacement may occur, and there could be contamination and interruptions in the water supply**⁶³.
86. Projections for the future indicate a concerning trajectory: even under the most conservative scenarios, by 2050, most of the world's coral reefs could experience widespread **bleaching** every year.⁶⁴ If the current linear trend in sea surface temperature (SST) increase continues, **Caribbean coral reefs are expected to warm** by an additional ~1.5°C on average by 2100⁶⁵.
87. According to the modelling conducted for the report “*Dominican Republic: Country Climate and Development Report*” by the World Bank, 2023, **climate-induced GDP deviations** from the baseline scenario could reach **16.7% of GDP by 2050** (The baseline scenario is a projection up to the year 2050 without any damage resulting from climate change)⁶⁶.
88. **Table 1** presents the main climate threats and impacts, along with the proposed adaptation actions, grouped by area of impact. **Figure 5** illustrates the main environmental features of the area—including marine, coastal, and upstream watershed zones—together with key economic activities and the principal climate hazards and their impacts.

Table 1. Correspondence between the main climate threats and impacts and adaptation actions, grouped by impact area.

| Impact area | Climate threat | Impacts | Proposed adaptation actions (sectoral) | Proposed adaptation actions (crosscutting) |
|-------------|--|--|---|---|
| Tourism | Sea level rise Extreme weather events | Beach loss Reduction in tourism revenue (-7% to -16%) ⁶⁷ Reduction in tourist attractions Decreased income and jobs in the tourism sector ⁶⁸ Forced migration. Impact on social and cultural cohesion due to loss of land and natural resources | Design of a strategy and plan for resilient and sustainable local tourism development ^{69,70} Support the operationalization of interpretation centres. Strengthening visitor experience and livelihoods through improved accesses, trails, and interpretive signage Climate change awareness and interpretation of Natural and Cultural Heritage Promote access to training programs in sustainable tourism and hospitality services. | Design and implementation of an inter-institutional technical coordination mechanism for the management of coastal-marine and cultural resources in the face of climate change Improved socio-environmental data registries for climate-resilient decision-making Communication and sensitization campaign for the local population on climate change, protected areas and cultural heritage. Training in climate change, mainstreaming and risk |

⁶² USAID & CCIS. (2017). *Climate risk in Dominican Republic: Country risk profile*.

⁶³ “Dominican Republic: Climate and Development Report” World Bank, 2023.

⁶⁴ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. 2025. *Current Global Bleaching: Status Update & Data Submission*. Coral Reef Watch

⁶⁵ Bove CB, Mudge L, Bruno JF (2022) A century of warming on Caribbean reefs. PLOS Clim 1(3): e0000002. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pclm.0000002>

⁶⁶ Ibidem.

⁶⁷ According to the World Bank, disruptions caused by the increased frequency and magnitude of extreme events are expected to reduce tourism revenues from 7% to 16% by mid-century. Source: The Dominican Republic Country Climate and Development Report (CCDR), World Bank, 2023.

⁶⁸ Many economic sectors are highly dependent on tourism, and any decline in activity in this sector can have significant and negative consequences for the local economy, threatening numerous jobs, not only in direct tourism activities, but also in related sectors.

⁶⁹ Rathe, Laura, Carol Franco, Lourdes Russa, Marina García y Anisorc Brito (2022) Plan de Acción de Adaptación al cambio climático y sistema de monitoreo y evaluación del Municipio de Miches, Provincia El Seibo, República Dominicana. CNCCMDL, MITUR, Ministerio Ambiente, MEPLYD. AFD, Adapt'Action / Fundación PLENITUD/ DAI, SPRL. República Dominicana.

⁷⁰ Third communication on climate change, 2017, NDC-RD 2020

| Impact area | Climate threat | Impacts | Proposed adaptation actions (sectoral) | Proposed adaptation actions (crosscutting) |
|-------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Fisheries ⁷¹ | Sea level rise Ocean acidification Increased atmospheric temperature. Extreme weather events | Impact on fisheries and fisherfolk livelihoods ⁷² Loss of marine biodiversity (mangroves, coral reefs) Damage to coral reefs and seagrasses affecting fish habitats ⁷³ Alteration of food webs affecting fish migration patterns ⁷⁴ Coral bleaching and death impacting marine ecosystems. Hypoxic zones affecting fish distribution and survival | Technical assistance to promote fishing cooperativism as an adaptation strategy. Develop aquaculture as a livelihood option to withstand climate-related impacts ⁷⁵ Promote resilient and environmentally sustainable fishing practices ⁷⁶ | management for coastal and marine resources, tourism, and cultural heritage. Strengthening environmental and social risk management systems, including gender issues Promote the systematization of the Project's lessons learned and their dissemination. |
| Ecosystems and Biodiversity | Sea level rise Ocean acidification Increased atmospheric temperature. Extreme precipitation and hurricanes Droughts | Loss of coastal and marine habitats Inundation of low-lying areas, affecting coastal vegetation, wetlands, and nesting sites for sea turtles and seabirds ⁷⁷ Damage to seagrasses and coral reefs from storm waves Reduction in forest biodiversity Alteration in productivity of ecosystems and their goods and services Coral bleaching and death due to rising ocean temperatures ⁷⁸ Impact on freshwater species like manatee due to reduced biodiversity losses in rocky environments, seagrasses, and mangroves Sensitivity of native and endemic species to climate change impacts and arrival of exotic species ⁷⁹ Death of mangroves due to desiccation and heat waves ⁸⁰ Changes in ocean upwelling and species migration patterns Hypoxic zones due to decreased solubility of gases in warmer water Ocean acidification affecting calcareous organisms and exacerbating coastal erosion ⁸¹ Forests impacted by saline intrusion and heat waves ⁸² | Support for the development of protected area co-management plans with climate change considerations Restoration of coastal ecosystems (including corals, mangroves, grasslands) Upstream reforestation | Exchange of experiences |
| Infrastructure | Coastal erosion Sea level rise | Threat to historical heritage (La Isabela National Park) where coastal erosion threatens the stability of the buildings, and some have already been lost. | Protection and reinforcement of cultural heritage from coastal erosion | |
| Water resources ⁸³ | Increased salinization Reduced precipitation Prolonged droughts | Reduction in the quantity and quality of available water Negative impact on agriculture and livestock | Upstream reforestation Restoration of coastal ecosystems | |

⁷¹ Coastal erosion and the advance of saline intrusion, a consequence of rising sea levels and increased frequency and intensity of hurricanes and storms, together with rising sea surface temperatures and ocean acidification, damage coastal habitats such as mangroves and coral reefs, which are crucial for marine and coastal biodiversity and, consequently, for fisheries. Thus, around 860 fishermen and fisherwomen in the project area see their livelihoods affected by a decrease in marine biodiversity.

⁷² Monnereau et al. (2015) compared exposure of the fisheries sector across the various countries of the Caribbean, based on metrics including sea level rise, sea surface temperature change and ocean acidification. It was reported that both the Greater Antillean islands and the main Lesser Antillean Arc, which includes the Dominican Republic are experiencing highest levels of hazard exposure.

⁷³ Sea level rise causes changes in the incidence of sunlight due to changes in depth which affects seagrasses and corals living closer to shore and all associated organisms (Third communication on climate change, 2017; Peace and Chamber, 2016).

⁷⁴ The increase in sea temperature causes changes in species stratification and changes in ocean upwelling which results in the alteration of food webs, which can influence the migration of fish, mammals and seabirds (USAID, 2017; Bindoff, et al, 2019).

⁷⁵ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. (2022). [Fisheries and aquaculture adaptations to climate change](#). In The state of world fisheries and aquaculture 2022.

⁷⁶ Ibid.

⁷⁷ Losses of dry beach affect the nesting of seabirds and sea turtles, the latter return each year to nest on the same beach where they were born increasing their vulnerability to extinction due to loss of nesting areas (Peace and Chamber, 2016, Third communication on climate change, 2017; Bindoff, et al, 2019).

⁷⁸ Coral reefs are severely affected by rising ocean temperatures (USAID, 2017) which can cause their death of symbiotic zooxanthellae and consequently the death of coral which gradually causes the death or habitat loss of the rest of the organisms associated with this rich ecosystem (Third communication on climate change, 2017; Hoegh-Guldberg, 2014).

⁷⁹ The native and endemic species of the country are especially sensitive to the changes generated by climate change, they are species specifically adapted to the conditions of their habitat and their resilience to the impacts generated by climate change is not very high, also the change in the stratification of species will allow the arrival of exotic species due to the increase in sea temperature (Bindoff, et al, 2019).

⁸⁰ The forests are also affected by the reduction of rainfall including mangroves that die due to excessive desiccation and heat waves or because they require different salinity gradients in the water they receive (Bindoff, et al, 2019).

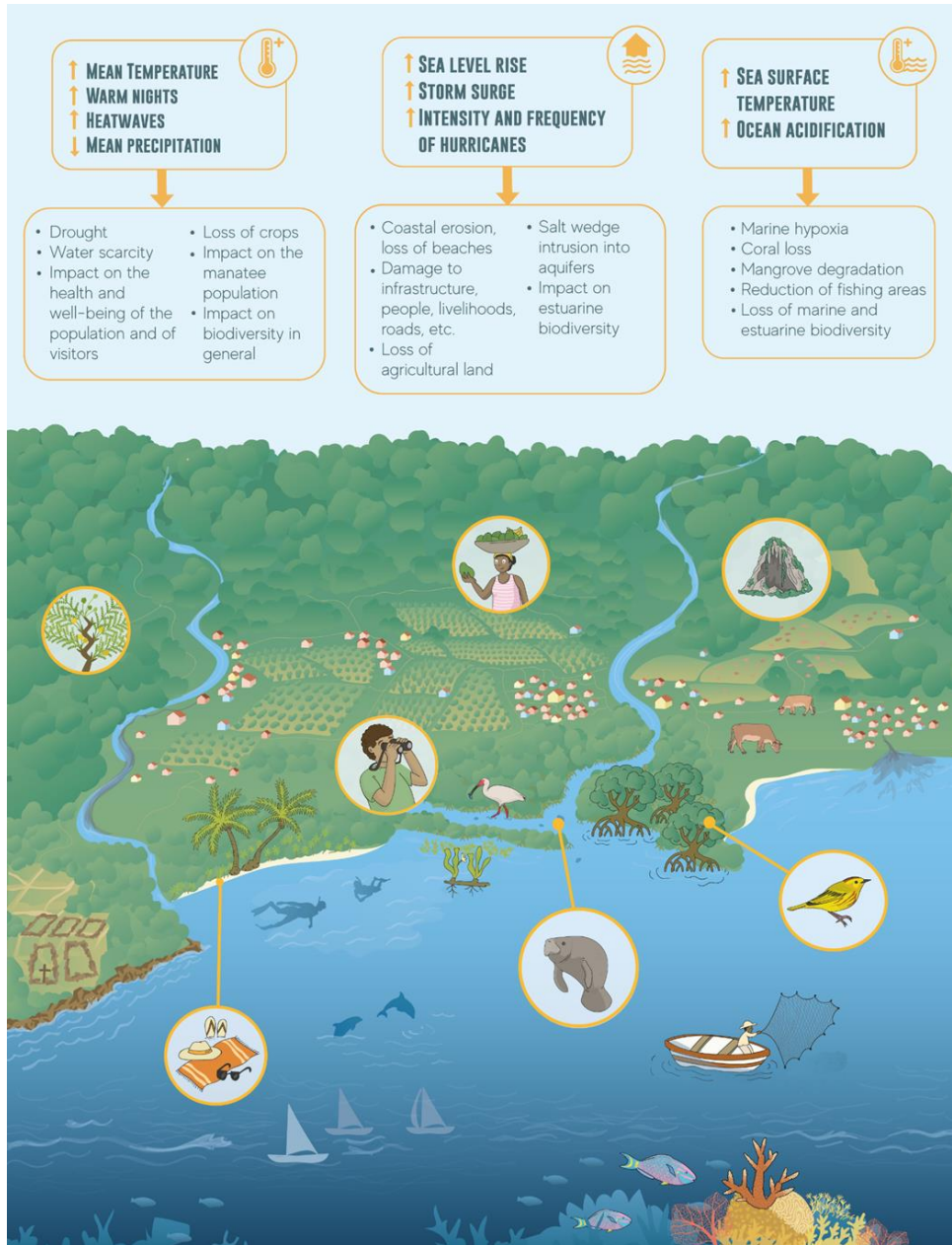
⁸¹ Acidification of seawater decreases the growth of coral reefs, affecting the productivity of the ecosystem and decreasing the input of coral sands to the coast which exacerbates coastal erosion. Seawater acidification coupled with marine hypoxia exacerbates the sensitivity of organisms to rising sea temperatures (Bindoff, et al, 2019; Peace and Chamber, 2016).

⁸² Forests can be impacted by the intrusion of saline crust produced by sea rise causing salinization of soils, this coupled with extreme drought can cause desertification (Third communication on climate change, 2017).

⁸³ The decrease in precipitation prolongs periods of drought and, together with the increase in temperatures, aggravates water security. This has serious consequences for the quality of life due to the lack of water for domestic consumption and the quality of tourist services. However, the new aqueduct work being carried out by State Public Works ("Obras Públicas del Estado") in the area will cover the provision of water for the population's consumption. For this reason, this proposal does not include interventions related to water provision.

| Impact area | Climate threat | Impacts | Proposed adaptation actions (sectoral) | Proposed adaptation actions (crosscutting) |
|---|----------------|---|--|--|
| | | | (including corals, mangroves, grasslands) | |
| Agriculture and livestock ⁸⁴ | Droughts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soil erosion - Increased pests and diseases - Reduced agricultural and livestock production. - Increase in production costs, loss of income and jobs in the agricultural and livestock sector. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upstream reforestation (silvopastoral and agroforestry systems) Support for sustainable agrotourism and agricultural micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) | |

Figure 5 Major hazards and impacts in the project area.



⁸⁴ Drought not only reduces the amount of water but also has an erosive effect on the soil with a desertification effect that is accelerated by the frequent occurrence of maximum rainfall events (associated with hurricanes and sporadic storms).

f) Non-climatic drivers

89. The most relevant non-climatic drivers identified in the areas of La Hispaniola National Park, the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary, and the municipalities to which they belong are listed below:
90. **Pollution from fishing vessels:** In La Hispaniola National Park and the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary, fishing vessels in poor condition, due to inadequate maintenance, leak fuel and oil, contaminating the waters. Impacts: i) water quality; ii) death of marine organisms; iii) human health; iv) tourism: pollution reduces tourist appeal and affects the local economy.
91. **Anchoring damaging the seabed:** The lack of regulation and zoning for anchoring by fishing and tourist vessels harms the seabed, destroying seagrass beds and coral reefs. This affects marine habitats and their biodiversity, including the habitat of the parrotfish, which is key to ecosystem stability and sand production. It also impacts ecosystem services, reducing coastal protection and sustainable fishing.
92. **Practices of tourist boats** that take visitors to Cayo Arena (around 7,000 tourists per year): These boats travel at high speeds, causing damage to coral reefs and increasing the risk of collisions with marine mammals, especially manatees and sea turtles. The noise and waves generated by the boats also impact on these species, which are adapted to live in calm waters.
93. **Harmful fishing practices:** The use of prohibited fishing gear, such as fixed mesh and trawl nets, leads to the death of many non-target organisms and causes the drowning of manatees and sea turtles, in addition to damaging coral reefs. As previously described, some fishers engage in rudimentary spearfishing using a boat-based air compressor instead of proper diving equipment, allowing them to remain underwater for several hours. This technique poses serious health risks and can even be fatal, while also intensifying fishing pressure. Overexploitation has pushed many marine species—as well as mangroves, coral reefs, and seagrass beds—to the brink. Fishing bans and legal catch sizes are often ignored, and there have been reports of illegal manatee hunting. Additionally, eel fishing at the mouth of the Bajabonico River targets juvenile eels that take between 17 and 30 years to mature. This threatens the species' sustainability, as the population is unlikely to recover, even with fishing restricted to four months a year.
94. **Wastewater discharges:** In the Bajabonico watershed and the Estero Hondo Sanctuary, chemical discharges from two car washes and untreated wastewater from homes—due to the lack of a treatment plant in the area—pollute local water bodies. During the rainy season, septic tanks overflow, causing this wastewater to flow into rivers, degrading water quality and harming aquatic life. In the specific case of the Estero Hondo Sanctuary, this pollution impacts marine species such as manatees, which require clean freshwater for drinking. Additionally, corals are highly sensitive to disturbances caused by sediment and nutrient-rich, turbid waters.
95. **Agricultural and livestock practices that cause deforestation and pollution:** Agricultural and livestock activities are contributing to deforestation and environmental contamination. Deforestation in the upper region of the Bajabonico River leads to flooding and increased sedimentation in coastal areas. The excessive use of pesticides and fertilizers, along with poor management of animal waste, pollutes water and soil, negatively impacting biodiversity and increasing erosion. The diversion of waterways and ongoing deforestation alter the local microclimate, leading to more frequent and severe droughts. Mangrove deforestation and forest fires further worsen the situation, particularly in protected areas where monitoring and enforcement are weak.
96. **Poor solid waste management:** Due to a lack of infrastructure and environmental education, people often dispose of garbage in streams and bodies of water. Municipalities lack the capacity for proper waste management, resulting in inadequate handling of solid waste. At least five open-air dumpsites and instances of open burning of garbage have been reported along the coastal zone. This leads to the accumulation of household and commercial waste, which ends up in wetlands and the sea, harming vegetation and wildlife.⁸⁵ Key impacts include disease and poisoning from the ingestion of microplastics, marine animals becoming entangled in nets or plastic waste, and the spread of diseases due to vector-borne infections in garbage accumulation areas, which become breeding grounds for pests.
97. **Changes in land use** resulting from human activities cause sedimentation in seagrass areas due to soil runoff into wetlands. The construction of hard structures on berms and dunes destabilizes the sedimentary balance of beaches, causing coastal erosion.
98. **Excavations and looting of archaeological sites** in coastal caves cause physical impacts on these delicate ecosystems. Finally, the introduction of exotic species creates pressure and displacement of native and indigenous species such as the Neem tree, the Lionfish, dogs, cats, pigs, ferrets or mongooses, and mice.

g) Risk to the population linked to the prioritized site.

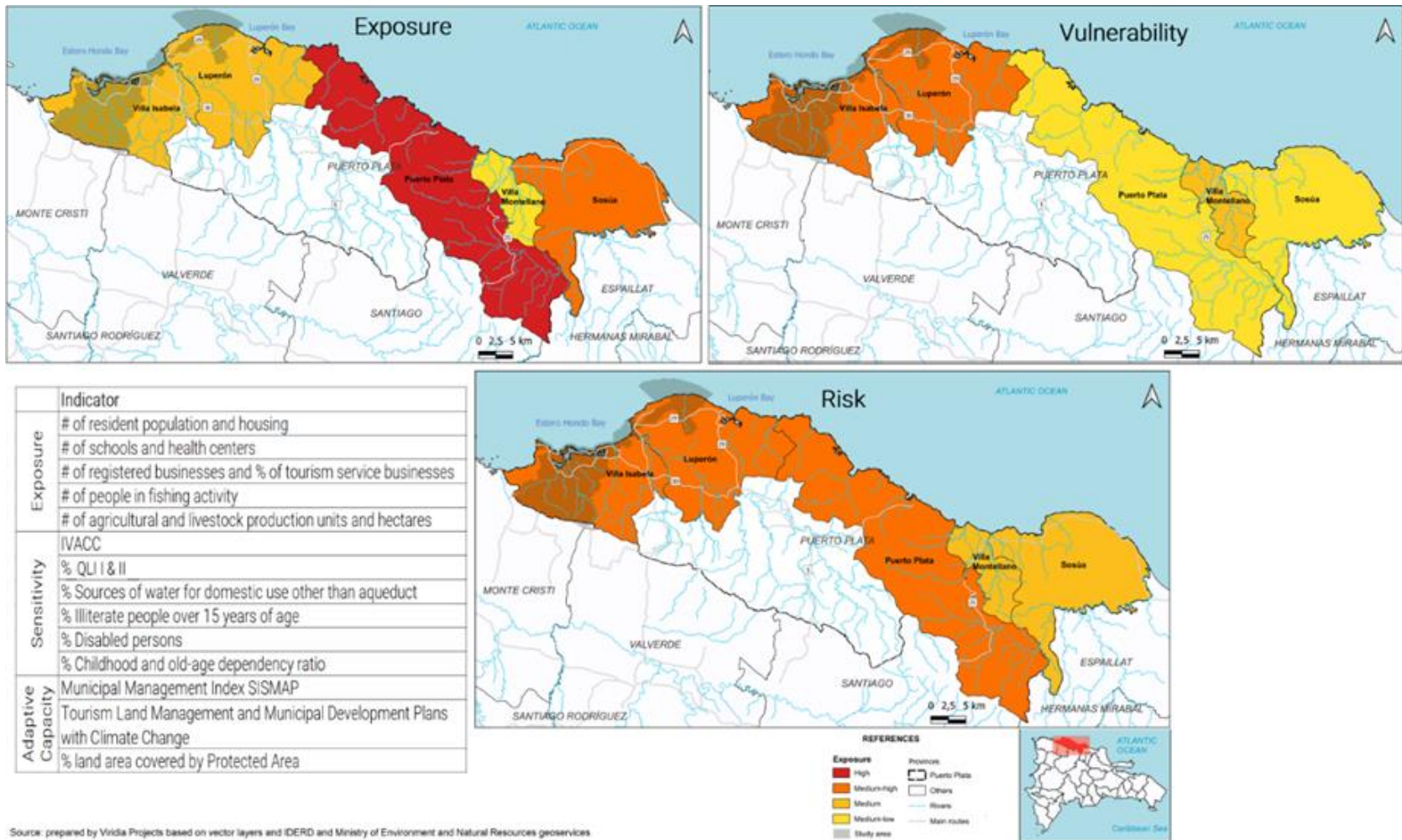
99. The Exposure, Vulnerability, and Climate Risk maps developed within the framework of the Socioeconomic Vulnerability Analysis that accompanied the formulation of this proposal (Figure 6) show the **vulnerability of the population residing in the coastal municipalities** of the Puerto Plata province (the province containing the project area) to threats such as drought, rising temperatures, increased sea surface temperature, sea level rise, and increased frequency and intensity of hurricanes and coastal storms that accelerate coastal erosion. The Climate Risk Index is the result of the analysis of threats, exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacities (detailed at the bottom of Figure 6) of the resident population in the face of

⁸⁵ FUNDEMAR, 2017; Sánchez, R. 2023a. Updated Management Plan for the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary. Product 2: Environmental and Socioeconomic Assessment. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

climate change.

100. The municipalities of **Villa Isabela, Luperón, and Puerto Plata stand out as those with the highest climate risk** in this analysis. In the case of Villa Isabela and Luperón, this result is due to their medium level of exposure: they have a small resident population, but their livelihoods—such as fishing, agriculture, livestock, and tourism services—are highly exposed to the aforementioned climate threats. Additionally, they show high vulnerability due to their sensitivity, evidenced by high levels of multidimensional poverty, illiteracy rates, poor construction quality of housing, limited access to water for domestic use, and a high rate of generational dependency and disabled persons. The adaptive capacities of Luperón are rated at a medium level, while those of Villa Isabela are at a low-medium level. Both municipalities have significant protected areas within their territory but lack Territorial Tourism Planning instruments and Development Plans that integrate climate change. Their position in SISMAP⁸⁶ is classified as medium quality in municipal management.

Figure 6 Map of exposure, vulnerability, and climate risk of the resident population of the five coastal municipalities of the province of Puerto Plata.



h) Risk to ecosystems linked to the prioritized site.

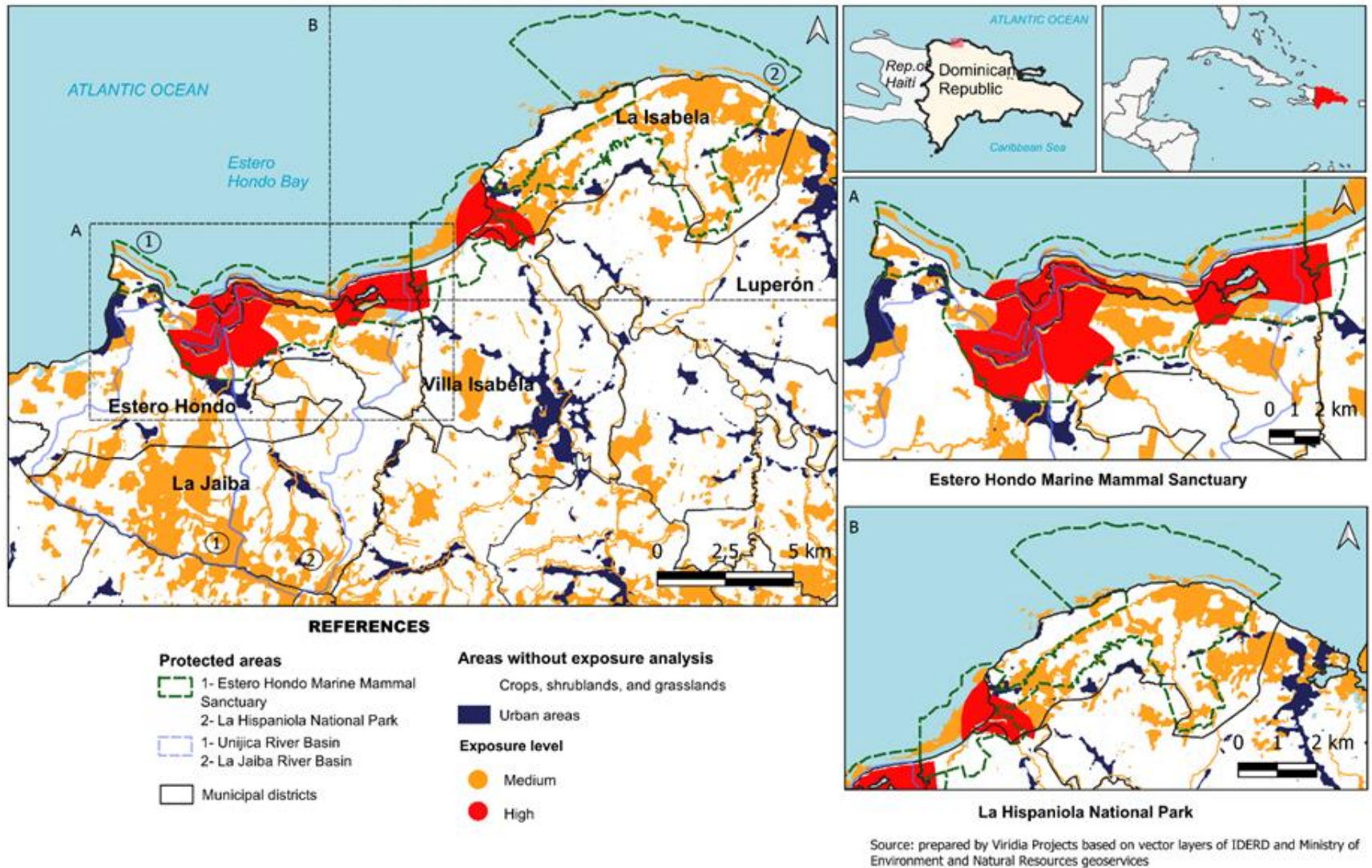
101. **Figure 7** shows the risk to ecosystems within the framework of the Ecosystem Vulnerability Analysis that accompanied the formulation of this proposal. This expresses the sum of hazard, exposure, and vulnerability (sensitivity and adaptive capacity) of the natural elements in the area to climate threats. The hazard of occurrence of the evaluated threats was high for 100% of the ecosystems and species assessed, with the highest values for: cliffs, rocky environments, fish communities, marine mammals in general, the manatee—which was evaluated separately due to its importance to the country—beaches and dunes, and sea turtles. Exposure values were low for 16%, medium for 63%, and 21% of species and ecosystems received a high value. Cliffs, the manatee, and coastal vegetation showed the lowest exposure values, as the other natural elements were exposed to a greater number of threats. Meanwhile, wetlands and native, endemic, and threatened species showed the highest level of

⁸⁶ The Municipal SISMAP allows for monitoring local public management from a multisectoral and inter-institutional approach, involving local governments and central government entities that oversee various aspects of municipal management and local development.

exposure.

102. Regarding vulnerability, the values for environmental sensitivity were generally from high to medium, while for adaptive capacity the values ranged from low to medium, except for marine mammals, which showed a high adaptive capacity due to their wide distribution and migratory ability. Combining these factors results in high vulnerability for 74% of the ecosystems and medium vulnerability for the remaining 26%. The ecosystems with the highest vulnerability index were cliffs, corals, species with some degree of threat, beaches, and marine turtles. The ecosystems present in the study area are highly environmentally sensitive ecosystems, as evidenced by the classification level of protected areas they possess, which coincides with the results of the risk analysis. This analysis showed that 84% of the ecosystems and species in the area face a high risk from climate change threats, while the remaining 16% present a medium risk.

Figure 7 Exposure, vulnerability and climate risk map of the ecosystems linked to the prioritized sites.



i) **Barriers to adaptation**

103. The main barriers identified to increasing local adaptive capacity are:

104. **Isolated and sectorized actions in the project area.** During the consultation process for drafting the proposal, the **limited inter-institutional coordination for resilient climate planning** among different ministries responsible for the prioritized protected areas was highlighted: MMARN, MITUR, and the Ministry of Culture. The various entities responsible for managing the protected areas do not have a dedicated coordination

mechanism to consult with each other for planning purposes. It was emphasized that this lack of coordination explains part of the failures in the continuity of activities and that climate change considerations are not part of the decision-making process. Institutions tend to work within the scope of their competencies, but there are few coordination instances that allow for analysing the territory as a whole before implementing actions.

105. **Limited capacities and knowledge at the local government level regarding the impacts of climate change** and adaptation measures, as well as gender issues and environmental and social safeguards. Furthermore, not all government sectors at the **national level** have the same capacities: while MMARN, given its area of responsibility, has greater knowledge on these topics, workers and policymakers from other ministries such as Tourism and Culture could benefit from increased understanding of the expected climate impacts and appropriate adaptation measures to enhance the resilience of terrestrial, coastal, and marine ecosystems in protected areas, thereby ensuring decision-making on policies incorporates climate change considerations.
106. **Limited knowledge among the local population** of Estero Hondo and La Isabela about the protected areas where they live, the expected impacts and risks of climate change on their livelihoods, and appropriate adaptation measures. During the consultations, the high level of illiteracy in the area was emphasized, as well as the limited local understanding of climate impacts on the ecosystem and their livelihoods, as well as the cultural and natural heritage surrounding them. Additionally, various stakeholders highlighted the limited foreign language skills, which are important for interacting with tourism. These skills are key for diversifying livelihoods toward resilient ecotourism projects.
107. **Limited technical capacity and knowledge** about best practices to implement adaptation measures to climate risks in the area. Livestock sector: As mentioned, drought is one of the main impacts in the prioritized area, and livestock farming is a key livelihood for the local population. However, traditional practices in this sector have significantly contributed to deforestation, exacerbating the effects of drought. About 15 years ago, the prevailing belief was that cattle and trees were incompatible, which led many livestock farmers to clear native vegetation to optimize grazing space. Today, this view limits producers' ability to adopt adaptation measures and more sustainable practices that include forest cover and silvopastoral techniques. Through the project, the technical knowledge of producers will be strengthened, and demonstration farms will be implemented, promoting replicable practices that help reduce the impact of drought on livestock and improve the sustainability of the sector. Fishing sector: This sector applies practices that worsen the impact of climate change on the coastal-marine ecosystem. Artisanal fishers have limited knowledge of more sustainable alternative practices or options for climate-resilient livelihoods that could be implemented, due to limited resources and support in this area.
108. **Limited information on coastal-marine dynamics and socio-environmental records that provide evidence of their evolution and the impacts of climate change.** Currently, the project area lacks tools and equipment to monitor key indicators for understanding impacts such as drought, coastal erosion, coastal dynamics, and marine biodiversity monitoring of species like manatees, corals, and seagrasses, which are crucial for ecosystem functioning. The absence of an integrated and automated monitoring system prevents real-time data collection and limits inter-institutional coordination, reducing the capacity to respond to climate threats. The country lacks risk analyses with climate change scenarios for coastal erosion in the project area, and the protected areas continue to suffer from deforestation. Regarding tourism, the project area does not have automated records to adequately track incoming tourists or better understand their experiences in order to take action and promote appropriate measures to strengthen the livelihoods of people involved in this economic activity. Therefore, it is necessary to reinforce monitoring and surveillance to promote real-time, evidence-based decision-making.
109. **The limited funding for climate adaptation strategies** in the country constitutes a significant obstacle to effectively addressing the impacts of climate change. Despite the nation's high vulnerability to extreme weather events, financial constraints hinder the development and implementation of essential adaptation measures. The country relies heavily on international aid and loans, but these sources are often insufficient and inconsistent. Additionally, limited access to financial resources prevents local governments and communities from investing in resilient options and disaster risk reduction. Increasing financial support is crucial to strengthen the Dominican Republic's adaptive capacity and safeguard its socioeconomic development against climate-related threats.

Project/Programme Objectives:

General Objective:

110. The project aims to reduce the vulnerability of coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems in the protected areas of La Hispaniola and the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary, as well as to improve the climate change adaptive capacity of local communities in the face of risks such as heatwaves, drought, and coastal erosion caused by sea level rise, increased frequency and intensity of extreme events, ocean acidification, and rising sea surface temperatures.

Specific Objectives:

111. Strengthened planning and monitoring of coastal and marine areas that promote climate-resilient decision-making (Outcome 1).
112. Improved coastal-marine habitats and enhanced soil health to better withstand the impacts of erosion, drought, and extreme events (Outcome 2).
113. Strengthened livelihoods to increase their resilience and reduce vulnerability on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change (Outcome 3).

114. Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas (Outcome 4).

Project/Programme Components and Financing:

Table 2. Project/Programme components and financing

| Project/Programme Components | Expected Concrete Outputs | Expected Outcomes | Amount (US\$) |
|---|---|---|-------------------|
| Climate-resilient plans and monitoring systems in the coastal and marine areas of Estero Hondo and La Isabela | Output 1.1. Enhanced inter-institutional technical coordination. | Outcome 1: Strengthened planning and monitoring of coastal and marine areas that promote climate-resilient decision-making | 41,419 |
| | Output 1.2. Coastal-marine sector plans developed for sustainable resources management considering climate change. | | 284,049 |
| | Output 1.3 Improved socio-environmental data registries for climate-resilient decision making | | 1,985,684 |
| Subtotal Component 1 | | | 2,311,152 |
| Reforestation of degraded land and restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems | Output 2.1 Increased coverage of coral reefs, mangroves, and sand-stabilizing plants in the Project Area | Outcome 2: Improved coastal-marine habitats and enhanced soil health to better withstand the impacts of erosion, drought, and extreme events | 1,294,086 |
| | Output 2.2 Increased upstream forest cover in the Project area | | 1,470,324 |
| Subtotal Component 2 | | | 2,764,410 |
| Strengthening sustainable livelihoods to reduce pressure on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change | Output 3.1 Community-based Climate-resilient ecotourism Plan implemented. | Outcome 3: Strengthened livelihoods to increase their resilience and reduce vulnerability on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change | 1,371,611 |
| | Output 3.2 Improved resilient and environmentally sustainable fishing practices | | 497,067 |
| | Output 3.3 Inclusive integration of rural producers into the climate-resilient tourism value chain | | 525,840 |
| Subtotal Component 3 | | | 2,394,518 |
| Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas | Output 4.1: Government entities trained to manage climate impacts | Outcome 4: Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas | 243,556 |
| | Output 4.2: Local population sensitized on climate change and trained in adaptation strategies for resilient livelihoods. | | 440,634 |
| | Output 4.3: Climate change adaptation knowledge disseminated among key stakeholders. | | 187,730 |
| Subtotal Component 4 | | | 871,920 |
| Total project components / activities cost | | | 8,342,000 |
| 6. Project/Programme Execution cost | | | 875,000 |
| 7. Total Project/Programme cost | | | 9,217,000 |
| 8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable) | | | 783,000 |
| Amount of Financing Requested | | | 10,000,000 |

Projected Calendar:

Table 3. Projected calendar

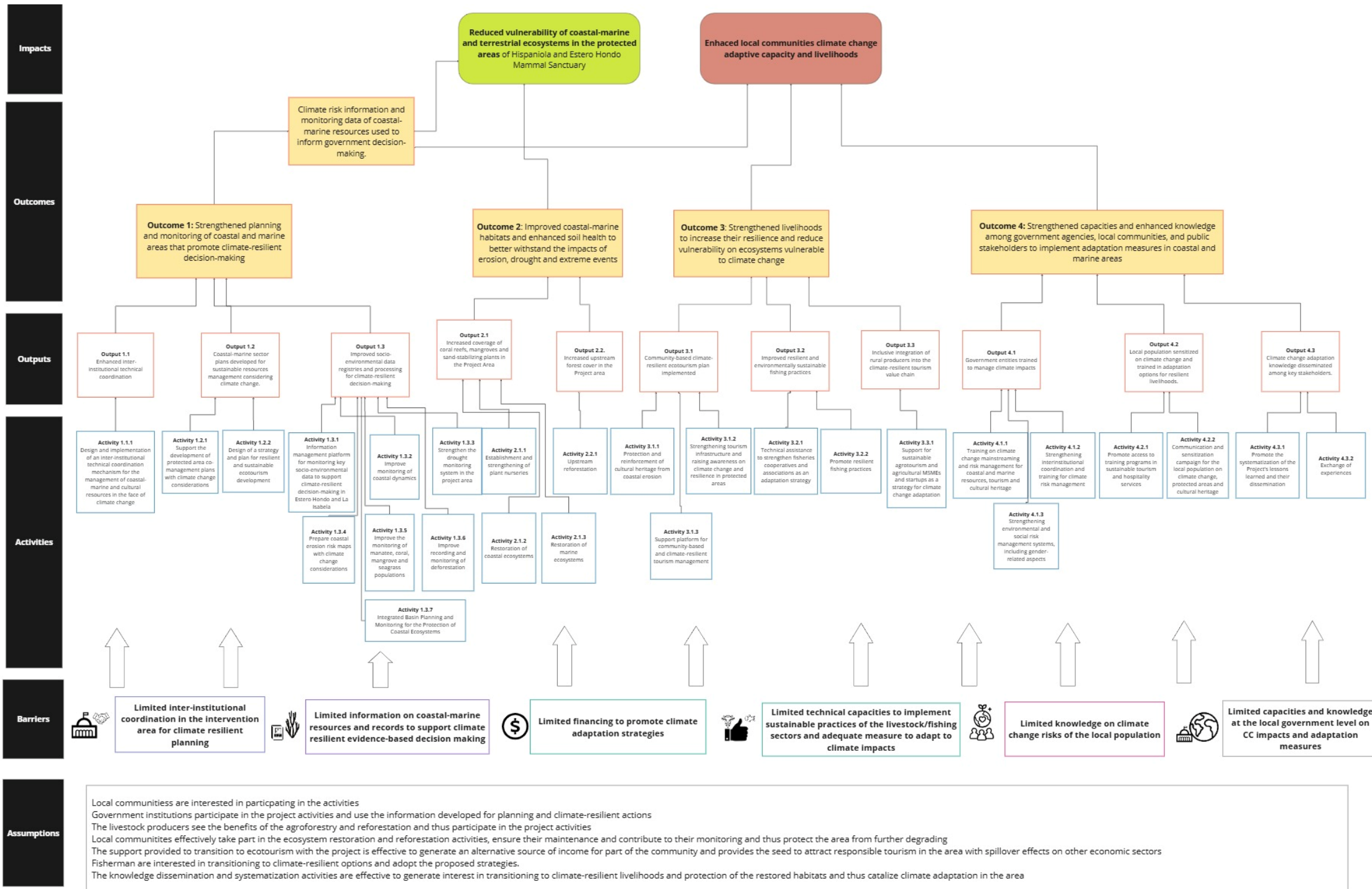
| Milestones | Expected Dates |
|---|----------------|
| Start of Project/Programme Implementation | September 2026 |
| Mid-term Review (if planned) | September 2028 |
| Project/Programme Closing | August 2030 |
| Terminal Evaluation | June 2030 |

PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

A. Describe the project/programme components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities of the project, and how these activities contribute to climate resilience. For the case of a programme, show how the combination of individual projects will contribute to the overall increase in resilience.

115. The proposed project is aligned with the objectives of the AF Strategic Results Framework, as its goal is to reduce the vulnerability of ecosystems and increase the adaptive capacity of local communities. The project proposes a multifaceted approach that will result in the following four Outcomes. Please refer to the Theory of Change diagram below:
116. **Outcome 1: Strengthened planning and monitoring of coastal and marine areas that promote climate-resilient decision-making.** This is aligned with the **Outcome 7 of the AF Strategic Results Framework: *Improved policies and regulations that promote and enforce resilience measures.*** The project will work to integrate climate change considerations into the development of a climate-resilient ecotourism action plan and co-management plans for the protected areas, considering climate change risks. Additionally, the project will promote improved data records, monitoring of corals and manatees, enhanced recording and monitoring of deforestation, strengthening the drought monitoring system, and monitoring coastal dynamics—including erosion risk maps with climate change scenarios—to strengthen the evidence base for planning and making informed decisions considering the risks posed by climate change. These improved data and planning efforts will be supported by the design and implementation of an inter-ministerial technical coordination mechanism for managing coastal-marine and cultural resources in the face of climate change. Key assumptions include that the different government institutions responsible for managing coastal, marine, and cultural resources within the project area will better coordinate and use available information for climate-resilient planning.
117. **Outcome 2: Improved coastal-marine habitats and enhanced soil health to better withstand the impacts of erosion, drought, and extreme events.** This result is aligned with the **Outcome 5 of the AF Strategic Results Framework: *Increased resilience of ecosystems to climate change and variability-induced stress.*** To achieve this result, activities under Output 2.1 and 2.2 focus on increasing forest cover of riparian forests and planting coral reefs, mangroves, and coastal vegetation within the project area. For this purpose, coral and coastal and riparian vegetation nurseries will be established and existing ones strengthened. By restoring these vital ecosystems, the project aims to increase biodiversity, stabilize coastlines, and create natural barriers against storm surges and erosion. Healthy coral reefs and mangroves provide essential habitats for marine life, contribute to carbon sequestration, and improve water quality, which collectively enhance the resilience of coastal areas against extreme weather events and changing climatic conditions. Upstream reforestation addresses soil health and watershed management. By planting trees upstream, the project aims to reduce soil erosion, increase water retention, and improve rainwater infiltration. This not only prevents downstream sedimentation that can harm coastal ecosystems but also ensures a more consistent water supply during droughts and helps control forest fires. The combined efforts of coastal restoration and upstream reforestation create a synergistic effect, increasing resilience in both marine and terrestrial environments.
118. **Outcome 3: Strengthened livelihoods to increase their resilience and reduce vulnerability on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change,** aligned with the **Outcome 6 of the AF Strategic Results Framework: *Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in the target areas.*** To achieve this result, the project will implement a Community-Based Climate-Resilient Ecotourism Action Plan in Estero Hondo and La Isabela, which will be aligned with the National Ecotourism Strategy currently under development. The Action Plan will promote natural and cultural tourism as a sustainable alternative to sun-and-beach tourism, considering the increasing risks associated with coastal erosion and beach loss due to sea-level rise and the frequency of extreme events such as hurricanes that have been projected in the future scenarios. This approach, supported by both the government and local communities, will enable populations dependent on tourism as a livelihood to adapt to the new climate conditions. Additionally, the project will provide technical assistance to strengthen the organizational skills and sustainable practices of fishers, thereby helping reduce pressure on fishery resources already affected by rising sea surface temperatures. Furthermore, the project will also offer technical assistance to agricultural entrepreneurs and microbusiness owners with the aim of improving income generation for those affected by climate-related phenomena such as droughts, heatwaves, and pests, to ensure long-term sustainability in the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems. Together, these activities seek to reinforce the resilience of local livelihoods by promoting adaptive and sustainable options that respond to the challenges of climate change.
119. **Outcome 4: Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas.** This is aligned with the Outcome 3 of the AF Strategic Results Framework: ***Strengthening awareness and ownership of climate adaptation and risk reduction processes at the local level.*** To achieve this result, the project will conduct specific activities to raise awareness among the local population about the impacts of climate change and train them in resilient livelihoods. Additionally, it will strengthen the capacities of government entities to manage the impacts of erosion, heatwaves, and drought, thereby promoting more effective and coordinated management of climate risks. Complementing this, access to and dissemination of climate change knowledge will be improved to foster a deeper understanding and knowledge exchange among key stakeholders. All these activities will prioritize a participatory approach, enabling the population not only to understand climate challenges but also to actively participate in creating adaptive solutions and managing risks within their communities.

Figure 8. Theory of Change of the Project



120. The **activities under Component 1** address the barriers to ensuring improved long-term evidence-based climate-resilient monitoring, coordination, and planning. The activities of **Component 2** are considered a long-term strategy to ultimately increase ecosystem resilience by promoting the restoration of ecosystem health and services, along with community involvement in implementation and monitoring. Meanwhile, the activities of **Component 3** aim to strengthen and diversify local livelihoods to cope with the impacts of climate change by promoting climate-resilient livelihood options in the short term. **Component 4** will contribute to strengthening the capacity of key stakeholders and disseminating knowledge. The combination of these strategies is expected to **enhance the community's ability to transition towards a climate-resilient** development pathway, ensuring that the population can remain in the region despite the risks posed by climate change to their livelihoods and ecosystems.
121. The measures proposed in this project respond to an **analysis based on diagnostics of the prioritized site** and the needs expressed by the national government, local governments, non-governmental organizations, and representatives of the local population who were consulted during the formulation process. One of the activities has been classified as an Unidentified Sub-Project (USP): 3.1.1 "Protection and reinforcement of Cultural Heritage against coastal erosion." Further details are provided in the activity description and in Section II.K.
122. The project incorporates **innovations in technology and community participation** designed to significantly improve project outcomes. Key technological elements include the installation of **advanced monitoring equipment** to track various coastal parameters, such as dry beach extent and sediment transport, enabling a comprehensive understanding of coastal dynamics and supporting adaptive management strategies (Activity 1.3.2). Additionally, the **drought monitoring system** will be strengthened through the incorporation of new equipment and technology, as well as training for responsible agencies and communities to facilitate timely interventions for affected populations. Coastal erosion risk maps incorporating climate change projections will also be produced, informing planning and decision-making processes and ultimately reducing community vulnerability (Activity 1.3.4). To promote **citizen science**, communities will participate in all project component processes, receiving training and being involved in monitoring coasts, corals, and manatees, as well as in reforestation of riparian forests, mangroves, coastal vegetation, and corals. Schools will be integrated into these activities, fostering environmental management and community ownership of local resources. The use of **drones** will greatly enhance monitoring of deforestation and other environmental threats, increasing the effectiveness of conservation efforts (Activities 1.3.6, 3.1.4). Furthermore, the integration of **augmented reality technologies** will enrich visitor experiences at key ecological sites by providing immersive educational content, increasing awareness of conservation issues (Activity 3.1.2). Altogether, these innovative technologies will empower communities, improve environmental monitoring, and support informed decision-making, leading to more resilient ecosystems and coastal communities.
123. These technologies **differ from current practices** in that most environmental monitoring in the project area is currently conducted in a centralized and infrequent manner by government agencies, with limited community involvement and little to no use of advanced or real-time tools. The project introduces a more decentralized and participatory model, engaging communities and schools directly in data collection and ecosystem restoration efforts. This approach represents a significant shift in how environmental information is generated, understood, and used locally. The use of drones and augmented reality—tools not commonly employed in climate adaptation or conservation in the country—brings new capacities for both monitoring and education, enabling more precise tracking of environmental changes and more engaging, place-based communication of climate risks and ecosystem values. To **ensure sustainability of these innovations**, the project includes dedicated training for responsible institutions and community members, building technical capacity to operate and maintain the new technologies introduced. By involving schools and community groups in ongoing monitoring and restoration activities, the project promotes long-term ownership and local stewardship of natural resources. These actions are designed to support the integration of monitoring and adaptive management practices into local planning and conservation efforts beyond the life of the project.
124. Models conducted for the Dominican Republic suggest that adopting adaptation measures to reduce direct damage from erosion in crop production, inland flooding, rising sea levels, and tropical storms could decrease potential macroeconomic impacts by up to 10 percentage points. This reduction is equivalent to a 60% decrease in climate impacts by 2050. The benefits could be even greater if resilience to disasters increases and Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) are implemented. These measures can mitigate climate impacts, boost economic productivity, and provide benefits for both development and the environment, while also protecting the people potentially affected⁸⁷.

Component 1 – Climate-resilient plans and monitoring systems in the coastal and marine areas of Estero Hondo and La Isabela.

Outcome 1: Strengthened planning and monitoring of coastal and marine areas that promote climate-resilient decision-making.

125. Outcome 1 will directly contribute to climate change adaptation in coastal areas by strengthening the capacities for planning, management, and monitoring of marine-coastal ecosystems. Through the development of sectoral plans that proactively integrate climate risk—such as co-management plans and sustainable ecotourism strategies, more informed decisions will be promoted to reduce the exposure and vulnerability of ecosystems and communities. The consolidation of inter-institutional coordination mechanisms will enable more coherent and adaptive management in response to climate change impacts. Likewise, advances in monitoring systems, including the surveillance of coastal dynamics, drought conditions, and populations of key species, will provide critical data for informed decision-making. The development of coastal erosion risk maps and the inclusion of climate event impacts in the National Integrated Information System (SINI) enhance the capacity to plan ahead and better respond to climate risks. Finally, by actively involving local communities in data generation and use through citizen science approaches, more inclusive adaptation will be fostered, directly benefiting community resilience and the sustainability of natural resources.

⁸⁷ Banco Mundial, 2023.

Output 1.1 Enhanced inter-institutional technical coordination.

126. Under this output, effective cooperation and coordination are expected among the ministries with jurisdiction in the Project area to ensure better management of adaptation in the Protected Areas.

Activity 1.1.1 Design and implementation of an inter-institutional technical coordination mechanism for the management of coastal-marine and cultural resources in the face of climate change

127. This activity aims to establish an effective system of cooperation and coordination among various government institutions—primarily at the central level—for the management and protection of coastal-marine and cultural resources, with a focus on enhancing resilience to climate change.

128. The activity seeks to provide the responsible institutions and involved stakeholders with a coordination channel that facilitates decision-making and enables the smooth implementation of initiatives in the two protected areas selected in this project proposal.

129. The tasks and stages are as follows: 1) Identification of key institutions and actors involved in the management of coastal-marine and cultural resources. 2) Agreement on the most appropriate coordination framework (institutional agreement, commission, working group) and its establishment. 3) Development of coordination and communication protocols to formalize and guide interinstitutional cooperation. 4) Conducting training workshops for the members of the coordination mechanism, promoting specific competencies and knowledge of the established protocols. 5) Implementation of the coordination mechanism with special emphasis on the creation of continuous feedback mechanisms among the participating institutions.

130. This feedback approach will allow coordination and communication protocols to be continuously adjusted and improved, based on practical experiences and the challenges faced during implementation. Stakeholders will be able to regularly share their experiences, difficulties, and lessons learned, ensuring that the coordination system remains dynamic and adapted to the real needs of the context.

131. Gender and Inclusion Approach: The interinstitutional mechanism will be composed of a representative from the Ministry of Women, as well as from the Interinstitutional Gender and Climate Change Roundtable. Additionally, the coordination mechanism will define, through agreements and operational protocols, how to include all perspectives from different ministerial representations working on gender issues. The materials developed as part of the coordination and communication protocols will use inclusive language. Specific training and working meetings on gender and inclusion will be included for the members of the coordination mechanism.

132. Location: La Hispaniola National Park and Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary.

133. Beneficiary Population: Direct: 15 government officials (47% women) with responsibilities in the trained work areas. Indirect: local communities, tourists, ecosystems, and cultural heritage of both protected areas.

134. Responsible Institutions/Stakeholders Involved: The implementing entity will lead the execution, but the involved entities will include MMARN, MITUR, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Women, and local governments. The National Council for Climate Change and the Clean Development Mechanism will be consulted.

Output 1.2. Coastal-marine sector plans developed for sustainable resources management considering climate change.

135. Under this output, the development of co-management plans for the management of coastal-marine protected areas is included, integrating considerations on climate change. Additionally, a strategy and an ecotourism plan will be designed for the protected areas, promoting sustainable tourism alternatives that diversify the livelihoods of local communities and ensure the conservation of natural resources in the face of climate change.

Activity 1.2.1 Support the development of protected area co-management plans with climate change considerations.

136. Support will be provided to MMARN in the development of co-management plans to improve the management of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and the La Hispaniola National Park, in accordance with the provisions of the Sectoral Law on Protected Areas No. 202-04, which governs the administration and conservation of protected areas in the Dominican Republic. Furthermore, the integration of local communities as co-managers of these protected areas will be facilitated. The support will include financial resources for the necessary logistics throughout the co-management process, which, in the first phase by the Co-management Division, includes visits to the protected areas and the dissemination of the co-management regulations to those aspiring to become co-managers. This will require assistance to the communities both before the co-management contract is signed and during the implementation phase, funding workshops, per diems, and travel for the Ministry staff in charge of these trainings. Additionally, the necessary equipment will be provided to ensure the success of these activities, along with the development of two studies to establish the financing mechanism for protected areas/co-management.

137. An external consultant will be hired to provide **direct support to the communities** and act as a liaison between them and the co-management division. Alliances will be established with INFOTEP to offer the necessary **training** with the intention of providing technical assistance to local communities to strengthen their associations or cooperatives, **enabling them to qualify as co-managers and meet the requirements of the MMARN co-management regulations**⁸⁸.

⁸⁸ Government of the Dominican Republic. 2024. Co-Management Regulations for Protected Areas in the Dominican Republic. MA-VPB-R-002-

138. To **qualify as a co-manager**, there are guidelines within the MMARN framework that indicate that both grassroots organizations, nonprofit associations, and any other national or foreign legal entities can be co-managers if they meet the requirements. These include the identification of the legal representative; prior experience in co-management related to the protected area and the requesting entity; experience in environmental projects or biodiversity conservation; involvement with the community, contributions or projects carried out; contributions to co-management, such as operational and administrative financial resources, human resources, infrastructure, equipment, among others; territorial relationship (proximity) to the protected area or buffer zone, and whether they have any infrastructure or land in the vicinity of the Protected Area. In the case of nonprofit associations, the requirements include presenting legal documentation of statutes and founding assembly, members, copy of registration, and financial statements. In the case of commercial entities, if foreign, the additional requirement is the obligation to have a legal representative residing in the country.
139. In addition, technical assistance will guide communities in **forming alliances** with economic actors who can provide sustainability to the protected areas. This will include potential collaborations with conservation NGOs, private companies funding species and ecosystem health monitoring projects, and tourism companies developing ecotourism products in the protected areas, among other relevant stakeholders.
140. The technical assistance will also include **joint work from various institutions** through training based on successful co-management experiences, both national and international. These trainings will address information gaps and prepare communities to actively participate in shared management, strengthening the sense of ownership over natural environments and contributing to the economic revitalization of the involved municipal districts, which are currently economically depressed. Assistance will also be provided in the use of the “Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT),” a management and monitoring tool for public use launched by FONDOMARENA in the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary.
141. It is important to highlight that UNDP, due to its coordinating role, will facilitate connections with various governmental and non-governmental organizations in complementary sectors such as tourism, access to water, among others. Additionally, efforts will be made to coordinate with other ministries to channel investments and complementary actions not directly covered by the project, such as road improvements through MITUR or the Ministry of Agriculture (Minagri), contributing to a more integrated and sustainable management of the territories.
142. The consultant will also participate in the **second phase of the co-management process, focused on monitoring and evaluating co-management performance**. This phase will begin once the Co-management Division has evaluated and approved the submitted requirements and has designated the eligible candidates to be co-managers, followed by the signing of the contract between MMARN and the co-managers. Additionally, the consultant will support the Co-management Division in holding the annual meetings, which total approximately 12 and include: an initial meeting between co-managers and MMARN, meetings with the co-management council, quarterly presentations of activity reports, a co-management forum, and ongoing monitoring by the Co-management Division to ensure the fulfilment of the proposed objectives.
143. The duration of the co-management of the protected areas will be established in the contract formalized by MMARN. Annually, the co-managers must submit a **work plan and a financial report** on the implementation of the previous year's plan. During the project's duration, they will receive training and support in preparing these reports, as well as in administrative and management skills.
144. **Gender and Inclusion Approach:** The co-management plans will incorporate a gender and inclusion approach, based on specific analyses for each protected area. From these, concrete mechanisms for participation and consultation will be defined. MMARN staff involved in this activity will be trained in coordination with the consultancy responsible for community work. Additionally, the training sessions for local communities will integrate these approaches within the context of co-management.
145. **Location:** Protected Areas of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park.
146. **Beneficiary Population:** Direct: 30 trained co-managers (47% women), 100 people participating in the co-management socialization process to decide who the co-managers will be. Indirect: Inhabitants of the municipal districts of La Isabela, Estero Hondo, and La Jaiba (47% women).
147. **Responsible Institutions/Stakeholders Involved:** The Co-management Division of MMARN will lead its implementation, but the entities involved will include MITUR and the Ministry of Culture.
148. **Activity 1.2.2 Design of a strategy and plan for resilient and sustainable ecotourism development.**
149. Given that traditional beach tourism in this area is threatened by climate change, especially due to erosion and rising sea levels, there is potential to diversify livelihoods through an ecotourism strategy that promotes **climate-resilient alternatives**. The region boasts various natural attractions, such as caves and cliffs, as well as historical sites with existing infrastructure, such as the La Isabela Historical and Archaeological Site and the Marine Mammal Sanctuary, which could be strengthened and protected against climate threats, becoming alternative sources of income. This activity focuses on developing a comprehensive strategy and an ecotourism plan specific to the two protected areas, promoting sustainable tourism and environmental education to avoid excessive pressure on vulnerable sites.
150. The **participation of local communities** will be central in the development and implementation of this ecotourism strategy. From the planning phase, community consultations and participatory workshops will be held to identify the specific capacities and needs of the local population, ensuring that the strategy effectively responds to their realities and opportunities. Additionally, the Strategy and Plan will incorporate the prevention of child sexual tourism and the protection of children as priority areas of action. This means that local knowledge and practices will be considered in identifying areas of interest, designing activities, and determining the roles of the community in the operation and maintenance of ecotourism infrastructure. The community will also participate in the governance of the project, collaborating in decision-making and management of the protected areas, which

will generate a sense of ownership and commitment to the project.

151. Additionally, this strategy will align with the **National Ecotourism Strategy**, currently under development under the coordination of MMARN, in collaboration with the Ministries of Tourism and Culture. This national approach prioritizes the inclusion of local actors as managers and users of the territory, with the aim of strengthening their capacities and promoting sustainable livelihoods. In its final stage, concrete actions will be identified for the pilot implementation of the Strategy, with La Isabela being a priority site.
152. The activity will be developed in two phases: first, a **strategy** will be designed to **position the area** as an ecotourism destination, attracting visitors interested in nature and culture; then, a detailed plan with concrete actions will be outlined. This strategy will include long-term objectives and will cover: **1) Mapping of current and potential points of interest**, including tangible and intangible resources (customs, traditions, festivals, etc.); **2) Carrying capacity study** (see explanation below); **3) Consultations with experts** in sustainable tourism and conservation; **4) Design of the strategy and tourism plan** with environmental and social sustainability criteria, integrating aspects of governance, training, investment, and communication; **5) Participation and consultation** with local communities in the planning of the strategy and the plan to ensure alignment with the needs of the communities and vulnerable groups; **6) Approval and dissemination of the strategy**; **7) Approval and dissemination of the plan**.
153. The **carrying capacity study for ecotourism** will evaluate how many people can visit and use each area sustainably without compromising the health of the ecosystem, the protection of historical and archaeological sites, the quality of the tourist experience, and the well-being of local communities. To do this, the levels of use that could impact biodiversity, soil, water bodies, and other key natural resources will be identified. The carrying capacity study will include: **1) Ecosystem analysis**: Determining the current ecological conditions, identifying sensitive areas, and the impact thresholds they can tolerate without significant degradation. **2) Assessment of potential tourism impact**: Estimating the effects of tourist flow, including resource deterioration, erosion, solid waste, impact on local fauna and flora, and impact on archaeological sites and underwater heritage from activities such as snorkelling and diving. **3) Management recommendations**: Strategies to keep visitation levels within ecological limits, such as access regulations, visiting hours, minimum necessary infrastructure, and guide training.
154. This project will also support the implementation aspects, which will be detailed in the subsequent components and activities.
155. Gender and inclusion approach: Specific gender analysis will be conducted on ecotourism in Estero Hondo and La Isabela to identify the types of tasks and activities in which women, particularly young women, can engage, and thus develop a gender and inclusion-focused strategy. The results of this analysis will provide input for mapping points of interest, as well as for designing a plan to involve women and other vulnerable groups in the consultation and participation processes within the communities for the design of the strategy and plan. The results of both analyses will also be integrated into the Action Plan to outline specific initiatives aimed at involving women in the management and administration of these areas in the future. All local consultation and participation instances for the development of the Strategy and Action Plan will consider the criteria detailed in the introduction of the GAP.
156. Location: La Hispaniola National Park and Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary.
157. Beneficiary population: 60 residents of the community consulted and informed. Indirect: Local communities, national and international tourists.
158. Responsible institutions/actors involved: MITUR will assume the role of coordinating the implementation, in collaboration with MMARN, the Ministry of Culture, community associations, and local tourism businesses.

Output 1.3 Improved socio-environmental data registries and processing for climate-resilient decision-making.

159. The improved registration of socio-environmental data will help reduce the vulnerability of communities to the impacts of climate change through information and training. This output aims to empower the communities of Estero Hondo and La Isabela in monitoring activities of the coastline, coral reefs, and manatees, creating a sense of belonging through the concept of citizen science. **Citizen science** proposes that the community voluntarily participates in the creation of scientific knowledge alongside experts, thus becoming integrated into the environmental stewardship and care of natural resources, understanding that these resources provide numerous goods and services that the population is often unaware of.

Activity 1.3.1 Information management platform for monitoring key socio-environmental data to support climate-resilient decision-making in Estero Hondo and La Isabela.

160. Currently, monitoring information on the ecosystems of Estero Hondo and La Isabela — including data on coastal dynamics, coral and mangrove restoration, coastal vegetation, riparian forests, manatee monitoring, and drought — is scattered across different departments of ministries and organizations. This fragmentation limits access to and the usefulness of the data in making climate-resilient decisions.
161. To address this situation, a pilot platform will be developed to centralize, standardize, and make this information accessible to different users in a single management tool. This pilot, managed by the Environmental Information and Natural Resources Directorate (DIARENA) of the MMARN, will facilitate stakeholders' access to data presented in maps, graphs, and other accessible and useful formats for socio-environmental management in the region. An informational module will also be developed for end users such as municipal residents, tourism operators, fishers, and agricultural producers.
162. The development of the platform involves a robust and scalable digital solution that optimizes the collection, integration, visualization, and traceability of key socio-environmental data. The activity includes several technical:

1. **Requirements gathering** technical meetings with the involved departments and stakeholders to identify different user types, define data flows, existing formats, and specific functional requirements.
 2. **Prototype design:** development of a modular architecture, user-friendly interface, and specific features for spatial analysis, data uploads, differentiated user access, and automated report generation using standardized and traceable rules.
 3. **Iteration and testing:** includes functional testing, user feedback loops, incremental improvements, technical verification, and a pilot demo presented to key government stakeholders.
 4. **Implementation and support:** includes initial deployment support, quality assurance, technical certification testing, data migration, and preparation of production environments.
 5. **Training and handover:** development of user manuals, differentiated training sessions for institutional and community users, and formal handover of the platform to DIARENA for its long-term operation and maintenance.
163. The platform will be designed so that, once the pilot is implemented in Estero Hondo and La Isabela, it can progressively expand to other areas of the country, enabling integrated environmental management at the national level.
164. DIARENA, together with the Technology Department of MMARN, will establish parameters for the creation of the platform.
165. Gender and inclusion approach: A document with guidelines and recommendations will be prepared to register and monitor the impacts of climate change in a gender- and age-differentiated manner. The recommendations will be integrated into the platform to generate and disseminate specific annual reports on this matter. Additionally, technical teams in charge of the platform will be trained to effectively include and monitor indicators on climate impacts differentiated by sex and age. Training and dissemination workshops will also be organized for representatives of civil society and local governments to familiarize them with the platform's functioning.
166. Location: Protected areas of Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park.
167. Beneficiary population: Direct: all technical staff from national and local governments (200) and academia (50) using the information for studies and decision-making. 100 local population also accesses it for information (public interface) as part of citizen science and community monitoring activities. Indirect: users from various public sectors accessing the information and the entire local population (8,665) and other municipalities and provinces, as governments are expected to use the information to plan better evidence-based adaptation measures in the project area. In addition, this platform can serve as a pilot that can be scaled up to other vulnerable areas of the country.
168. Responsible institutions/actors involved: MMARN (Information and Communication Technologies Directorate) will coordinate with ministries and organizations.

Activity 1.3.2 Improve monitoring of coastal dynamics.

169. This activity aims to collect and record data on coastal dynamics from the western end of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary to the eastern end of La Hispaniola National Park. This information will enable a comparative analysis over time, assessing the **beach profile and climate change impacts** to propose measures that enhance coastal resilience.
170. The **monitored parameters** will include the extent of dry beach, water and atmospheric temperature, granulometry, sediment transport, wave size and period, wave direction, and descriptive characteristics of the coastline, such as beach type, protective structures, and associated ecosystems (coastal lagoons, reefs, seagrass beds, mangroves).
171. With the support of MMARN's Coastal and Marine Resources Directorate, a **monitoring plan** will be developed covering the area from Estero Hondo to La Hispaniola National Park. **Equipment** will be acquired for each protected area, and local representatives and interested community members will be **trained** to conduct continuous monitoring of sandy and rocky beaches. The collected data will be periodically sent to the MMARN's Marine and Coastal Resources Directorate to be integrated into the information **platform** (Activity 1.3.1).
172. The National Maritime Affairs Authority (ANAMAR) will receive support through the purchase of **buoys and tide gauges**, as well as funding for data **transmission, storage, and analysis software**. ANAMAR will expand its monitoring of oceanographic parameters to cover the area of interest, and the collected data will also be integrated into the information platform (Activity 1.3.1).
173. To promote community monitoring, **local communities will be trained** in measuring beach profiles, and fixed points will be established where anyone can take photos with their cell phone to record changes on the beach and send them to MMARN. The person responsible for interpreting this data will also be trained, and efforts will be made to form partnerships with research centres specializing in this topic. This activity is connected to the educational actions of Component 4 and the "Blue Exploration" program, "Bringing the Sea to Schools," where ANAMAR and the Ministry of Education bring monitoring equipment to schools for student experimentation.
174. Gender and Inclusion Approach: As part of the climate data collection and monitoring of the coast, special attention will be given to ensuring that the recruitment of professionals includes women. It will be ensured that women living in the coastal areas being monitored and who are part of the co-management plans of the protected areas participate in training activities and are actively involved in monitoring, according to the participation criteria detailed in the GAP. It is also proposed to provide gender and inclusion training to the technical teams of the Coastal and Marine Resources Directorate involved in the implementation of this activity.

175. Location: Protected Areas of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and the La Hispaniola National Park.
176. Beneficiary Population: Direct: 30 people trained and participating in community monitoring (47% women). Indirect: Local communities near the protected areas of the project (47% women).
177. Institutions responsible/actors involved: MMARN (Vice Ministry of Coastal and Marine Resources) will lead its implementation, but the entities involved will include ANAMAR, park administrators, research centres, and the Ministry of Education.
- 178. Activity 1.3.3 Strengthen the drought monitoring system in the project area.**
179. This activity aims to strengthen the Drought Monitoring System of the Dominican Meteorological Institute (INDOMET) in the Estero Hondo and La Isabela area, where drought behaviour differs compared to nearby regions. Currently, INDOMET only collects meteorological drought data at the provincial level in Puerto Plata. With this activity, detailed local information will be integrated to improve drought monitoring in the region's microclimate, allowing preventive and mitigation measures to be taken to improve the quality of life for affected communities.
180. A specific **study will be included to better understand the drought** behaviour in the project area. This analysis will cross-reference the limited existing information with satellite data from the same drought periods, allowing experts to establish more accurate patterns and conclusions. In addition, thermohygrometric stations will be acquired to monitor meteorological and seasonal drought through key parameters such as soil moisture, precipitation, and temperature. Monitoring stations in nearby areas, such as Palo Indio, will be strengthened to improve triangulation and prediction accuracy. Furthermore, training will be provided to various technicians from an interinstitutional team (PMR, SINI, and INDOMET), with site recognition.
181. The project will also support **training** for educational centres and institutions through INDOMET's Department of Meteorological Education, addressing topics such as climate change, drought, tropical cyclones, and extreme events to reduce the vulnerability of local communities.
182. This measure will contribute to the development and implementation of the "Desertification and Drought Monitoring" Component of the National Action Plan for Combating Desertification and Drought 2018-2030, focusing on: 1) strengthening the Environmental Information System (SNIA) of the MMARN; 2) continuous monitoring of parameters such as precipitation, soil moisture, vegetation health, temperature, and evapotranspiration; and 3) national and international cooperation.
183. Finally, partnerships will be established with the World Food Programme (WFP) and FAO, which have developed agricultural drought monitoring systems, early warning alerts, and anticipatory assistance mechanisms, including social support, all focused on agricultural drought management.
184. Gender and Inclusion Approach: It will be ensured that women living in the monitored areas, who are specifically affected by the effects of drought, can participate in community consultation spaces and have access to the information generated as part of the monitoring system. The monitoring system will include specific indicators on the effects of drought disaggregated by gender and age. Gender and inclusion training will be provided to the technical teams of INDOMET involved in this activity, and coordination will be made with this institution and its Meteorological Education Department to include thematic modules on gender and inclusion in the training sessions conducted at educational centres.
185. Location: Protected areas of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary, La Hispaniola National Park, and the La Jaiba and Unijica basins.
186. Beneficiary population: Direct: 15 technicians trained, 24 people from local municipalities and government, 120 livestock farmers and agricultural workers, and 800 students trained in drought information and alerts (47% women). Indirect: Local communities near the protected areas of the project (47% women).
187. Responsible institutions/actors involved: The Dominican Institute of Meteorology (INDOMET) will lead its implementation, but the entities involved will include the Ministry of the Environment (MMARN), the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Ministry of Education.
- 188. Activity 1.3.4 Prepare coastal erosion risk maps with climate change considerations.**
189. This activity aims to generate a coastal erosion risk map resulting from climate change threats such as sea level rise and the increased frequency and intensity of extreme rainfall events and hurricanes.
190. To develop this activity, a coastal dynamics study will be contracted for the project area, identifying areas of sediment deposition and loss. An analysis of the longshore and cross-shore sediment transport will also be conducted to generate maps under different sea level rise scenarios based on IPCC predictions. Additionally, inputs from Activity 1.3.2 will be utilized.
191. The map will serve as a planning, decision-making, and informational tool that will reduce the vulnerability of the population living in these areas. Considering age and gender, which exacerbate inequalities for all individuals in vulnerable situations (elderly people, women, and others), the map will also be integrated into the information platform of Activity 1.3.1.
192. Gender and Inclusion Approach: Training and consultation meetings will be held with women and youth from civil society to raise awareness about the specific effects of coastal erosion. During these meetings, their knowledge and insights will be gathered and reflected in a systematization report, which will be used as input in the process of developing the risk maps. The graphic design of the maps will include non-sexist icons and images.
193. Location: Protected areas of the Marine Mammal Sanctuary of Estero Hondo and the La Hispaniola National Park.

194. Beneficiary Population: Local communities near the protected areas of the project (47% women).
195. Responsible Institutions/Actors Involved: MMARN will be the lead in its implementation, but among the entities involved will be MEPYD, the Presidency, INDOMET, SINI (National Integrated Information System), and COE (Emergency Operations Centre).
196. **Activity 1.3.5 Improve the monitoring of manatee, coral, mangrove, and seagrass populations.**
197. The objective of this measure is to strengthen and continue the monitoring efforts of coastal-marine ecosystems, contributing to the national data of the MONITOREA program (National Coastal-Marine Ecosystem Monitoring Plan), developed in 2022 and implemented nationwide in 2023. This interinstitutional effort involves NGOs, academia, government, and the community, coordinated by the Dominican Foundation for Marine Studies (FUNDEMAR), the Ministry of Environment, and financed through the French embassy, aimed at the effective management of these ecosystems.
198. This activity will provide updated and continuous information on these ecosystems, which are of great importance to the country due to the ecosystem services they provide to communities, such as: habitats for commercial species, coastal protection against storms that are expected to become more severe and frequent due to climate change. These areas are also spaces for community recreation, scenic beauty, enjoyment, and support for tourism activities.
199. On the other hand, the manatee is a native species of the country that is endangered, and its population has drastically decreased in recent years. Therefore, a manatee monitoring plan will be established and implemented in Estero Hondo/Isabela, contributing to the national conservation plan for this species, which is currently under development. Estero Hondo/Isabela is a high-priority area, identified as one of the hotspots during the national census conducted by FUNDEMAR in coordination with the Ministry of Environment, and funded by the German Embassy and Planeta Azul in 2023. The monitoring plan will include photo-identification of the existing population and the training of a local team to respond to strandings.
200. In the case of corals, seagrasses, and mangroves, the study area will be included as part of the MONITOREA project. This includes the training of 6 divers, transportation by boat, materials for direct data collection, diving equipment, among other things. It also involves the participation of local communities through the creation of a marine conservation technician training program, where community members will receive ongoing training throughout the project (diving courses, marine ecosystems, monitoring, coral reproduction). Additionally, the project will focus on education and raising awareness in the community about marine ecosystems and their importance, targeting schools, community associations, and other local groups.
201. Gender and Inclusion Approach: Special attention will be given to ensuring that the recruitment of professionals includes women. Additionally, it will be guaranteed that women from the area participate in consultation activities to become informed about the collected data and to be involved in the monitoring of marine populations.
202. Location: Protected areas of the Marine Mammal Sanctuary of Estero Hondo and La Hispaniola National Park.
203. Beneficiary population: Direct beneficiaries include 6 trained divers (50% women) and 240 trained members of the community. Indirect beneficiaries are the local communities located near the protected areas of the project, with women representing 47% of this group.
204. Responsible institutions / stakeholders involved: FUNDEMAR will lead the implementation, but involved entities will include MMARN (Vice Ministry of Marine and Coastal Resources), ANAMAR.
205. **Activity 1.3.6 Improve recording and monitoring of deforestation.**
206. The use of **drones, camera traps, and security cameras** is proposed for the administrators of the protected areas who are responsible for surveillance and control. Due to the vast size of these areas and the limited available personnel, environmental monitoring activities are currently very deficient. The drones and cameras would allow these individuals to constantly monitor the entire area and act immediately when an incident occurs (they have the authority to file reports and complaints, which will be uploaded to MMARN's Línea Verde platform). As a result, the enforcement of the deforestation bans and other crimes, such as intentional forest fires, will be improved. This activity will include a training component on the use of this equipment, database creation, and environmental crime enforcement training. It will also establish partnerships with security forces such as the Environmental Police of the National Environmental Service (SENPA) and firefighters who can respond to threats.
207. Gender and Inclusion Approach: The aim is to involve women working in environmental monitoring in this activity to strengthen their prior knowledge on the subject. Training activities on drone usage will be organized to ensure the active participation of women. It is also proposed to conduct a training needs assessment with a focus on gender and inclusion for the administrators and environmental guards, in order to develop an appropriate training plan. Additionally, the information generated from the deforestation recording and monitoring will be disseminated to ensure it is accessible to the entire population in the area, with a special emphasis on guaranteeing women's access to this information.
208. Location: Protected areas of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park.
209. Beneficiary population: Direct: 4 trained and equipped park rangers. Indirect: Local communities near the protected areas of the project.
210. Responsible institutions / involved stakeholders: MMARN (Directorate of Protected Areas).

Activity 1.3.7 Integrated Basin Planning and Monitoring for the Protection of Coastal Ecosystems

211. This activity aims to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan that addresses the impacts of land use in the upper watershed on coastal and marine ecosystems. A collaborative monitoring system will be implemented, involving both the communities of the upper watershed and those in the coastal areas – complementing the coastal monitoring initiatives of the activities described above.
212. To begin, a **watershed management plan** will be developed, evaluating current land use practices in the upper watershed, such as agriculture and livestock farming, which affect coastal ecosystems through erosion and sediment runoff. This plan will be created through consultations with local communities and sustainable management specialists, aiming to integrate practices that reduce sedimentation and protect aquatic and coastal ecosystems.
213. In parallel, a **collaborative monitoring system** will be established that will include both the communities of the upper watershed and those along the coast, training them in the use of monitoring equipment and in the collection of environmental data. This monitoring system will be implemented through the installation of devices at strategic points along the tributaries and will be integrated with data collection in coastal areas, using data recording and analysis protocols that will be shared between the communities and the responsible institutions. Standardized soil sampling methods, such as transects and assessment plots, will be incorporated. A quantitative assessment of water erosion will be conducted by measuring soil loss and erodibility factors at critical points in prioritized watersheds, and predictive models will be validated. The methodology will include: 1) conducting stratified transects on hillsides with different land uses (agricultural, livestock, forested); 2) erosion plots; 3) synergy with hydrometeorological data, linking sampling results with variables such as rainfall intensity, surface runoff, and soil moisture.
214. The data collected in the upper watershed will be used to adjust management practices in the coastal zone, particularly in reducing pollution and sedimentation that directly impact marine ecosystems. Through public reports and regular meetings between the watershed and coastal communities, transparency will be promoted, and continuous feedback will be ensured, allowing for adaptations to the plan based on challenges and experiences encountered during implementation.
215. Gender and Inclusion Approach: Community consultation and training activities will be organized in accordance with the participation criteria detailed in the GAP. Reports disseminating information resulting from the integrated watershed monitoring will be prepared using simple, non-sexist language to ensure accessibility for all community members.
216. Location: Watersheds of the Unijica and La Jaiba rivers, protected areas including the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park.
217. Beneficiary Population: Direct: 30 people trained and participating in community monitoring (47% women), 240 people reached through awareness workshops. Indirect: Local communities near the project's protected areas (47% women).
218. Responsible Institutions / Stakeholders Involved: MMARN (Vice Ministry of Soils and Waters).

Component 2 – Reforestation of degraded land and restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems

Outcome 2: Improved coastal-marine habitats and enhanced soil health to better withstand the impacts of erosion, drought, and extreme events.

219. Coral reef restoration provides key benefits: Reduction of coastal erosion: Coral reefs dissipate wave energy, which reduces their impact on coastlines and prevents erosion. They function as natural breakwaters, protecting coastal infrastructure and ecosystems⁸⁹. Biodiversity and support for fisheries⁹⁰: Coral reefs provide essential habitats for a wide variety of marine species, crucial for biodiversity and fishing. By hosting a large number of species, they are fundamental for the healthy functioning of marine ecosystems and the fishing industry.
220. Mangroves are effective at trapping sediments, which helps build coastal land and reduce erosion. They serve as crucial breeding habitats for many marine species, supporting fisheries. They are also important carbon sinks, playing a role in climate change mitigation. Coastal seagrass meadows contribute to stabilizing coastlines, reducing erosion, and maintaining habitats.⁹¹
221. Upstream restoration contributes to soil and water conservation, as forests reduce soil erosion by stabilizing the soil with their root systems. It also helps improve water infiltration, increasing groundwater recharge and reducing sedimentation in water bodies. They mitigate the effects of droughts by enhancing water retention.⁹²
222. The project establishes a strong link between restoration activities in terrestrial and marine ecosystems through a comprehensive approach.

⁸⁹ Ferrario, F., Beck, M., Storlazzi, C. et al. (2014). The effectiveness of coral reefs for coastal hazard risk reduction and adaptation. *Nat Commun* 5, 3794. <https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms4794>

⁹⁰ Hughes TP, Baird AH, Bellwood DR, Card M, Connolly SR, Folke C, Grosberg R, Hoegh-Guldberg O, Jackson JB, Kleypas J, Lough JM, Marshall P, Nystrom M, Palumbi SR, Pandolfi JM, Rosen B, Roughgarden J. (2003). Climate change, human impacts, and the resilience of coral reefs. *Science*. Aug 15; 301(5635):929-33. doi: 10.1126/science.1085046. PMID: 12920289.

⁹¹ Barbier, Edward & Hacker, Sally & Kennedy, Chris & Koch, Evamaria & Stier, Adrian & Silliman, Brian. (2011). The Value of Estuarine and Coastal Ecosystem Services. *Ecological Monographs*. 81. 10.1890/10-1510.1.

⁹² Ellison, David & Morris, Cindy & Locatelli, Bruno & Sheil, Douglas & Cohen, Jane & Murdiyarsa, Daniel & Gutierrez, Victoria & Van Noordwijk, Meine & Creed, Irena & Pokorný, Jan & Gaveau, D. & Spracklen, Dominick & Bargaes Tobella, Aida & Ilstedt, Ulrik & Teuling, Adriaan & Gebrehiwot, Solomon & Sands, David & Muys, Bart & Verbist, Bruno & Sullivan, Caroline. (2017). Trees, forests and water: Cool insights for a hot world. *Global Environmental Change*. 43. 51-61. 10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2017.01.002.

Mangrove reforestation will be conducted in areas affected by deforestation and prolonged drought, improving sediment filtration before it reaches the coral reefs. Additionally, the reforestation of riparian forests in the Unijica and Jaiba river basins will mitigate the impacts of land-use changes and improve water quality for downstream ecosystems, including manatees. Native species will be prioritized in all restoration efforts to strengthen biodiversity and ecosystem resilience. Local communities will actively participate in planting and maintaining these projects, fostering ownership and commitment to monitoring progress. Educational initiatives will be conducted to promote sustainable practices and deepen understanding of the interconnections between terrestrial and marine ecosystems.

Output 2.1 – Output 2.1 Increased coverage of coral reefs, mangroves, and sand-stabilizing plants in the Project Area.

223. The activities under this output contribute to strengthening the resilience of the coastal area against climate change through the restoration and protection of key ecosystems such as mangroves, coral reefs, seagrasses, and coastal vegetation. These actions, as Nature-Based Solutions (NbS), aim to reduce vulnerability to extreme events, mitigate coastal erosion, stabilize beaches, and conserve essential ecosystem services for local livelihoods.

Activity 2.1.1 Establishment and strengthening of plant nurseries.

224. This activity aims to strengthen an existing nursery owned by MMARN and create a new nursery for mangrove species and other native coastal species of the area. To ensure sustainability and increase production capacity, the nursery at La Hispaniola National Park will be rehabilitated, allocating the necessary resources for its restoration and operation. Additionally, the community will be trained in nursery management, planting techniques, and the importance of these species for beach preservation and their role in climate change adaptation.

225. The main actions will include: capacitating staff who join the nurseries in the propagation and management of coastal species; rehabilitating the nursery at La Hispaniola National Park to optimize its production capacity and sustainability; conducting awareness and training workshops in schools and communities to involve them in the care and planting of native species; organizing planting days in vulnerable areas, with the participation of the community and students.

226. Gender approach and inclusion: Women and young women will be actively involved in the installation and maintenance of the nurseries through specific training workshops on this activity (nursery management, plant planting, and the importance of the species to be planted for beach maintenance). The organization of the workshops will take into account the participation criteria detailed in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan.

227. Location: Protected area La Hispaniola National Park.

228. Beneficiary population: Direct: 480 community members learning about nursery care and coastal ecosystem management, and 15 trained in nursery management (47% women). Indirect: Local communities near the project's protected area (47% women).

229. Responsible institutions/involved actors: MMARN (Vice Ministry of Coastal and Marine Resources) will be the leader in its implementation.

Activity 2.1.2 Restoration of coastal ecosystems

230. This activity aims to improve the resilience of coastal ecosystems to the impacts of climate change through mangrove reforestation and the planting of coastal vegetation that promotes sediment retention, helping to reduce coastal erosion along the project area (Estero Hondo–La Isabela).

231. In the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary, mangrove areas affected by forest fires and reduced freshwater input due to prolonged droughts that have impacted the region over the past six years will be reforested. The Directorate of Coastal and Marine Resources, together with the Directorate of Forestry Resources of MMARN, will conduct a thorough survey of the coastline encompassing both the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park to identify suitable areas for planting native coastal vegetation, such as groundcover species that contribute to dune stabilization and sea grape, which help capture sand and mitigate coastal erosion. In beaches like Punta Devora, where this need has been identified, restoration and stabilization of dunes will be prioritized. The feasibility of establishing a coastal vegetation line such as mangroves, sea grape, or other native species considered the best option along the coastline in the area where the cultural heritage of La Hispaniola National Park is concentrated will be studied. This is to trap sediment and prevent storm wave impact from directly hitting the rock, which increases its vulnerability to erosion and puts the supporting structure at risk.

232. Gender approach and inclusion: Women and young women will be involved in awareness activities about ecosystem restoration, organizing meetings and events based on the participation criteria detailed in the introduction of the Gender Action Plan (GAP). It will be assessed whether vegetation height could contribute to the formation of unsafe spaces for the movement of women, both adults and youth, through consultations with the local population.

233. Location: Protected areas Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park. The coastal and marine ecosystems area to be restored will cover approximately 105 hectares of mangroves, with a coastline length of approximately 30 km.

234. Beneficiary population: Direct: 960 students learning about restoration measures and 15 trained in community monitoring (47% women). Indirect:

Local communities near the project's protected areas (47% women).

235. Responsible institutions/involved actors: MMARN (Vice Ministry of Coastal and Marine Resources and Forestry Resources) will lead its implementation, but involved entities will include ANAMAR and the Ministry of Education.

Activity 2.1.3 Restoration of marine ecosystems

236. This activity is aimed at strengthening marine ecosystems, specifically seagrasses and coral reefs, which are fundamental for reducing the vulnerability of coastal communities to the impacts of climate change. Seagrasses function as excellent carbon sinks, trap sand, which reduces erosion and helps stabilize beaches. Additionally, they serve as habitat for numerous commercially important species, as well as for others that depend on them. Meanwhile, coral reefs function as natural barriers against storm waves, decreasing their speed and force before they reach the coast. They also contribute to beach formation and play a vital role in conserving marine biodiversity, including species of commercial and touristic value.

Subactivity 2.1.3 a Coral reefs

237. A conservation and restoration program for reefs in the area will be established, based on assisted coral reproduction. This strategy, which has proven to be the most effective after the 2023 bleaching event and coral tissue loss disease, will be implemented through various actions. First, a community team, which will also include members from dive centres, will be trained to conduct coral spawning monitoring and assisted fertilization. Additionally, an action plan adapted to the needs identified during monitoring in the area will be evaluated and developed. A monitoring plan for the intervened areas will be defined, in close coordination with experienced organizations in the area, such as FUNDEMAR, through the Coral Spawning Commission, and MMARN.

238. Gender approach and inclusion: equitable participation of women and men, youth and adults, will be ensured in all training and awareness activities, based on the participation criteria detailed in the Gender Action Plan (GAP).

239. Location: Protected areas Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park. The area to be restored will be approximately 1 hectare of coral reefs.

240. Beneficiary population: Local communities near the project's protected areas (47% women).

241. Responsible institutions/involved actors: Experienced organizations in the area will lead the implementation, but involved entities will include MMARN and ANAMAR.

Subactivity 2.1.3 b Protection of the seabed and ecosystems

242. This measure is intended to protect the underwater marine heritage of La Hispaniola National Park and the marine ecosystems, such as corals, which are affected by boats using these areas as anchorage zones.

243. To implement this measure, the installation of **marine signalling buoys** is proposed to mark the presence of underwater heritage and highly sensitive ecosystems.

244. The placement of **mooring buoys** is also planned, to prevent boats from dropping their anchors into the sea, thus protecting the seabed.

245. Additionally, **navigation channel signage** for fast boats will be included, aiming to reduce the impact on manatees, other marine mammals, and vulnerable ecosystems such as corals, seagrasses, and mangroves.

246. Gender approach and inclusion: equitable participation of women and men, youth and adults, will be ensured in all training and awareness activities, based on the participation criteria detailed in the GAP.

247. Location: Protected areas Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park.

248. Beneficiary population: Local communities near the project's protected areas (47% women).

249. Responsible institutions/involved actors: ANAMAR will lead the implementation, but involved entities will include MMARN and the Dominican Navy.

Output 2.2 – Increased upstream forest cover in the Project area.

250. Output 2.2 focuses on increasing forest cover to enhance climate change resilience in the sub-basins of the Unijica and La Jaiba rivers. In response to water stress and heat waves, reforestation actions with native species and silvopastoral systems will be implemented to restore vegetation, improve water retention, and reduce soil erosion. In addition, the community will be trained, and sustainable agricultural practices will be promoted, strengthening climate adaptation and improving water and productive security for local farmers and livestock producers.

Activity 2.2.1 Upstream reforestation

251. Water stress has had significant impacts on wildlife, particularly on the manatee population inhabiting the area between the Estero Hondo Marine

Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park. The reduction in freshwater inflows into the estuary has affected their habitats and the availability of essential resources for their survival. On the other hand, drought and heat waves have also impacted livestock health, causing economic consequences for producers. According to technicians from CONALECHE during the consultation process, in a single one-year drought period, producers can lose up to USD 2 million due to decreased milk production and another USD 3 million due to livestock deaths. In addition, overgrazing has led to soil compaction, affecting its water retention capacity and reducing subsurface infiltration.

252. In this context, this activity includes the implementation of:

- **Silvopastoral and agroforestry systems:** represent a viable alternative to improve the sustainability of livestock and agricultural production in the area. These systems integrate trees, shrubs, live fences, and crops with livestock production, which contributes to soil recovery, improves water retention, and reduces erosion. Additionally, they promote productive diversification and can generate long-term economic benefits for producers, while restoring vegetative cover and strengthening the watershed's ecosystem services.
- **Ecological restoration and reforestation of forests and riparian forests with native species:** These actions aim to recover vegetative cover in degraded areas, improve water infiltration into the soil, reduce erosion, and strengthen local biodiversity. The selection of native species will ensure that the restoration aligns with the ecological conditions of the area and provides suitable habitats for wildlife. Additionally, riparian reforestation will contribute to the stabilization of river and stream banks, protecting water sources and benefiting both local communities and coastal ecosystems that depend on these water flows.

253. This project, in coordination with the Directorate of Forests and Forest Management of MMARN, will adopt its working methodology for public and private lands, which includes an initial assessment of reforestation potential, community assembly calls, and the creation of reforestation brigades. These brigades, composed of local residents, will receive training in soil preparation, planting, and maintenance of native and endemic species, ensuring plant viability for at least two years. The species will be provided by MMARN nurseries and those strengthened by the project.

254. By promoting sustainable agricultural practices and the adoption of agroforestry and silvopastoral systems, soil health is improved, runoff and erosion are reduced, and trees and shrubs are integrated with crops and livestock, thereby enhancing biodiversity and soil fertility. The species to be incorporated into these systems will include both native timber and non-timber species, as well as productive species (fruit trees). In the latter case, coordination will take place with the Fruit Tree Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture. Local farmers will receive technical training to implement these practices, thus reducing the need for chemical inputs.

255. To support this reforestation, an environmental education component will be included to guide livestock producers in transitioning to silvopastoral systems, and resources will be allocated for reforestation on selected lands. A Planting Certificate will also be granted, giving them the right to commercially benefit from the plantation.

256. Reforestation activities will be conducted exclusively with native species, involving the community in planting, maintenance, and progress monitoring tasks. Educational events will be organized for the general public and tourism operators, promoting awareness about the importance of reforestation and ways to replicate the process in other areas.

257. It is important to mention that a specific measure will not be developed to address the shortage of fresh water, given that the aqueduct under construction will mitigate the effects of the drought on the supply for local communities.

258. Gender and Inclusion Approach: As part of the training activities, specific measures will be included to ensure the participation of women involved in livestock and agricultural activities (including those actively participating in forest brigades). This will be based on a specific mapping of women farmers and women livestock producers in both watersheds. The results of this mapping will also support the monitoring of the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices by women. Relevant gender equality topics will be included in the specific modules or workshops implemented as part of the environmental education activities.

259. Location: Sub-watershed of the Unijica River and the watershed of the Jaiba River. Approximately 800 hectares of riparian forest will be reforested.

260. Beneficiary Population: Direct: 160 primary producers and 960 school students will learn about reforestation measures, along with 45 people involved in community monitoring (47% women). Indirect: Populations associated with the sub-watersheds and ecosystems (47% women).

261. Responsible Institutions / Involved Stakeholders: The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (Vice Ministry of Forest Resources), will lead the implementation. Other involved entities include the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education.

Component 3 – Strengthening sustainable livelihoods to reduce pressure on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change.

Outcome 3: Strengthened livelihoods to increase their resilience and reduce vulnerability on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change.

262. The local community in Estero Hondo, La Jaiba, and La Isabela relies heavily on tourism, livestock, and fishing as primary sources of livelihood. However, the impacts of climate change pose significant risks to these activities. Projections indicate increased coastal erosion due to rising sea levels and more frequent extreme events, such as hurricanes, threaten historical cultural heritage infrastructure and beach tourism. At the same time, rising sea surface temperatures and the degradation of key habitats due to ocean acidification have led to a decline in fishing grounds and key

fishery resources. Prolonged droughts and heatwaves have also increased the incidence of pests and diseases, negatively affected the health of livestock and crops due to water stress. To address these challenges, the project proposes natural and cultural tourism as climate-resilient alternatives to traditional beach tourism⁹³⁹⁴. Based on climate projections, these activities are expected to be more sustainable over time, as they rely not solely on natural resources but also on the area's rich cultural heritage and the strengthened engagement of local communities, both of which are being actively supported by the project. In addition, the project aims to diversify the livelihoods of fishers, livestock producers, and farmers by encouraging engagement in other activities and promoting better production practices. These measures will reduce pressures over coastal and marine ecosystems and will reduce the vulnerability of fishers if they learn new alternative activities that will be able them to replace income from fishing. The implementation of a climate-resilient, community-based tourism plan—along with initiatives such as the development of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary Interpretation Centre, the enhancement of visitor experiences through improved infrastructure and interpretive signage, and the creation of a support platform for community-based tourism management—aims to strengthen the local economy by promoting sustainable tourism. These activities not only create new economic opportunities but also raise awareness about natural and cultural heritage, emphasizing its importance in the face of climate change. By protecting and reinforcing cultural heritage from coastal erosion, these initiatives help preserve the identity and continuity of the community, providing a stable foundation for local development. Parallel efforts in the fisheries sector include the promotion of sustainable fishing practices, support for the transition to, and development of, aquaculture as an alternative livelihood option. Technical assistance to fishing associations and cooperatives fosters collective resilience, while the promotion of climate-resilient fishing practices ensures the long-term sustainability of marine resources. These diversified livelihood strategies are essential to reducing dependence on traditional fishing, which is increasingly vulnerable to climate-related impacts. Support for sustainable agrotourism and agricultural MSMEs aims to improve living conditions and income generation for entrepreneurs and small business owners, aligning with reforestation and ecological restoration efforts to ensure long-term sustainable outcomes in the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems. Coordination with the region's ecotourism plan will allow for the diversification of the tourism offering through rural, agroecological, and conservation-based services, strengthening the sustainable tourism value chain. Together, these initiatives enhance the resilience of community livelihoods, enabling them to adapt to changing climate conditions while protecting vital ecosystems and cultural heritage.

263. It is worth noting that the livelihood activities proposed under Component 3 of this project are supported by climate information generated through various activities under Component 1: coastal erosion risk maps under climate scenarios (Activity 1.3.4), strengthening of the drought monitoring system (Activity 1.3.3), data on coastal and marine species dynamics (Activities 1.3.2 and 1.3.5), and a climate data platform to support local decision-making (Activity 1.3.1). This information informs the decision-making processes of the livelihood components and is integrated into the strategies for ecotourism, fisheries, and agro entrepreneurship. In this way, all activities under Component 3 are risk-informed and avoid maladaptation.

Output 3.1 Community-based climate-resilient ecotourism plan implemented.

264. This output seeks to promote a climate-resilient ecotourism model centered on local communities by protecting cultural heritage threatened by coastal erosion, strengthening tourism infrastructure and environmental education in protected areas, and developing a support platform for small tourism businesses. The interventions prioritize social inclusion, gender equity, and the long-term sustainability of the tourism sector in the face of increasing climate risks.

Activity 3.1.1 Protection and reinforcement of cultural heritage from coastal erosion

265. As explained in the context section, erosion phenomena combined with rising sea levels threaten the country's historical heritage. La Isabela Historic Park is endangered by coastal erosion and sea level rise, which worsens the stability of the buildings, and some have already been lost, as illustrated in Figure 8.

Figure 9 Admiral's House in La Isabela National Park. Google Earth aerial view from December 2023 (left) and photo taken in April 2024 during the proposal origination mission (right). Approximately one-third of the house's enclosure has collapsed due to coastal erosion.



⁹³ Third communication on climate change, 2017

⁹⁴ NDC-RD 2020

266. The National Directorate of Monumental Heritage has various studies available, including one focused on the area of interest that prioritizes the installation of gabions to protect the historical heritage from wave action and rising sea levels. In this activity, **the necessary studies will be updated and completed to determine the most suitable investment alternative, thereby ensuring the protection of cultural heritage.** Additionally, **consolidation works** will be designed and conducted on damaged structures, such as the Admiral's House, with the aim of enhancing the value of the tourist site.
267. The budget for this activity was established based on recent reference costs for hard infrastructure options previously considered for the site. However, the project anticipates that the selected solution will most likely be a nature-based intervention, aligned with the ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) approach promoted throughout the project. This type of solution is generally less costly and more sustainable in the long term. To ensure that the cost does not exceed the planned budget, a contingency margin was included at the design stage, providing flexibility to accommodate technical adjustments during implementation.
268. This activity is classified as a **USP**, as the exact investment has not yet been defined and will be determined by a feasibility study during implementation. The USP is categorized as "Partially Undefined," since although the specific location has been identified, the activities are still to be finalized. Investment in infrastructure at the archaeological site "La Isabela Historic Park" will be essential to protect it from coastal erosion and sea level rise. While previous studies suggest options such as the installation of gabions, the best solution will be defined through the feasibility analysis supported by the project, considering the most locally appropriate adaptation options. Special attention will be given to identifying and managing potential environmental and social risks associated with these investments, and the environmental and social management plan includes provisions to address them.
269. Tasks and stages: i) Development of the feasibility analysis to determine the investments needed for the protection of the site and to design the selected protective infrastructure. ii) Implementation of protective structures.
270. Gender and Inclusion Approach: Specific gender equality and inclusion criteria will be included in the terms of reference for contracting public works companies responsible for reinforcing and adapting the tourist sites within the park. If the feasibility study update includes community consultations, it will be ensured that the perspectives, interests, and needs of women—both young and adult—are taken into account. The works aimed at enhancing the tourist sites will also include the installation of access points for people with disabilities and reduced mobility, as well as safety devices and facilities for the movement of children, pregnant women, and adapted signage for visually impaired persons.
271. Location: La Hispaniola National Park.
272. Beneficiary Population: Local communities, researchers, and tourists interested in cultural heritage.
273. Responsible Institutions / Involved Stakeholders: The Ministry of Culture will lead the implementation, with involvement from the MMARN, universities, and cultural NGOs.

Activity 3.1.2 Strengthening tourism infrastructure and raising awareness on climate change and resilience in protected areas.

274. This activity aims to enhance knowledge and understanding of climate change and strengthen resilience in the local communities of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park. Specific actions for each area include:
275. **Infrastructure and Accessibility:**
- In **Estero Hondo**, access points and trails will be improved following safety and inclusive accessibility criteria, along with the installation of interpretive signage about marine wildlife, coastal vegetation, and the impacts of climate change. These informational signs will include details about protected species, such as manatees, and provide an introduction to the sanctuary's ecosystem.
 - At the **Historic and Archaeological Site of La Isabela**, and in alignment with "La Ruta del Encuentro," trails and access points will be designed and established with a focus on interpreting cultural and natural heritage, highlighting their importance in the context of climate change. Informational signs will provide details about native vegetation, historical sites, and the park's value as a natural resource in mitigating climate risks.
276. **Awareness and Interpretation Programs:**
- At **Estero Hondo**, interactive exhibits will be installed at the Visitor Centre, including awareness videos about the manatees and turtles that inhabit the area, along with materials explaining how climate change affects these species. Additionally, nearby geological, and archaeological sites of interest, such as the "Cuevas del Indio" caves, will be showcased.
 - At **La Hispaniola**, an Augmented Reality system will be implemented to allow visitors to visualize how climate change has altered the natural landscape and historical heritage of the area, providing a more immersive and technological educational experience. This technology will enable visitors to see what the environment looked like in its original state and how it has evolved due to climate change.
277. In both areas, interventions will be conducted in accordance with the Action Plan for community-based climate-resilient ecotourism in Estero Hondo

and La Isabela (activity 1.2.2), and staff will be trained in interpretation techniques related to climate change and resilience. Additionally, a promotional campaign will be conducted to highlight the educational and conservation value of these protected areas, focusing on attracting both visitors and the local community.

278. **Gender and Inclusion Approach:** The inclusion of women and youth will be prioritized in all community consultation activities, including those conducted by contracted companies. Construction works for access points and trails will consider safety and inclusion criteria, such as non-sexist signage and posters, materials adapted for visually impaired persons, and trails and access points designed for people with reduced mobility (see detailed activities in the GAP). Specific criteria will be included in the terms of reference for contracting public works companies.
279. **Location:** La Hispaniola National Park and Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary.
280. **Beneficiary Population:** Visitors, local communities, and students.
281. **Responsible Institutions / Involved Stakeholders:** The Ministry of Culture will lead the implementation, with involvement from MMARN, MITUR, NGOs, tour guides, and ecotourism companies.
282. The design of infrastructure (trails, access points, signage) will take into account the results of the carrying capacity study (included in Activity 1.2.2) and the coastal erosion risk maps (Activity 1.3.4), enabling climate-resilient tourism planning. This prevents the overdevelopment of routes or tourist sites in an already sensitive ecosystem. Priority is given to the selection of safer sites, avoiding intervention in highly vulnerable areas, and promoting a tourism experience that is both conservation-compatible and enjoyable for visitors. In this way, maladaptation is avoided, such as promoting tourism in areas prone to erosion or those that exceed their ecological carrying capacity.

Activity 3.1.3 Support platform for community-based and climate-resilient tourism management

283. This activity aims to develop and implement a support platform for community-based tourism management that strengthens cohesion among micro and small tourism enterprises, promotes their visibility and sustainability, and helps them incorporate climate change considerations into their businesses. The platform will drive climate resilience and economic sustainability through productive linkages and the integration of good environmental practices. The platform must be kept up to date with products, services, and contacts.
284. The platform will be a comprehensive tool that not only allows local businesses to promote their services but also serves as a channel for information and training on key climate change adaptation topics within the tourism sector. It will promote best practices in sustainable water resource management and preparedness for extreme weather events (such as hurricanes, heatwaves, etc.), fostering a collaborative network focused on sustainable and climate-adapted tourism. The platform will include the following components:
285. **Promotion of services with an adaptation focus:** The platform will highlight tourism businesses that incorporate adaptive practices, such as climate-resilient infrastructure, renewable energy, and adaptive environmental management techniques. This will enable them to improve their competitiveness and attract a segment of tourists committed to climate change.
286. **Continuous training program:** Coordination of monthly trainings focused on sustainability, business management, strengthening cooperatives, and adaptation strategies for the tourism sector. Topics to be covered include: i) Strategies to reduce consumption of critical resources (water and energy) and adapt to their variable availability, ii) Measures to protect tourism infrastructure and assets against extreme weather events, iii) Techniques to diversify services and adjust the tourism offer according to climatic seasons and anticipated risks. It will also be used to disseminate relevant project information (e.g., educating the community and visitors about the socio-cultural value of protected areas, lessons learned, etc.).
287. **Business planning and resilience advisory:** Participating businesses will receive guidance to develop climate change adaptation plans, including climate risk analysis and response strategies. This will strengthen their long-term resilience to both gradual changes and sudden climate events.
288. **Promotion of Regenerative and Adaptive Tourism Practices:** The platform will include guides and resources to implement regenerative tourism practices that promote the restoration of local ecosystems and adaptation to climate change. This approach contributes not only to environmental sustainability but also to the overall adaptation of the tourist destination.
289. **Collaboration network and implementation of incentives for the Climate Adaptation network:** It will foster a network of businesses that collaborate in adopting adaptive practices and share successful experiences and strategies through a newsletter highlighting the business of the month and promoting a sense of community. Contests and awards focused on quality and the incorporation of good practices will also be held among the network members.
290. **Gender and inclusion approach:** Priority will be given to women-led businesses and/or those with high female participation to promote their services on the platform. Both the content of the continuous training program and the advisory services will be developed with a gender and inclusion focus, and specific modules on these topics will be prepared when appropriate. Materials on sustainable tourism and gender approach will be included on the platform, and the participation of women working in the local tourism sector will be encouraged in the continuous training program.
291. **Location:** La Isabela and Estero Hondo, within the scope of community-based tourism in the region.
292. **Beneficiary population:** Direct: Micro and small tourism enterprises, with a focus on those led by women and local community members, and 480 trained workers and entrepreneurs. Indirect: Visitors and tourists interacting with local businesses, communities benefiting from a resilient tourism

economy, and ecosystems protected through sustainable practices.

293. Responsible institutions / involved stakeholders: MITUR will lead the implementation, with involvement from local governments, local tourism associations, cruise companies in Puerto Plata, the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) for sustainability guidelines, and potential partnerships with training institutions for continuous education.

294. **Output 3.2 Improved resilient and environmentally sustainable fishing practices.**

295. The activities in this output focus on strengthening the adaptation of artisanal fishers to climate change and reducing pressure on marine ecosystems. The goal is to support fishing associations and cooperatives to improve their resilience against climate impacts by establishing collective strategies to protect their livelihoods. Additionally, training fishers in adaptive fishing practices will reduce the impact on marine ecosystems and help mitigate the negative effects of climate change on fishery resources. At the same time, marketing agreements are expected to improve their incomes by encouraging the catch of fewer, but better-sized fish.

296. **Activity 3.2.1 Technical assistance to strengthen fisheries cooperatives and associations as an adaptation strategy.**

297. This measure aims to strengthen local artisanal fishers against the impacts of climate change in the sector by incorporating lessons learned from other successful experiences and providing training in community organization, which is vital to improving their climate resilience.

298. To implement this measure, the project will provide **technical assistance** to support fishing associations and cooperatives in the Estero Hondo and La Isabela sectors. The goal is to facilitate the direct sale of their products to local merchants and families, thereby eliminating intermediaries. This will enable fishers to set fairer prices for their catch. Support will also be provided to strengthen negotiations with input suppliers to obtain more competitive purchasing prices. The participation of women in this process will empower them to manage sales, while men can focus on harvesting. Strengthening these organizations will provide fishers with collective strategies to protect their livelihoods from the adverse effects of climate change.

299. Gender and inclusion approach: A mapping will be conducted on the participation of women in fishing and all its production and marketing links at the local level, aiming to create a registry of women fishers and fish vendors who can be invited to community organization training sessions. This mapping will also include women's participation and representation within fishing cooperatives. Women's participation in training and technical assistance activities will be ensured based on the gathered information and considering the participation criteria detailed in the GAP. Specific action plans will be prepared to support fishing cooperatives in modifying their internal practices to increase and improve women's representation. CODOPESCA staff will be trained in gender and inclusion approaches, and specific training workshops will be organized for women working in fish sales to strengthen their skills in areas such as marketing and commercialization.

300. Location: Fishing areas of Estero Hondo and La Isabela.

301. Beneficiary population: Direct beneficiaries: 200 artisanal fishers (20% women).

302. Responsible institutions / involved stakeholders: CODOPESCA will be the lead in implementation, with the involvement of MITUR and MMARN

Activity 3.2.2 Promote resilient fishing practices.

303. Fishing faces growing challenges due to factors such as overfishing, pollution, habitat loss, and the impacts of climate change, which have reduced fishery resources and disrupted marine ecosystems. Nevertheless, for many communities, fishing remains a tradition and a key source of income. Therefore, it is essential that those who continue to engage in this activity do so sustainably, adapting to the new environmental challenges.

304. This measure proposes a comprehensive training program in collaboration with CODOPESCA, aimed at adapting fishing practices to a low-impact and climate-resilient approach. First, fishers will be trained in the use of sustainable fishing gear and methods that minimize damage to ecosystems and promote the conservation of vulnerable species.

305. As part of this program, alternatives to harmful practices—such as compressor fishing, night fishing, and others—will be offered, as these pose risks both to fishers' health and to marine biodiversity, as described in the Context section. This activity will promote a transition toward safer and more sustainable fishing methods, such as:

- **Fishing with rafts and fish traps** (as explained in the Context section), which enable the selective capture of larger fish, thereby reducing pressure on ecosystems and allowing the regeneration of commercial species populations. Training will be provided to fishers to support this transition, along with the purchase of 60 rafts, 30 fish traps (nasas), and 30 motorized boats. The design and placement of the rafts will consider that part of the fishing zone lies within a fishery reserve, which requires avoiding conflicts with large vessels that currently tend to displace the rafts. For this purpose, a **site selection study** will be conducted, considering appropriate depths, options for establishing navigation routes for cruise ships, and the potential enhancement of existing rafts to ensure greater durability and functionality compared to those currently in use.
- A pilot **aquaculture** project: A pilot closed-loop aquaculture system (RAS – Recirculating Aquaculture System) will be implemented, allowing fish to be raised in controlled conditions using a water recirculation system. This technology significantly reduces water use and environmental impact, as it filters and reuses the system's water. The pilot will include the installation of tanks, biological and mechanical filtration systems, and the training of local producers in the operation and maintenance of the system, with the goal of evaluating its technical, economic, and environmental feasibility in the local context. This pilot could also serve as a complementary tourist attraction through guided tours and educational activities on sustainable

aquaculture, helping to generate additional income for the community.

306. The pilot Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS) directly addresses the risk of freshwater scarcity identified in the region. This system filters and reuses water, minimizing environmental impact and avoiding maladaptation, as would be the case in promoting intensive water-dependent aquaculture in a drought-prone area.
307. All these investments will not be allocated to individual fishers, but will be managed through fisher organizations and cooperatives, which will be required to establish usage regulations.
308. Additionally, the proposal includes strengthening commercial agreements by seeking partnerships with the tourism sector. This would provide incentives for fishers transitioning to these practices, enabling them to obtain better prices for larger-sized fish.
309. Finally, an awareness campaign on environmental and climate change issues will be implemented, aiming to foster a culture of ecological responsibility and adaptation to the climate impacts affecting the oceans. This approach will enable fishing communities to maintain their livelihoods in a safe and sustainable manner while contributing to the protection and resilience of marine ecosystems.
310. Gender and inclusion approach: Based on the mapping to be conducted in the previous activity, it will be ensured that the rafts and/or boats purchased reach the women engaged in this activity. The mapping will also serve as input for designing the aquaculture pilot, considering the effective participation and involvement of women fishers and/or those involved in commercialization. A specific module on gender and inclusion will be included in the environmental and climate change awareness program, and all training activities will be organized in accordance with the participation criteria detailed in the GAP.
311. Location: Fishing areas of Estero Hondo and La Isabela.
312. Beneficiary population: Direct: 200 artisanal fishers of the sector.
313. Responsible institutions/stakeholders involved: CODOPESCA will lead its implementation, with MMARN among the entities involved.

Output 3.3 Inclusive integration of rural producers into the climate-resilient tourism value chain.

314. This output promotes the integration of rural producers into climate-resilient agrotourism value chains, strengthening sustainable and inclusive livelihoods.

Activity 3.3.1 Support for sustainable agrotourism and agricultural MSMEs and startups as a strategy for climate change adaptation

315. This activity aims to enhance the capacities of agricultural producers in the La Jaiba and Unijica river basins to integrate local products—such as artisanal cheese and cacao—into an agrotourism offering aligned with the area’s sustainable ecotourism development plan. Currently, these producers make high-quality products but lack the knowledge, tools, and adequate conditions to offer attractive and sustainable experiences to visitors.
316. This activity aims to promote climate-resilient livelihoods by strengthening agrotourism value chains linked to agroforestry practices, silvopastoral systems, and forest ecological restoration processes. In this way, it contributes to the economic sustainability of landscape interventions, reducing pressure on ecosystems and diversifying the income sources of local communities in the face of a changing climate.
317. The project will leverage the capacities and mechanisms of the UNDP program “En Marcha,” which aims to positively impact local economic and productive development by providing business support to microenterprises and economic units⁹⁵. At the national level, more than 250 micro and small enterprises in locations such as Barahona, Dajabón, Las Terrenas, Sabana de la Mar, Lagunas de Nisibón, San Rafael del Yuma, and Boca de Yuma have already benefited from this program, strengthening their business capacities and improving their productive infrastructure.
318. In the case of this project, the goal will be to strengthen local trade, expand market access, and improve the productive capacity of agricultural and agrotourism entrepreneurs affected by droughts, heatwaves, and pests exacerbated by climate change in the project intervention area. Special priority will be given to businesses linked to agroecological production and rural tourism.
319. The implementation methodology includes the following stages:
 - ii. **Census and Initial Diagnosis**: A survey is conducted to identify potential beneficiaries and assess the current status of their businesses, based on which a personalized action plan is designed.
 - iii. **Group Training**: Training will be provided in administrative and financial management, marketing and sales, customer service quality, improvement of production processes, among other key topics, with a focus on climate change adaptation.

⁹⁵ UNDP, [website of the 'En Marcha' programme](#). Last accessed on April 24, 2025.

- iv. **Personalized Technical Assistance:** On-site consulting will be provided to strengthen business models with an innovative, sustainable approach adapted to the climate context.
 - v. **Commercial Image Improvement:** A design team will work with each business to identify needs, develop a corporate image proposal, share it with the beneficiaries, and implement it, helping to enhance their market positioning.
 - vi. **Support with Basic Equipment:** The most relevant productive equipment for each economic unit will be identified, providing assistance for its acquisition.
320. **Medium- and Long-Term Improvement Plan:** Each company will be provided with a roadmap outlining concrete actions they can implement beyond the period of direct support.
321. This methodology is designed to benefit microenterprises, associative groups, entrepreneurs, and families with productive initiatives affected by climate change in the project area. Beneficiaries must be legally established, comply with the operational requirements established by local regulations, and have at least four months of continuous operation. To conclude, the program will undergo an impact assessment, and key success stories will be identified and disseminated through specialized communication products to highlight outcomes and promote replication.
322. **Gender and Inclusion Approach:** Priority will be given to women-led businesses and/or those with high female participation for program involvement, based on the initial census and diagnosis, including their participation in training activities and personalized technical assistance. Both the training program content and the advisory services will be developed with a gender and inclusion approach.
323. **Location:** Agricultural areas of Estero Hondo, La Jaiba, and La Isabela.
324. **Beneficiary population:** Direct: 50 agricultural entrepreneurs or micro-business owners from the area.
325. **Responsible institutions/stakeholders involved:** UNDP.

Component 4 – Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas.

Outcome 4: Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas.

326. Component 4 emphasizes strengthening the capacities and knowledge base of government entities, local communities, and public actors so they can actively promote and implement adaptation measures, particularly in coastal-marine areas. This initiative addresses the critical need for adaptive responses to climate impacts such as erosion, heatwaves, and drought, which threaten these vulnerable ecosystems and communities. It also tackles the barrier posed by the limited capacities and knowledge of key actors to effectively manage these risks and adapt to changing climatic conditions. The underlying assumption is that by raising awareness, providing targeted training, and fostering knowledge exchange, key actors will improve their understanding, learn adaptation practices, and change their current behaviours to implement effective climate adaptation strategies and diversify their livelihoods. This will lead to increased adaptive capacity in local communities and contribute to enhancing the resilience of ecosystems within the project area.

Output 4.1: Government entities trained to manage climate impacts.

327. Output 4.1 aims to strengthen the capacities of government entities to address the impacts of climate change in their policies and practices. All activities will incorporate international standards (e.g., UNESCO guidelines for environmental education) and will include pre/post training evaluations, performance indicators, and certifications validated by technical institutions or by the government entities participating in the project's implementation.

Activity 4.1.1 Training on climate change mainstreaming and risk management for coastal and marine resources, tourism, and cultural heritage

328. This activity will focus on training government entities at both national and subnational levels on how to integrate climate change into their policies and practices. Workshops and courses will be offered on managing climate-related risks, especially in coastal and marine areas, as well as in the tourism and cultural heritage sectors. The content will cover strategies to mitigate the effects of erosion, heatwaves, and drought, promoting sustainable and resilient management.

329. Before starting, at the beginning of the project, a diagnosis of existing capacities will be conducted. The project management unit will develop a diagnostic tool (e.g., skills survey and practical test) to identify gaps between the current competencies of government personnel and those required by the project. This will include dimensions such as technical knowledge (e.g., climate data management); soft skills (e.g., facilitation of community workshops); and use of technology (e.g., drones, sensors).

330. Gender and Inclusion Approach: The training will include a gender and inclusion perspective, ensuring that women within government entities also participate in the training sessions. Specific modules will be designed to address the differentiated gender needs and roles in risk and resource management. Furthermore, equitable participation of both women and men will be guaranteed in all training activities.
331. Location: Central institutions in the sectors of tourism, culture, environment, and climate change. Subnational government institutions such as mayor's offices and sectoral representatives.
332. Beneficiary population: 50 officials from local, regional, and national government entities, with special emphasis on those responsible for the management of natural resources, tourism, and cultural heritage.
333. Responsible institutions / involved actors: MMARN will lead the implementation, with involvement from MITUR, local governments, NGOs specialized in climate change and risk management, and international cooperation organizations.
334. Activity 4.1.2 Strengthening interinstitutional coordination and training for climate risk management.
335. This activity aims to improve the understanding and use of climate risk information through strategic partnerships and specialized training on monitoring systems (see Component 1), enabling communities and local authorities to make informed and timely decisions.
336. A training program will be provided for Civil Defense personnel that will cover climate threats, their impacts on communities and ecosystems, and will include training in the preparation of scientific reports on climate change, adaptation, and mitigation. Mayors and governors will also be trained to integrate climate change and risk management into local planning, improving resilience and risk reduction for climate-related disasters. Additionally, training will be given to technicians in specialized tools related to climate models and hydrological information systems. The training will include practical modules whenever possible (e.g., risk management simulations, participatory monitoring workshops).
337. Joint workshops will be organized for local Civil Defense and INDOMET personnel to clearly define the roles and responsibilities of each institution in climate risk management within the project area and to improve the understanding and coordinated use of the SINI. These trainings will include instruction on the tools and functionalities of the SINI relevant to early warning and risk monitoring, so that each institution can efficiently access, interpret, and use the information. Procedures and key points of contact will be established to ensure agile and effective communication during climate events, thereby optimizing the joint response.
338. Gender and Inclusion Approach: The training activities will include specific modules with topics proposed from a gender perspective, especially regarding the impacts of climate change on men and women, boys and girls, older adults, and vulnerable populations. Active participation of women who are part of Civil Defense teams, municipalities, and governorates will be promoted, and these technical teams, as well as those of SINI, will be trained on gender, inclusion, and climate change. The inclusion of specific indicators to record and monitor data disaggregated by sex and age in the SINI will also be encouraged.
339. Location: Protected areas: Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park.
340. Beneficiary population: Direct: 30 officials from Civil Defense, MMARN, and INDOMET, and 480 people including mayors, governors, primary producers, and community members trained. Indirect: Local communities near the project's protected areas (47% women).
341. Responsible institutions/involved actors: MMARN will lead the implementation, but involved entities will include Civil Defense and INDOMET.

Activity 4.1.3 Strengthening environmental and social risk management systems, including gender-related aspects.

342. This activity will focus on improving environmental and social risk management systems within government entities. Tools and protocols will be developed for the assessment and mitigation of climate and social risks, with special attention to integrating a gender perspective. This will include training on identifying the specific vulnerabilities of different social groups and implementing inclusive adaptive and mitigating measures.
343. Gender and Inclusion Approach: A risk analysis and management methodology will be implemented that considers the different needs and contributions of women and men. Specific strategies will be designed to address gender vulnerabilities, and the active participation of women in decision-making will be promoted. Training materials and tools developed will be inclusive and will not reinforce gender stereotypes.
344. Location: Areas of influence of the communities near La Hispaniola National Park and the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary, within the municipal districts of Estero Hondo and La Isabela.
345. Beneficiary population: 50 technical and administrative staff from government entities at the local, regional, and national levels, with a focus on those working in natural and social resource management.
346. Responsible institutions/involved actors: MMARN will lead the implementation, but involved entities will include MITUR, local governments, NGOs focused on community development and gender equity, academic and research institutions, and international cooperation organizations.

Output 4.2: Local population sensitized on climate change and trained in adaptation options for resilient livelihoods.

347. Output 4.2 aims to raise awareness and train the local population about climate change and sustainable practices. It focuses on improving capacities in sustainable tourism and hospitality and promoting the conservation of protected areas and cultural heritage through an awareness campaign, with

an inclusive approach to ensure the participation of women and youth.

Activity 4.2.1 Promote access to training programs in sustainable tourism and hospitality services.

348. This activity aims to improve the capacities of the local community in sustainable tourism practices and hospitality services, promoting greater competitiveness and resilience to face the impacts of climate change on local livelihoods. The project executing entity must identify and establish partnerships with institutions that offer appropriate training programs in sustainable tourism, hospitality, and good environmental practices. Through stakeholder mapping, the project will gather information on the specific training needs of vulnerable populations, including language learning (at least English), skills in association-building, entrepreneurship, and adaptation to the effects of climate change. To facilitate access to these trainings, scholarships and transportation support will be provided to ease attendance, promoting a climate-resilient ecotourism approach that strengthens experience-sharing capacity at the national level and fosters sustainable environmental practices in tourism initiatives developed within the project area.
349. Gender and Inclusion Approach: The identification of training needs will include the specific interests of women in the tourism and hospitality sector, as well as their current participation. Based on this assessment, a percentage of training scholarships will be specifically allocated to women and young women. Educational institutions offering professional training and courses aimed at women in the sector will also be identified to establish collaborative partnerships that cover all expenses related to the training courses, including transportation.
350. Location: Local communities near La Hispaniola National Park and the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary within the municipal districts of Estero Hondo and La Isabela.
351. Beneficiary Population: Direct: 50 Interns (60% women). **Indirect beneficiaries**: Local residents, especially women and youth.
352. Responsible institutions/actors involved: MITUR will lead its implementation, but among the entities involved will be INFOTEP and other educational institutions, community development NGOs, and tourism companies.

Activity 4.2.2 Communication and sensitization campaign for the local population on climate change, protected areas and cultural heritage

353. This activity aims to raise awareness among the local population about the effects of climate change, the importance of protected areas, and the conservation of cultural heritage, seeking to promote behavioural changes in practices that worsen these issues.
354. A **communication and awareness plan** will be designed, which will include the creation of **visual materials** such as educational videos about the restoration of beaches, dunes, and coastal vegetation, to make these processes easier to understand. The project will leverage the infrastructure and outreach capacity of **museums** to organize **interactive activities** such as talks, hands-on workshops, artistic and cultural events, contests, and excursions, especially aimed at children and youth, in order to promote active and lasting learning. Additionally, an educational program will be implemented in schools, focused on coastal care and the impacts of climate change.
355. To strengthen the outreach, community awareness strategies will be developed, including signage and collaboration with local leaders, such as mayors, to engage the community in the care of natural resources, especially in areas affected by droughts and coastal erosion.
356. In order to amplify the impact of the awareness plan, digital content creators with a significant presence on social media and an affinity for environmental, cultural, and sustainable tourism topics will be hired. These local and national influencers will help disseminate key project messages by producing attractive audiovisual content tailored to different platforms (such as Instagram, TikTok, YouTube, and Facebook), promoting sustainable practices, the protection of protected areas and cultural heritage, as well as community participation. This strategy aims to generate a multiplier effect in public awareness, especially among young people, encouraging social ownership of the environmental message through high-reach digital channels.
357. Gender and Inclusion Approach: The communication and awareness plan will be designed and implemented with a gender perspective, differentiating target audiences to tailor messages, media, and actions accordingly. It will include a specific component aimed at reaching women—both young and adult—based on prior assessments that identify how their practices and knowledge influence the issues at hand. Communication materials will be adapted accordingly, using inclusive language and gender-neutral imagery.
358. Location: Municipal districts of Estero Hondo, La Jaiba, and La Isabela.
359. Beneficiary Population: Direct: 600 residents (47% women).
360. Responsible Institutions / Stakeholders Involved: MMARN and the Ministry of Culture will lead its implementation, with involvement from local municipalities among other entities.

Output 4.3 Climate change adaptation knowledge disseminated among key stakeholders.

361. Output 4.3 aims to disseminate key knowledge on climate change adaptation among key stakeholders. Through activities such as the systematization of lessons learned and the exchange of experiences, case studies and reflections on the effectiveness of implemented actions will be shared—particularly regarding women and other vulnerable groups. These activities will promote mutual learning and the replication of successful experiences.

Activity 4.3.1 Promote the systematization of the Project's lessons learned and their dissemination.

362. Through this activity, the implementation of at least four case studies (including one focused specifically on gender), systematization of experiences, exchange, and reflection among the various project participants will be financed. Additionally, knowledge products will be created to disseminate key information to different audiences. These knowledge products may include videos, one-pagers, infographics, and any other materials identified as essential for reaching key decision-makers and promoting the replication of experiences. Various studies will also be conducted on the effectiveness and cost-benefit of different activities implemented and pilot initiatives developed through the project, such as aquaculture, support for agrotourism and ecotourism ventures, among others. These studies will include analysis of how different actions affect or benefit women and other vulnerable groups differently. The information generated is expected to provide evidence supporting the long-term financial sustainability of productive and sustainable tourism activities. Workshops will also be held to bring together government actors, international organizations, NGOs working in these areas, and the local population, to promote knowledge exchange and joint reflection. Approximately 200 participants are expected (50% women).
363. Gender and Inclusion Approach: Specific case studies and experiences will be identified and systematized regarding the participation of women in the project's activities. Gender and inclusion aspects will also be considered in the selection and analysis of all case studies and systematization of experiences. Work sessions focused on the gender approach will be included in the exchange and reflection instances, as well as in the knowledge-sharing workshops with stakeholders. The participation of women from civil society will be ensured, based on the participation criteria detailed in the GAP. All materials developed for the dissemination of knowledge products will include sex- and age-disaggregated information and will be created using inclusive language and non-sexist imagery.
364. Responsible institutions/involved actors: The executing entity will be the leader in its implementation, but among the entities involved will be MMARN, MITUR, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Women, and Ministry of Agriculture.

Activity 4.3.2 Exchange of experiences

365. To promote peer learning, the project will organize experience exchange visits where the actors implementing the project—both governmental and NGOs, local populations, and producers from the agricultural and fishing sectors—can learn from and share the project's experience with other regions. Some of the regions with initiatives that may be considered include the following: Mangrove ecosystem restoration and conservation, carried out in Samaná by the Centre for the Conservation and Ecological Development of the Bay of Samaná and its Surroundings (CEBSE); Coral reef restoration, implemented in Bayahibe and other areas of the country through FUNDEMAR; Development of sustainable community tourism initiatives, a project implemented throughout the northern region of the country by MITUR with funds from JICA; Agrotourism projects.
366. Gender and Inclusion Approach: The exchange of experiences will be organized based on the identification of specific visits that illustrate how the project is being implemented with a gender and inclusion perspective, in order to also promote this learning. Both the technical teams executing the project and representatives of the local population will have equitable representation of men and women, and local women will be actively involved in these exchange visits.
367. Responsible institutions/involved actors: The executing entity will be the leader in the implementation, but among the involved entities will be MMARN, MITUR, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Women, and Ministry of Agriculture.

Summary of the capacity development plan

368. As described in the activities above, capacity building is addressed both through a dedicated **Component 4**—focused on strengthening capacities and knowledge for climate adaptation in coastal and marine areas—and as a **cross-cutting priority** embedded throughout the project. Capacity development will take place on three main levels:

A. Institutional level

- Government institutions (such as MMARN, INDRHI, INDOMET, Civil Defense) will be supported through training, technical assistance, and tools to improve climate risk management and coordination. This includes:
- Strengthening inter-institutional platforms and climate coordination mechanisms (Activity 4.1.1).
- Operationalizing climate-resilient monitoring systems and protocols (Activities 1.1.3, 2.2.2, and 3.1.3).
- Integrating environmental and social safeguards in climate planning, with attention to gender and vulnerable groups (Activities 4.1.2, 4.1.3, and 4.2.2).
- Strengthening national and subnational institutional capacities, including municipal planning and early warning systems (Activities 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 4.1.4, and 4.2.1).

B. Community level

- Training and accompaniment for community co-management of protected areas (Activity 1.3.1), citizen monitoring (Activity 1.3.2), and implementation of ecosystem restoration (e.g., nurseries, mangrove, and beach reforestation – Activities 1.2.2 and 1.2.3).
- Development of climate-resilient livelihoods (e.g., agrotourism, eco-fisheries, sustainable crafts), with technical assistance and business training (Activities 2.2.3, 2.2.4, and 2.2.5).
- Inclusion of women and youth in monitoring efforts, educational campaigns, and green enterprises (Activities 1.3.2, 4.2.1, and 4.2.2).

C. Knowledge and learning

- Systematization and dissemination of lessons learned with gender and intergenerational lenses (Activity 4.2.3).
- Development of training materials and exchange visits between communities and institutions (Activities 4.1.2 and 4.2.1).
- Strengthening the national environmental data platform and transferring its management to DIARENA, with tailored training and support (Activities 1.1.3 and 4.1.1).

369. To ensure **long-term sustainability**, the project promotes:

- Strengthening the field presence of public institutions and alignment with national programs (Activities 1.1.1, 4.1.1, and 4.1.4).
- Development of co-management plans and restoration protocols that can be scaled or replicated (Activities 1.2.1, 1.3.1, and 1.3.3).
- Involvement of the private sector in climate-resilient business models and green jobs (Activities 2.2.3 and 2.2.5), along with strong community ownership and local governance mechanisms.

B. Describe how the project/programme provides economic, social and environmental benefits, with particular reference to the most vulnerable communities, and vulnerable groups within communities, including gender considerations. Describe how the project/programme will avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

Economic benefits of the Project

370. The project will ensure tangible economic benefits for the vulnerable population at the project site, such as stable income, preservation of employment and creation of new jobs through the diversification of resilient livelihoods. It will also protect natural and historical heritages that are tourist attractions, generating savings for the population and the local government. This will improve adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change threats, reducing associated costs.

371. Comp. 1, through the strengthening of inter-ministerial governance and coordination mechanisms (Output 1.1) and the improvement of the monitoring and information management system on coastal dynamics, erosion risk, drought, event impacts, deforestation, manatee, coral and seagrass populations and basin (Output 1.3), will allow for better organization among stakeholders and greater effectiveness of activities. This will facilitate the localization and prioritization of policies and actions, reducing exposure and economic costs for the public and private sector.

372. Planning instruments (Output 1.2), such as the Plan for the resilient and sustainable development of local ecotourism and the Co-management Plan, together with the implementation of sustainable fisheries, agritourism, agroecological, and ecotourism activities in Comp. 3, will comprehensively manage, coordinate and develop resilient livelihoods for the tourism, agriculture and fisheries sector, together with ecosystem protection. The pursuit of resilient livelihoods aims to build the climate change resilience of small-scale community fishers and small tourism service and agriculture enterprises, preserve and create new jobs, improve incomes from these activities, and generate a linkage effect to other sectors of the economy, developing the local economy and reducing the likelihood of needing government social assistance. Output 3.1 will also install hybrid infrastructure to protect historic heritage of high tourism value.

373. Comp. 2, which includes the restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems (Output 2.1) and the reforestation of upstream basins (Output 2.2), will contribute to reducing the impact of various climate hazards by acting as natural barriers against hurricanes, storms, sea level rise, coastal erosion and saline intrusion. This will stabilize and even increase income and productivity in the area by reducing losses in agriculture, livestock and fisheries due to climate hazards and ecosystem degradation, while creating opportunities for new recreational ecotourism practices. Fisheries will benefit from reduced pollution and degradation of marine and coastal ecosystems, and tourism will benefit from new employment alternatives for coastal communities thanks to the tourist attractions provided by these natural heritages. Together with Output 2.2, the problem of drought and soil erosion will be addressed, not only in the riverside but also in the livestock fields, with the implementation of silvopasture systems, which translates into better income for livestock farmers, avoiding the loss of productivity due to poor soil and pasture quality, as well as the costs of water supply for livestock, in addition to improving the health of livestock by increasing their resilience in the face of heat waves and hydraulic stress.

374. Comp. 4 will strengthen capacities among stakeholders, both institutions (Output 4.1) and community residents (Output 4.2) and will seek to raise awareness of climate risk and develop communication and dissemination strategies that will reduce the economic impact of disasters through education on how to preserve ecosystems that act as natural barriers, reducing the cost of climate change hazards on livelihoods, infrastructure and population. In addition, this component aims to ensure that knowledge and response capacity will last beyond the project period to ensure sustainability of activities and avoid future interventions.

375. A cross-cutting benefit of all results is the creation of indirect employment due to the implementation of planned works and capacity building activities. The Environmental and Social Management Plan (Annex 06 - ESMP) that includes mitigation measures, information of the project's grievance mechanism, and implementation responsibilities. Additionally, a Gender Assessment (Annex 03) and a Gender Action Plan (Annex 04) were developed to ensure gender and social inclusion across all project components through a participatory approach.

Environmental benefits of the Project

376. Comp. 2 activities, focused on ecosystem-based adaptation solutions, with restoration of 106 ha of coastal and marine ecosystems and

strengthening of 800 ha in the upstream basins, will holistically improve ecosystem services: provisioning (e.g. fisheries), supporting (e.g. maintaining the life cycle of wildlife and local communities); regulating services (erosion prevention, climate change moderation, etc.) and improving connectivity between ecosystems. The project promotes activities that foster sustainable and integrated upper basin management to maintain or improve water provision and regulation services; increase forest cover on the riverbank; decrease erosion and sedimentation in rivers; improve biodiversity by promoting the use of native species; improve soil quality.

377. In addition, activities to restore coral reefs, seagrasses and mangroves will generate several benefits: coastal protection (reestablish the natural barrier against strong waves), reduce coastal erosion, conservation of fishery resources, increase biodiversity and the biomass of marine and coastal species, among others. Through Comp. 2, the planting of trees of different native and endemic species will be promoted, which will improve air and soil quality; cool the environment; and provide habitat and food for different species (birds). Through Comps. 1 and 4, awareness-raising and capacity-building processes are intended to bring about a change in the social and cultural behaviour of the communities that will allow them to value natural resources and conserve (in the long term) the ecosystem services provided by the basin and coastal ecosystems.

Social benefits of the Project

378. The total number of expected beneficiaries amounts to 8,665 people, since some of the expected investments, such as the improvement of socio-environmental registry systems and the development of comprehensive plans, will indirectly benefit the entire population of the municipalities of Villa Isabela and Luperón. In terms of targeted support to increase adaptive capacities with concrete direct adaptation solutions or capacity building, the Project will reach 4,087 community members (47% being women) and provincial and national government actors.

379. Comps. 1 and 4, through institutional improvements combined with awareness, communication and community participation campaigns, will allow the population not only to have more information and capacities, but also a greater degree of awareness, involvement and empowerment in relation to climate impacts on the coast and the decisions taken in relation to them. In addition, local capacities will be strengthened to implement and maintain adaptation projects, ensuring their long-term sustainability. The improvement of the socioenvironmental information system (Output 1.3) will allow for better preparedness and informed management in the face of extreme climate events, reducing risks and damages to communities and, therefore, the population's exposure to climate impacts.

380. With the development of the Estero Hondo and La Isabela Community-Based Resilient Ecotourism Plan and the Co-management Plan (Output 1.2), as well as the activities of Comp. 3, the diversification of resilient livelihoods will be integrated into local development, promoting economic growth balanced with environmental conservation. This will increase employment and income generation opportunities, strengthening the local economy. In addition, Output 3.1 will protect the historical and cultural heritage of the communities, maintaining their identity and traditions.

381. In Comp. 2, the restoration of mangroves, coral reefs and sand plants (Output 2.1) and the reforestation of upstream basins and silvopasture systems (Output 2.2) will improve ecosystem services, contributing significantly to the quality of life, health and productivity of the population by improving the living environment, water quality, soil, air and biodiversity. Green infrastructure will act as a natural barrier against various climate hazards, reducing damage and loss of property and assets of the vulnerable population.

382. The project will also help reduce mass migration or population displacement due to loss of livelihoods, production, and other prolonged economic impacts. It will also help mitigate the psychosocial effects on victims of drought and extreme heat.

383. The social benefits of the project will reach both the inhabitants of the areas closest to the coast, who will be the direct beneficiaries, and those who travel to the coast for economic, recreational or cultural activities throughout the year, with a greater influx in summer due to tourism activity (internal and external tourism) and the tourists themselves.

Gender analysis

Gender baseline

384. Population: As presented in section A, data from the latest National Population and Housing Census 2022 show that there are 10,760,028 inhabitants in the Dominican Republic, with a women population index of 1.03 in urban areas and 0.86 in rural areas⁹⁶. In the area where the project will be implemented, Luperón is the municipality with the highest percentage of women. On the other hand, the femininity index in poor households is 138.08⁹⁷. Women-headed households in the Dominican Republic represent 38.8%, being higher in urban areas than in rural areas (41.6% and 32.3% respectively)⁹⁸.

385. Education: The data available at the national level indicate that women attend or attended a higher proportion of university education (including graduate, master's, and doctoral studies), 31.8%, compared to men, 21.8%. On the other hand, the relationship is reversed when looking at attendance at primary or secondary education centres, where males represent 37% and 40% respectively, in relation to women (31% and 36%)⁹⁹.

386. Economic situation of women: According to the latest available data, the male employment rate exceeds the women rate by more than 25 points (74.4% vs. 46.5%), while the relationship is reversed when looking at the open unemployment rate, where women in the Dominican Republic

⁹⁶ National Population Estimates and Projections ("Estimaciones y Proyecciones Nacionales de Población"), ONE.

⁹⁷ Data from ECLAC's Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

⁹⁸ 2018, data from ONE based on National Multi-Purpose Household Survey ("Encuesta Nacional de Hogares de Propósitos Múltiples", ENHOGAR).

⁹⁹ Ibid.

represent 8.2% and men 3.2%. The same gap is observed for the inactivity rate, with the women rate being 49.3% compared to a male inactivity rate of 23.2%¹⁰⁰. When the distribution of unemployment between men and women by sector is analysed, it is in the private sector where there are more unemployed women than men. The largest gender gap in unemployment by economic activity is observed in the *hotels, bars, and restaurants* category (20,647 women versus 9,837 unemployed men)¹⁰¹. In the project's region of influence, Cibao Norte, unemployed women in 2019 were 19,704 and males 9,533¹⁰². On the other hand, the EAP data for the year 2022 indicate that the *office employees'* occupational group is the one that contains the highest number of women in relation to men, followed by the *service workers* and *intellectual professionals'* group. The ratio is reversed in Favor of males for the *operators and craftsmen'* and *operators and drivers'* groups¹⁰³.

387. In terms of the sectors of the economy that will be influenced by the proposed activities, women's participation stands out in fishing, agriculture, and tourism. In the case of the fishing sector, women's economic contribution is related to catching and processing or sales activities, although these are not typically remunerated or socially recognized activities. In the area of influence of the project, their involvement in this economic activity is usually linked to marketing and sales, with the experience "From the fish market to my neighbourhood"¹⁰⁴ standing out. The formal participation of women in fishermen's organizations is also not recognized, as men are the ones who are members of these organizations, and therefore most of the projects that support the sector are aimed at male fishers. In technical assistance initiatives, for example, women's tasks, such as mollusc and oyster harvesting, are not usually taken into account¹⁰⁵.
388. According to the information included in the Gender and Climate Change Action Plan of the Dominican Republic ("Plan de acción género y cambio climático de República Dominicana", PAGCC-RD), although women are part of the tourism sector, their salary represents approximately 68% of a man's salary. This is linked to the fact that women do not usually occupy management or leadership positions in this sector¹⁰⁶. According to data from 2022, the employed population at the national level in the economic activity Hotels, Bars and Restaurants had a higher representation of women than men (201,329 and 159,875, respectively)¹⁰⁷. In the area of influence of the project, it has been observed that the participation of women in the tourism activity is significantly low but could represent an opportunity for women to find employment and economic income, within the framework of activities that will promote sustainable and nature tourism.
389. Use of time: According to data prepared by ECLAC, in the Dominican Republic, the time that men dedicate to unpaid work is significantly less than that dedicated by women. Men spend an average of 10.9 hours per week, while women spend an average of 25.5 hours per week¹⁰⁸. These data are complemented by those recorded in 2016¹⁰⁹, which report that women spend an average of 16.7 hours per week on tasks related to domestic and unpaid care work, while men only spend an average of 3.7 hours on the same type of tasks.
390. Access to information technologies: The percentage of men and women who own computers, laptops and desktops, and tablets is practically similar (13.9% and 13.3%, respectively). Similarly, women with cell phone ownership represent 79.7%, while men with cell phones represent 80.6%, at the national level¹¹⁰.
391. Institutional Instruments: The Ministry of Women of the Dominican Republic is currently the agency responsible for establishing norms and coordinating the execution of policies, plans, and programs at the inter-institutional and sectoral levels, to achieve gender equality and equity and the full exercise of women's citizenship. It has provincial and municipal representation, with an office in Puerto Plata.
392. The National Plan for Gender Equality and Equity 2020-2030 ("Plan de Acción de Género y Cambio Climático para República Dominicana", PLANEG III)¹¹¹ includes the National Theme "Gender and Environment", which involves the implementation of the National Sanitation Strategy throughout the country, disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change, access to information, participation and decision-making in environmental matters, and the incorporation of the gender approach in environmental planning.
393. The National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change of the Dominican Republic (PNACC-DR) 2015-2030¹¹² includes the Cross-Cutting Line 7, "Integration of the Gender Perspective" and recognizes the role of women as agents of change to promote their participation in the transformation of society towards a low carbon and resilient development.
394. The Gender and Climate Change Action Plan for the Dominican Republic (PAGCC-RD) 2018-2024¹¹³ identifies 9 priority sectors for intervention, among which are the coastal marine and tourism sectors, in line with two of the economic sectors on which the activities of this project will impact.

¹⁰⁰ 2022, data from ONE based on the National and Continuous Labor Force Surveys (Encuestas Nacional y Continua de Fuerza de Trabajo).

¹⁰¹ Ibid.

¹⁰² Ibid.

¹⁰³ Ibid.

¹⁰⁴ See Annex Stakeholders Report.

¹⁰⁵ (PAGCC-RD) 2018-2024

¹⁰⁶ Ibid.

¹⁰⁷ 2022, data from ONE based on the National and Continuous Labor Force Surveys.

¹⁰⁸ Data from ECLAC's Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2021.

¹⁰⁹ Data from ONE based on National Multi-Purpose Household Surveys (ENHOGAR), 2016.

¹¹⁰ Ibid., 2018.

¹¹¹ Ministry of Women, Dominican Republic.

¹¹² Carried out under the technical supervision of the National Council for Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism ("Consejo Nacional para el Cambio Climático y Mecanismo de Desarrollo Limpio", CNCCMDL), the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) with funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) within the Project "Third National Communication of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change of the Dominican Republic – ("Tercera Comunicación Nacional de la Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas sobre Cambio Climático de la República Dominicana") TCNCC" by the PLENITUD Foundation. 2016.

¹¹³ Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic. (2018). Gender and Climate Change Action Plan: Dominican Republic (PAGCC-RD). <https://cambioclimatico.gob.do/phocadownload/Documentos/cop25/Plan%20de%20G%C3%A9nero%20y%20Cambio%20Clim%C3%A1tico%20-%20RD.pdf>

395. The Inter-Institutional Gender and Climate Change Roundtable¹¹⁴ aims to accelerate the implementation of the PAGCC-RD, and to monitor and promote projects and programs that ensure fairer and more gender-sensitive climate action. It regularly involves actors from the public sector, civil society, the private sector, international cooperation, and academia, to integrate gender perspective in actions related to climate change.

Gender benefits of the Project

396. Through the GAP, the project will include activities and actions that promote and strengthen the active participation and involvement of women, young and adults, in all components, as beneficiaries and as bearers of knowledge and good practices in the sectors of the economy to be supported. As direct and indirect beneficiaries, the project will include specific mechanisms to ensure that the activities respond to their specific needs and specific problems, within the framework of the overall objective to be achieved, as well as to strengthen their skills and knowledge so that they can diversify their livelihoods. In addition, through the activities included in Comp. 4, the project will work to include the gender and inclusion perspective in the actions aimed at the technical teams involved, both at the national and local levels, by mainstreaming this approach in training and education activities, as well as in the exchange of experiences, lessons learned and knowledge building, identifying and including case studies, lessons learned and communication products on gender and social inclusion, and scheduling workshops with special sessions to discuss and exchange on this particular topic during project implementation.

397. As part of the activities of Component 1, the project will integrate an integral gender perspective and inclusion in the co-management of protected areas, development of tourist attractions and agroecological businesses, seeking as a result the equitable involvement of men and women in the management of natural resources, through concrete measures to ensure participation in training and education. In addition, we will seek to learn in depth how women living in the project area, both youth and adults, are involved in the use and management of these resources (tourism, fishing, agriculture, protected areas) in order to promote specific actions and enhance the project's actions from a perspective of inclusion. On the other hand, as part of the Interinstitutional Coordination Mechanism, the Ministry of Women and the Gender and Climate Change Roundtable will be actively involved, in addition to implementing specific training on the subject for the members of the Mechanism. Monitoring activities will also focus on equitable access to the information generated, as well as on the follow-up of indicators disaggregated by sex and age, when applicable.

398. Comp. 2 on ecosystem restorations proposes training and environmental awareness activities that integrate specific topics on gender perspective and inclusion. The Gender Action Plan will include specific mechanisms to ensure the active participation of women, young and adults, in these activities, as well as the necessary measures to ensure that restoration works are designed and implemented with social inclusion criteria.

399. The project will also seek to generate economic benefits for the local population through activities that support and strengthen the livelihoods of vulnerable communities (Component 3). The GAP includes activities to support women working in fishing (Output 3.2), agriculture and livestock (Output 3.3), and tourism (Activity 3.1.3), based on the identification of their specific interests and needs. The tourism and cultural heritage sites that will be reconditioned as part of this project will take into account social inclusion criteria, so that not only visitors will benefit, but also the local population will be able to use them, especially in their management.

C. Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project/programme.

400. The activities of the four components are mutually reinforcing to ensure their sustainability and contribute to achieving the desired results by proposing a combination of adaptation investments in hybrid and green infrastructure and capacity building, awareness raising, planning and governance tools to address climate change impacts.

401. To analyse the cost-effectiveness of the measures, we have considered cost criteria, short- and long-term results, environmental and social impact, associated co-benefits, and initial and maintenance budgets, comparing them with possible alternative adaptation measures based on national and international experiences.

402. The activities in Component 1 and 4, which include strengthening inter-ministerial governance, resilient livelihoods and co-management plans, improving environmental information systems, capacity building and awareness campaigns, entail low investment with demonstrated long-term effectiveness and sustainability, as well as benefits that would be justified under all future scenarios (typically no-regret options). These measures address key barriers related to governance in the project area, limited capacities to modify social and cultural behaviours, improve resilient production practices, and prevent the loss of ecosystems and jobs. The project will establish monitoring, evaluation and learning mechanisms that will be reinforced by the registration systems that will be developed with the project. This will generate valuable knowledge that will serve as a basis for sustainability, facilitating learning and replication of experiences.

403. Component 2 activities, focused on restoring coastal and marine ecosystems and reforestation upstream basins, are ecosystem-based adaptation solutions that require low initial investment and low-cost maintenance. These proactive measures support key ecosystem services and environmental health benefits while avoiding additional costs. The Project includes the Ridge to Reef approach, which consists of considering a broad vision of planning, restoration, and implementation of best practices in human and economic activities throughout the basins involved in the project.

404. The activities of Component 3 are accommodation measures¹¹⁵ aimed at developing resilient livelihoods to impact climate change in the project area, avoiding unsustainable exploitation of the ecosystem and costs for reactive measures such as government subsidies or migration of the

¹¹⁴ Dominican Republic advances in the inclusion of gender equality in its climate change policies ("República Dominicana avanza en la inclusión de la igualdad de género en sus políticas frente al cambio climático"), November 2023.

¹¹⁵ IPCC CZMS (1990). Strategies for Adaptation to Sea Level Rise. Report of the Coastal Zone Management Subgroup. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Response Strategies Working Group.

population. This will be done based on the development of Component 1 of the Plan for the resilient and sustainable development of local tourism and the Co-management Plan, which will allow prioritizing resilient investments. Output 3.3 supports sustainable agrotourism and agricultural MSMEs, contributing to the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems by improving the incomes and living conditions of local producers in a resilient and sustainable manner over time. Additionally, the project includes a pilot aquaculture initiative using a recirculating system low water consumption for Tilapia production, as a low environmental impact productive alternative. This will allow for the evaluation of its technical and economic viability as an adaptation option for fishing communities affected by overexploitation and climate variability. This pilot experience will generate replicable learnings and reduce the risks of future investments, contributing to the cost-benefit analysis of the implemented approach.

405. The project is designed with an integrated approach that simultaneously enhances the resilience of marine, coastal, and terrestrial ecosystems, and the adaptation of local livelihoods, in the face of thermal and water stress and coastal erosion. Through complementary interventions—such as ecosystem restoration, improvement of tourist attraction facilities, organizational and business capacity strengthening, promotion of sustainable productive practices, and monitoring and development of Plans—the entire value chain of key sectors in the project area is addressed. This allows for the diversification of the tourism offer beyond the sun and beach model, with active community participation and a strong component of nature-based solutions. This approach reduces the need for reactive measures in the future, improves the use of existing resources, and increases the economic and environmental return on investments.
406. The project seeks to leverage the human and technical resources of the public sector to carry out activities, utilizing and strengthening existing structures, while ensuring the integration of climate change and adaptation solutions. This contributes to sustainability and efficient use of resources.
407. The following table provides a detailed analysis of alternative technologies for the activities under Components 2 and 3:

Table 4. Cost-benefit analysis of the activities of components 2 and 3

| Project strategy | Detail | Alternative options for the same outputs | Detail |
|---|--|--|--|
| Restoration of coastal ecosystems (planting of mangroves, assisted coral reef reproduction) | <p><u>Advantages:</u> multiple benefits: they act as natural barriers against the advance of the sea, strong waves and saline intrusion, provide protection against storms and hurricanes, provide food resources for fishing and are tourist attractions that provide alternative employment for coastal communities. In addition, mangrove forests sequester and store carbon in their biomass and soils.</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> Mangrove plantations have low initial investment costs. Maintenance can be inexpensive, given the nature of the ecosystem, as long as they are not subject to coastal pressure and the rate of sea level rise is not too rapid to keep pace, they can adapt to sea level rise without major investment.</p> <p>Assisted sexual reproduction of coral reefs: USD200,000 monitoring and restoration with assisted reproduction (training and capacity building).</p> <p><u>Positive national experience:</u> i. Fundemar has more than a decade of experience in coral restoration and is pioneering the implementation of assisted sexual reproduction techniques for corals in the country, opening the first assisted reproduction laboratory in 2019 in Bayahibe and launching a guide in 2022 so that other institutions can replicate their efforts. https://www.fundemardr.org/manual</p> <p>ii. Hundreds of thousands of mangroves, including three different species, were planted to strengthen and protect more than 160 hectares of coastline in the Samana Bay area through the Conservancy's commitment to support the conservation management of the Bajo Yuna National Park. The Caribbean 2020 impact report. TNC</p> | Asexual propagation of corals | <p><u>Disadvantages:</u> facilitates transplantation of kilometres of living tissue, recovery of three-dimensional complexity in relatively short time frames, high survival rates (up to 60%) and relatively low production costs. However, the reduced genetic diversity of coral populations has been one of the most criticized limitations of this strategy (Rinkevich 2005; Precht 2006; Baums 2008; Sharer et al. 2009). Populations with greater genotype diversity may be more resilient to the negative effects of bleaching events and disease occurrence (Baums 2008). Given the current climate change scenario and the concomitant warming of the oceans, reefs with higher genotypic diversity are expected to have a better chance of survival in the coming decades (Sharer et al. 2009).</p> |
| | | Hybrid reefs | <p><u>Disadvantages:</u> They are structures that combine natural and artificial elements to protect the coast from erosion and mitigate the effects of sea level rise. They usually include components constructed of materials such as concrete or rocks, along with biological elements such as corals, oysters, or marine vegetation, which can colonize and grow on the structure. They require careful planning and design to ensure that the artificial and biological components integrate and function synergistically and do not alter the habitat, as they can have severe environmental risks.</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> Implementation can be costly due to the need for specific materials and advanced technology for installation and require regular maintenance to ensure that both artificial and biological components function properly and are maintained in good condition. https://singularityhub.com/2021/09/30/a-hybrid-coral-reef-in-mexico-is-using-energy-from-waves-to-turn-sea-salt-to-rock/</p> |
| | | Hard works (breakwater, detached breakwaters, wave breakers) | <p><u>Disadvantages:</u> Tough work of large budget (for initial investment and maintenance). With rising sea levels and increased wave energy, the cost of maintenance increases. The use of hard works that imply important erosive effects in other points of the coast (negative environmental impact) is discarded: by distortion of sediment contribution by coastal drift (Panario and</p> |

| Project strategy | Detail | Alternative options for the same outputs | Detail |
|--|---|--|--|
| | | | <p>Gutiérrez, 2006) or as in the case of detached breakwaters where there is the possibility of the formation of tombolos and inlets too pronounced that can have a negative effect on the beach (Dean, 1997). It turns out that once constructed, they fix the location of the shoreline in position at the time of construction. Fixing the position of the shoreline is problematic because shorelines are naturally dynamic geographic features that respond to factors such as sea level rise and wave climate. In addition, they often significantly alter the seascape and sometimes alienate local communities from the nature and environment we seek to protect.</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> A study by Linham et al. (2010) indicates that the unit cost of constructing 1 km of vertical seawall ranges from \$0.4 million to \$27.5 million. Detached breakwaters raising costs between US\$0.9 million and US\$29.2 million per meter in height per kilometer in length (in 2009 US dollars) (Hillen et al., 2010).</p> <p><u>Negative national experience:</u> A breakwater that was installed on an eroded beach in the Puerto Plata area in 2007 has not helped to restore the sand on the beach; the sand that accumulates on the structure is carried offshore by currents. (K. Strum, Wyndham Tangerine, pers. comm., October 8, 2009)</p> |
| Ecological mooring buoys to avoid anchoring on the bottom and signalling buoys | <p><u>Advantages:</u> This system has several benefits, both environmental and practical: Protection of the marine ecosystem: avoids the damage that anchors can cause to the seabed, especially in sensitive areas such as coral reefs, seagrass beds and other important marine habitats. They use anchors that have minimal impact on the substrate, while anchors and chains can destroy these fragile ecosystems, which has a negative impact on marine biodiversity. Marker buoys will also be placed to complement marine restoration measures.</p> <p>Ease of use: Mooring a boat to a buoy is generally quicker and easier than dropping and retrieving an anchor, making it easier for boaters to operate.</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> Installation: Moderate (USD 650 each https://tmmarinas.com/accessories/mooring-buoys/). Requires the placement of buoys anchored to the seabed with systems that minimize environmental impact, such as helical anchors or concrete blocks.</p> <p>Maintenance: Relatively low maintenance. Requires periodic inspections and maintenance, but generally not very costly.</p> <p><u>Positive national experience:</u> in Bayahibe https://www.redarrecifaldominicana.org/instalacion-de-boyas-de-senalizacion-marina-en-bayahibe/</p> | <p>Low impact anchors</p> <p>Permanent line moorings</p> <p>Floating moorings</p> | <p><u>Disadvantages:</u> These anchors are designed to minimize damage to the seabed. They include designs that distribute weight and drag force in a manner that reduces disturbance to the marine substrate. However, universal use cannot be guaranteed.</p> <p><u>Disadvantages:</u> Instead of buoys, permanent mooring systems using fixed lines anchored at strategic points on the seabed can be installed. However, permanent line moorings can still have some impact on the seabed depending on the type of anchor used.</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> Installation: Low to moderate. Installation can be relatively simple, using permanent anchors such as concrete blocks or helical anchors with lines tied to them. Maintenance: Low. Once installed, they require less maintenance than buoys or floating moorings.</p> <p><u>Disadvantages:</u> they can be used by multiple vessels and provide a safe place to moor without directly damaging the seabed. However, their installation may require larger and more complex structures that can have a greater environmental impact during construction. In addition, they can have aesthetic impacts and generate waste if not properly maintained.</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> Installation: High. Requires the construction of floating platforms or pontoons, in addition to anchors to hold them in place. Maintenance: High. Floating platforms may require considerable maintenance due to constant exposure to marine conditions, which can cause wear and damage.</p> |
| Reforestation upstream of public and private lands with integration of silvopastoral and agroforestry practices. | <p><u>Advantages:</u> multiple benefits: not only does it regulate the hydrological cycle with greater infiltration capacity and runoff reduction, but it also improves water quality by acting as a natural filter, reduces soil erosion and sedimentation in rivers and streams, provides habitats promoting biodiversity and ecosystem services and carbon sequestration, reforestation upstream protects aquatic habitats downstream. In the competition for space, silvopastoral and agroforestry production allows obtaining the benefits of reforestation and livestock and agricultural exploitation in the same territory. In addition to the economic benefits from the sale of timber products under the Certificate of Plantation that is granted. In addition, the trees provide shade for the cattle that suffer from high temperatures.</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> USD/ha 1500 plantation and maintenance.</p> <p><u>Positive national experience:</u> More than 59,000 native trees were planted in two watersheds to repopulate the land and protect the sources that supply fresh water to Santo Domingo. The Caribbean 2020 impact report. TNC</p> | <p>Do nothing</p> <p>Change in land use (prohibition of production activities)</p> <p>Managed Aquifer Recharge</p> | <p>High environmental cost is due to reduced river flow, poor water quality and soil erosion.</p> <p>High social cost, compromised food security and livelihoods of the population.</p> <p>Injection Wells: Construct injection wells to recharge aquifers directly with rainwater or treated water, helping to maintain groundwater levels and ensuring a constant supply of water for mangrove and estuarine ecosystems.</p> <p>Infiltration Ponds: Create infiltration ponds or lagoons to capture surface water and allow it to slowly percolate into aquifers.</p> |

| Project strategy | Detail | Alternative options for the same outputs | Detail |
|---|---|--|---|
| | | | <u>Disadvantages:</u> Large areas of free land are needed. Has construction impacts and requires environmental assessments. These practices would not address the system as a whole, nor the erosion and soil and water quality of the riverbank. And they require periodic maintenance and management of accumulated sediments and the use of chemicals to prevent pests. <u>Costs:</u> higher initial and maintenance costs. |
| Community ecotourism program design | <u>Advantages:</u> By having a comprehensive approach to sustainability, enhancement of the area and conservation of coastal ecosystems, the diversity of flora and fauna is preserved, while generating the development of the area with economic income for the local population, improving their livelihoods, environmental education and ecotourism of national and international projection. It implies great benefits for the resident families since it allows them to make productive use of the Protected Areas with diversification of the means of life and at the same time it promotes its conservation and increase of the local knowledge, strengthening the local identity and the sense of belonging as the communities become actively involved in the preservation of their environment. <u>Cost:</u> The investment is relatively small with a significant impact by valuing both the built structures and the coastal ecosystem. <u>Positive national experiences:</u> Sustainable tourism circuit Samana. https://circuitosamana.com/samana-sostenible/ , Monumento Natural Saltos de la Damajagua in Puerto Plata: Orgaz Agüera, F. and Moral Cuadra, S., Protected areas as spaces to promote sustainable development and community tourism. Revista DELOS: Desarrollo Local Sostenible. (2014). A successful case study, No. 20. | Conventional tourism | <u>Disadvantages:</u> by focusing on economic growth and short-term income generation, it does not prioritize ecosystem conservation or raise awareness of the importance of environmental conservation among both tourists and local communities. Nor does it integrate the local community by encouraging the hiring of local services, the purchase of regional products and participation in cultural activities, or through active participation in tourism planning and management. |
| Gabions to protect cultural heritage from erosion (protection approach) | <u>Advantages:</u> Hybrid technology that slows coastal bluff erosion by immediately stabilizing the soil by providing structural support. Resist the erosive forces of water and prevent soil from being washed away, allowing water to pass through gaps between rocks or stones, reducing the velocity of flowing water and minimizing the impact of erosion. Flexibility: unlike rigid structures, they can adapt to soil movement without losing integrity, making them strong and durable, ensuring long-term performance and resistance of gabions to environmental conditions. Environmentally friendly: the use of local stones reduces the carbon footprint and encourages the growth of vegetation, as well as allowing for a natural and aesthetically pleasing appearance. It will be reinforced with coastal revegetation. <u>Cost:</u> Compared to other construction materials, gabions are relatively inexpensive. Their ease of installation also reduces labour costs. | Hard works (geogrids and geomembranes, retaining walls, wave breakers) | <u>Disadvantages:</u> Hard infrastructure requires large budgets (due to initial investment and maintenance). With sea level rise and increased wave energy, maintenance costs increase. The use of hard infrastructure is ruled out when it causes significant erosive effects in other areas of the coastline by disrupting sediment supply from longshore drift (negative environmental impact) (Panario and Gutiérrez, 2006). These structures often significantly alter the seascape and can sometimes alienate local communities from nature and the environment. <u>Cost:</u> They are more expensive in terms of installation, materials, and maintenance. |
| | | Revegetation | <u>Disadvantages:</u> May take time for plants to establish roots and grow large enough to stabilize the soil in areas where immediate stabilization is needed. Require more maintenance as may require watering, pruning, weed control and other care to ensure plant success and maintain soil stability. May be more susceptible to damage caused by extreme weather events, soil erosion and other environmental factors. |
| | | Move the entire installation | <u>Disadvantages:</u> This measure involves a strong intervention in the territory, as it arises from the need to relocate assets and economic activity to an area not exposed to extreme coastal events. High social and cultural cost <u>Cost:</u> very expensive, in addition to the cost of moving the entire facility, the cost of the new land must be added. |
| Improved resilient fishing practices | <u>Advantages:</u> Improving fishermen's resilient fishing practices addresses the impacts of climate change by protecting marine habitats without leaving fishers without alternatives and without harming food security. With the installation of rafts and distribution of nets and boats, without great environmental impact, fishers and the marine ecosystem are protected. Cooperatives and associations for processing and marketing fish products improve the fishermen's income, control the size of fish for sale, and integrate more workers, including women, into the activity. <u>Cost:</u> Relatively low initial and maintenance costs for rafts and traps. | Fishing ban without alternatives | <u>Disadvantages:</u> a total ban on fishing has major social and economic impacts and requires a great deal of control effort. |

| Project strategy | Detail | Alternative options for the same outputs | Detail |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Closed-loop aquaculture (RAS System) | <p><u>Advantages:</u> it is an activity that promotes alternative and resilient livelihoods, with a strong focus on the inclusion of women and youth. Economically, it allows constant production throughout the year without depending on weather conditions; while promoting the breeding of high-value species, it has total control over the conditions of cultivation. Environmentally, it offers a lower risk of diseases, escapes, or external contamination, as well as less variability due to storms, greater control of residues and less impact on natural ecosystems as there is no direct discharge. It has an efficient use of fresh water, using 99% less water than traditional systems (Lal et al. 2024).</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> it has a high initial investment compared to other systems, the estimated costs from the national government are around 3100 USD (RD\$ 185,000) per 10m diameter circular tank and its accessories. And it has high electrical costs.</p> <p><u>Positive national experience:</u> Since 1983, pilot projects were generated by the Department of Aquaculture of the Secretary of State for Agriculture (SEA) with excavated ponds whose initial successes stimulated the construction of about 60 aquaculture projects distributed throughout the national geography based on the breeding and fattening of freshwater species Special Fund for Agricultural Development (FEDA, 2022).</p> | Aquaculture of ponds or open-air lagoons | <p><u>Disadvantages:</u> In environmental terms, it involves intensive use of land and water resources, with risks of contamination by effluents and other biological factors of species present in the vicinity.</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> although it requires less technological investment, it faces a high exposure to climate variability and less control over the quality of the final product.</p> |
| | | Open system marine aquaculture | <p><u>Disadvantages:</u> This system has disadvantages that limit its sustainability and expansion. Environmental impacts include possible fish escapes that alter marine ecosystems, the accumulation of food and antibiotic residues, and dependence on variable ocean conditions. At the social level, it can generate tensions with activities such as artisanal fishing and tourism, in addition to being an environment with little female participation.</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> although initial costs may be lower, the risks associated with storms, diseases and regulatory requirements are significantly high and should be analysed prior to investment.</p> |

D. Describe how the project/programme is consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, including, where appropriate, national adaptation plan (NAP), national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications, or national adaptation programs of action, or other relevant instruments, where they exist.

408. This project is aligned with national and subnational sustainable development strategies and contributes to the implementation of the country's climate change policies and strategies. The **National Climate Change Policy (NCCP)**, created in 2016, is a strategic document with measures up to the 2030 horizon that was conceived as the country's short-, medium- and long-term action guidelines for adaptation and mitigation of the challenges posed by climate change. There are other previous documents that were developed with the same objective, such as the **National Development Strategy 2030 (NDS 2030)** published in January 2012, which establishes the country's long-term vision and sustainable development goals, providing a comprehensive framework for the country's development until 2030 and the **National Climate Change Action Plan (PANA RD)**: Published in 2008, its main objective is to strengthen the Dominican Republic's systemic capacity to face the effects of climate change through adaptation measures in the prioritized vulnerable systems.
409. It is also highlighted that National Communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are critical to support the alignment of projects with sustainable development strategies. The **First National Communication** was submitted in 2003, the Second in 2009, the Third in 2017 and the **Fourth in 2020**. These communications provide a comprehensive analysis of greenhouse gas emissions and the mitigation and adaptation actions undertaken by the country.
410. The Dominican Rep. submitted its First **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)** in 2015 and its corresponding update in 2020 in which it increased its climate ambition with a commitment to reduce emissions by 27% by 2030, compared to the same base year 2010. This update includes clearer and more transparent measures in the planning and execution of climate actions.
411. The project is aligned with several of the climate change adaptation priorities of the Tourism and Coastal-Marine Resources Sector indicated in the **NDC-RD-2020**:
- Maintenance and restoration of coastal-marine ecosystems (mangroves, reefs, dunes).
 - Define the country's tourism activity within the framework of environmental, sociocultural, and economic sustainability, with a focus on adaptation to climate change.
 - Promote resilient tourism destinations: diversify the tourism offer from sun and beach to other segments such as adventure, nature, ecotourism, and healthy tourism.
 - Sustainable and safe coastal management with a focus on climate change.
 - Prevention, mitigation, and remediation of coastal and beach pollution with a focus on enforcement and compliance to reduce vulnerability and increase resilience of coastal/marine systems.
 - Manage a fund for the recovery of mangroves, estuaries, coral reefs and other coastal-marine ecosystems and species, to help increase resilience

to the effects of climate change and variability.

- Promote the production of marine data, products, and metadata to make them more available to public and private users who rely on marine data, standardized and harmonized with quality assurance.
412. Alignment with the **National Action Plan to Combat Desertification and Drought 2018-2030** has also been considered for this project activities development.
413. **International environmental and social agreements ratified by the government of the Dominican Republic:**
- Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (ratified 2005).
 - Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (ratified 2006).
 - Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (ratified 2000).
 - Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (ratified 1992).
 - Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (ratified 2001).
 - Convention on Wetlands of International Importance / Ramsar Convention (ratified 2002).
 - International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) / Codex Alimentarius (ratified 1997).
 - United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea / Montego Bay (ratified 1982).
 - Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) (ratified 1986).
 - Convention on Biological Diversity (ratified 1992).
 - United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (ratified 1997)

E. Describe how the project/programme meets relevant national technical standards, where applicable, such as standards for environmental assessment, building codes, etc., and complies with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

414. The RESILTUR project will ensure compliance with applicable national laws and technical standards through several measures. All activities will be screened in line with the Adaptation Fund’s Environmental and Social Policy and national procedures, including environmental impact assessments and permitting where required.
415. Implementing partners will coordinate with relevant authorities to ensure alignment with sectoral regulations, such as those related to protected areas, fisheries, forestry, land use, cultural heritage, and labour rights. Legal and technical experts will support the preparation of TORs, feasibility studies, and infrastructure designs to ensure that national standards are met. Compliance will be monitored throughout implementation as part of the project’s Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP).
416. The following tables provide an overview of the national legal and regulatory framework relevant to the project. Table 5 lists key laws and policies that apply broadly across all project activities, while Table 6 presents specific regulations applicable to each type of intervention under the project components.

Table 5. National laws that must be complied with in all types of project activities.

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| <p>Environmental and climate change laws:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Constitution of the Dominican Republic: Establishes the need for adaptation to climate change in its article 194, where it states that: “It is a priority of the State the formulation and execution, by law, of a land use plan that ensures the efficient and sustainable use of the natural resources of the Nation, in accordance with the need for adaptation to climate change”. (June 13th, 2015) - General Law of Environment and Natural Resources (Law 64-00): This law establishes the general framework for the protection of the environment and natural resources, including coastal and marine areas. It also establishes a protection zone of 60 meters from the maximum high tide line towards the interior of the territory. This strip is considered as maritime-terrestrial public domain. (August 18th, 2000) - Protected Areas Law (Law 202-04): Provides the framework for the creation and management of protected areas, many of which are located in coastal areas. There are marine-coastal protected areas under protection figures such as marine reserves and marine mammal sanctuaries. (August 3rd, 2004) - Law No. 112-87 establishing the Mandatory Forest Service. This law establishes that the Forest Service is mandatory throughout the national territory, aimed at reforesting watersheds and their margins, as well as all other rural and urban areas in need of reforestation. (December 10th, 1987) - Fisheries and Aquaculture Law (Law 307-04). This law establishes the Dominican Council | <p>Laws and strategies with an impact on women's rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law No. 24-97 on Domestic Violence and Violence against Women. (January 27th, 1997) - National Gender Equality Plan (PLANEG III- 2020-2030). (2019) - Joint Resolution between the Ministry of Public Administration and the Ministry for Women – Resolution on Gender Equality Units in the Public Sector. (September 2019) - Law No. 42-2000 – General Law on Disability. Establishes social, family, and state responsibilities toward people with disabilities. (June 29th, 2000) - Decree No. 107-95, on people with physical, mental, or sensory limitations. Establishes equal opportunities and labour rights for people with physical, mental, or sensory limitations. (May 12th, 1995) <p>Others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law 368-22 on Land Use Planning, Land Use, and Human Settlements. Establishes the regulatory framework for land use planning, land use management, and the formulation and implementation of land use plans at various political-administrative levels (December 22nd, 2022) - Law No. 1-12 on the 2030 National Development Strategy. (January 25th, 2012) - Law No. 158-01. Law for the Promotion of Tourism Development (amended |
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| <p>for Fisheries and Aquaculture (CODOPESCA) and sets up a sustainable fisheries and aquaculture system based on the principles of responsible fishing and the rational and sustainable use of the environment. (December 3rd, 2004)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decree No. 269-15, dated September 22, 2015, National Climate Change Policy. (September 22nd, 2015) - National Adaptation Plan for Climate Change in the Dominican Republic 2015-2030 (2016). - Resolution No. 5/10 – Amends Resolution No. 6/04, Regulation of the Environmental Permitting and Licensing System, Procedure for Environmental Assessment of Existing Facilities and Procedure for Environmental Impact Assessment for New Projects. (May 27th, 2004) - Law No. 436 – Amends Law No. 5.852 on land water domain and public water distribution. (October 10th, 1964) - Resolution N° 18/07 – Regulations for environmental control, surveillance and inspection and the application of administrative sanctions. (August 15th, 2007) - Environmental Standard for Noise Protection NA-RU-001-03. Establishes maximum permissible levels and general requirements for protection against environmental noise generated by fixed and mobile sources. (2003) - Law No. 57/18 Forestry Sector Law of the Dominican Republic and Forestry Regulations (Decree 11/2007): regulate and promote sustainable forest management of forests, ensuring their conservation, as well as the protection of other natural resources that are part of their ecosystems, maintaining their biodiversity and regeneration capacity. (December 10th, 2018) - Law 83-89 on the Disposal of Solid Waste. Prohibits the disposal of solid waste in green areas, vacant lots, and public squares and gardens in urban and suburban areas. (1989) - Standard for the Management of Non-Hazardous Solid Waste (NA-RS-001-03). Establishes guidelines for the management of non-hazardous municipal solid waste and the sanitary requirements that must be met. (January 1st, 2003) - Law No. 313-15 on Biodiversity. Establishes the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity. (December 11th, 2015) - National Strategy for Invasive Alien Species in the Dominican Republic (2012). | <p>Law 195-13): Promotes and guarantees sustainable tourism. (October 9th, 2001)</p> <p>Inclusion and access to information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law No. 5-13 on disability (January 16th, 2013) in the Dominican Republic and its Decree No. 363-16 (December 2nd, 2016): protects and guarantees equal rights and equal opportunities for all persons with disabilities. - Law No. 49/2000 National Youth Policy and its Regulations (August 2000): to promote the comprehensive development of young people regardless of gender, religion, political, racial, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and nationality, and Institutional Strategic Plan 2021-2024 (Ministry of Youth). (2020) - General Law of Free Access to Public Information (No. 200-04) (July 28th, 2004) and its regulations (Decree No. 130-05). (February 25th, 2005.) - Guide for Conducting Social Impact Assessments (SIA) (2004): Includes information related to participation plans, public consultation, and stakeholder analysis. |
| <p>Labor rights, health, and safety laws:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law 16/92 Labor Code and complementary norms, regulates the rights and obligations of employers and workers. (May 29th, 1992). - Law No. 87-01 which creates the Dominican Social Security System related to the reciprocal rights and duties of the State and citizens regarding the protection of the population against the risks of old age, disability, unemployment due to advanced age, survival, illness, maternity, childhood, and occupational hazards. (May 9th, 2001). - Regulation on Occupational Risk Insurance. A supplementary regulation to Law 87-01, which establishes the Dominican Social Security System (SDSS). (May 9th, 2001) - Decree No. 522/06 Occupational Safety and Health Regulations: regulates the conditions under which productive activities must be carried out at the national level, to prevent accidents and damage to health resulting from work. (October 17th, 2006) - Guide to Labor Rights for Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination, from the Ministry of Labor. (2013) | <p>Protection and conservation of cultural heritage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law No. 41-00, which creates the Ministry of Culture, and promotes and preserves the tangible and intangible cultural heritage, including tangible goods of movable or immovable nature, including those submerged in water, as well as the values, traditions, customs, practices, habits and, in general, cultural manifestations. (June 28th, 2000) - Archaeological research regulations (Law No 41-00): procedures to be complied with regarding archaeological research, including any action carried out on archaeological property or on an archaeological environment, context or site, such as archaeological research projects for scientific interest; archaeological evaluation projects and rescue or salvage projects. <p>Laws or regulations related to children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Constitution of the Dominican Republic establishes the effective protection of the rights of the person and the respect of dignity; in Art. 56 it establishes the protection of minors and also declares the eradication of child labour to be of the highest national interest. (June 13th, 2015) - Law 16/92 Labor Code and complementary norms, establish minimum working age; minimum age for hazardous work; identification of hazardous occupations or activities prohibited for children. (May 29th, 1992). - Law 136/2003 Code for the Protection of the Rights of Children and Adolescents¹¹⁶, establishes: comprehensive protection of children in Dominican territory. (August 7th, 2003) - Law 137/03 on smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, criminalizes sex trafficking and trafficking in persons. (August 13th, 2003) |

Table 6. Regulations by intervention type

| Comp. | Intervention types | Applicable regulations |
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| 1 | Strengthening of inter-ministerial coordination and planning | National Climate Change Policy (Decree No. 269-15) (September 22 nd , 2015). National Adaptation Plan for Climate Change 2015-2030 (2015). General Law of Environment and Natural Resources (Law 64-00) (August 18 th , 2000). Protected Areas Law (Law 202-04). (August 3 rd , 2004) |
| 2 | Strengthening of terrestrial and marine ecosystems | <p>General: Labor Code and complementary norms (Law 16/92) (May 29th, 1992). Code for the Protection of the Rights of Children and Adolescents (Law 136/2003) (August 7th, 2003). Guide of Labor Rights for Equal Opportunities. Law on Disability in the Dominican Republic (Law No. 5-13) (January 15th, 2013) and its decree (No. 363-16). National Youth Policy and its regulations (Law No. 49/2000) (August 2000) and Institutional Strategic Plan 2021-2024 (Ministry of Youth) (2020). Law on Domestic Violence and Violence against Women (Law No. 24-97) (January 27th, 1997) and the National Gender Equality Plan (PLANEG III). (2019)</p> <p>Restoration and conservation of coastal ecosystems: General Law on Environment and Natural Resources (Law No. 64-00) (August 18th, 2000) and the Regulations of the System of Environmental Permits and Licenses, Procedure (Resolution 13-2014 on September 22nd, 2014); Law on Protected Areas (Law 202-04) (July 30th, 2004); Law on Fishing and Aquaculture (Law 307-04) (December 3rd, 2004); Regulations for environmental control, surveillance and inspection (Resolution No. 18/07) (2007). Reforestation of Upstream Basins:</p> |

¹¹⁶ National legislation considers children to be all persons from birth to 12 years of age, and adolescents to be all persons from 13 years of age until they reach the age of majority.

| Comp. | Intervention types | Applicable regulations |
|-------|---|--|
| | | Sectoral Forestry Law of the Dominican Republic (Law No. 57/18) (December 11 th , 2018) and Forestry Regulations (No.11/2007) (2007). General Law on Environment and Natural Resources (Law No. 64-00). (August 18 th , 2000) |
| 3 | Strengthening and diversification of the population's livelihoods | <p>General (Component 2)</p> <p>Protection and reinforcement of cultural heritage: Law that creates the Ministry of Culture (Law No. 41-00) and the Regulation of Archaeological Investigations (June 28th, 2000). Improved sustainable fishing practices and livelihoods: General Law on Environment and Natural Resources (Law 64-00) (August 18th, 2000) and the Regulations of the Environmental Permits and Licenses System, Procedure; Law on Protected Areas (Law 202-04) (July 30th, 2004); Law on Fishing and Aquaculture (Law 307-04) (December 3rd, 2004); Regulations for Environmental Control, Surveillance and Inspection (Resolution No. 18/07). (2007)</p> <p>Tourism: Law No. 158-01 (October 9th, 2001). Law for the Promotion of Tourism Development (mod. Law 195-13) (December 2nd, 2013). Labor Code and complementary norms (Law 16/92) (May 29th, 1992). Code for the Protection of the Rights of Children and Adolescents (Law 136/2003) (August 7th, 2003.), Law on Smuggling of Migrants and Trafficking of Persons (Law 137/03) (August 7th, 2003.). Law on Disability in the Dominican Republic (Law No. 5-13) (January 16th, 2013) and its decree (No. 363-16) (December 2nd, 2016). National Youth Policy and its Regulations (Law No. 49/2000). (August 2000)</p> <p>Protection of homes against heat waves: Renewable energy incentive law and special regimes (Law 57/07) (May 17th, 2007)</p> |
| 4 | Training, education, sensitization | Constitution of the Dominican Republic (2015). Guide to Labor Rights for Equal Opportunities. Law on Disability in the Dominican Republic (Law No. 5-13) (January 16 th , 2013) and its decree (No. 363-16) (December 2 nd , 2016). National Youth Policy and its regulations (Law No. 49/2000) (August 2000) and Institutional Strategic Plan 2021-2024 (Ministry of Youth) (2020). General Law of Free Access to Public Information (No. 200-04) (July 28 th , 2004) and its regulation (Decree No. 130-05) (February 25 th , 2005). |

F. Describe if there is duplication of project/programme with other funding sources, if any.

417. The development of this FP has taken care to carefully identify existing or planned initiatives in the project area, always coordinating with MMARN and CAF and addressing the issue throughout the virtual bilateral meetings and during the mission to the territory, with the various stakeholders.

Table 7. Project complementarity with completed and ongoing interventions

| N° | Project title | Status | Date of implementation | Complementarities/lessons learned |
|----|---|-----------|------------------------|---|
| 1 | "Climate change risk analysis of the coastal-marine systems of the Dominican Republic" - Study was carried out by the DAI consulting firm during the technical assistance financed by the French Development Agency (AFD) within the framework of the Adapt'Action Fund | Completed | 2022 | This study was the research background used for this process to identify key vulnerabilities and climate risks in the country and prioritize the Project area and intervention. This study constituted the first stage of the project "Vulnerability of the coastal zones of the Dominican Republic" and includes four specific research areas: (1) A characterization of the coastal-marine zones of the DR based on the compilation of existing data, (2) An analysis of climate change trends and projections for the DR, and (3) An estimation of potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of potential future climate change in the DR. Finally, the (4) ecosystem-based climate risk assessment (Eb-CRA) experts, decision makers and other key stakeholders were consulted on the prioritization of climate risks for the Dominican Republic. |
| 2 | TURISOPP 1 and 2. The first project was designed to generate local development through public-private partnerships for community tourism development and financed by JICA. Given the satisfactory results, JICA wanted to finance a second part of this project, focused on sustainable community tourism, aimed at replicating the model throughout the north of the country, in the Cibao. | Completed | 2009-2013 / 2016-2021 | With the first project, workshops were held to identify local resources and map stakeholders. A brand called "Origin of the Americas" ("Origen de las Américas") was created, where a tour called "Aula viva" was created, involving young people in ecological, historical, and cultural-gastronomic interpretation. Artisans were also trained. In Estero Hondo, guides related to the manatees were trained, although only three are still offering interpretive tours. One of them has become the park administrator. These projects made great progress but did not achieve solid continuity. This project is taking lessons learned from this experience to ensure continuity after the intervention is completed. |
| 3 | "Reconstruction of the aqueduct in the Estero Hondo Municipal District, Villa Isabela Municipality, Puerto Plata Province" . State (INAPA) is building an aqueduct to supply water to the population of the project area | Completed | 2022 | This project has avoided overlapping actions with government-led investments. The State is building an aqueduct to supply water to the population of the project area. For this reason, this Project has not included any action in this regard and focuses on ecosystem restoration and reforestation as main strategies to address drought impacts on other aspects such as reforestation. |
| 4 | Mangroves restoration "Resilient islands: A PARTNERSHIP TO PREPARE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE" : Since 2017 and with a grant of nearly \$6 million from the International Climate Initiative of the Government of Germany, TNC and IFRC have collaborated with governments, communities and partners in each of these countries to develop national plans for creating a sustainable future through nature conservation-based disaster risk management | Completed | 2017-2024 | The project builds on this experience. The proposed activity of mangrove restoration incorporates learnings and continues the experience of The Nature Conservancy (TNC), which has been carrying out restoration in Estero Hondo together with MMARN for the past year |

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| 5 | Experience developed by FUNDEMAR since 1991 in reinforcement of corals, seagrasses, and marine mammals. Fundemar is an organization committed to the preservation of the environment and animal welfare, and especially with the sustainable use of marine ecosystems. Today, FUNDEMAR is monitoring manatees with drones in the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary | Ongoing | Since 1991 | This project has considered key learnings from this experience and others carried out in other parts of the country and the Caribbean. The Project proposes to engage FUNDEMAR as key partner for the implementation of this activity. FUNDEMAR works in a network with other centers such as the one in Florida, United States, where the manatee population has increased significantly |
| 6 | FUNDEMAR has had a coral reef restoration program since 2012. The program began with funding from USAID-TNC (2011-2013) and the support of the Punta Cana Group Foundation, with whom FUNDEMAR maintains an alliance to date through the Dominican Coastal Restoration Consortium (CDRC). This programme includes coral nurseries, rescue centers and transplant areas, as a mechanism to promote the resilience of corals in the face of climate change. FUNDEMAR has also worked with seagrass restoration. | Ongoing | Since 2012 | This project aims to work with FUNDEMAR in the development of actions related to the reinforcement of corals and seagrasses. The ongoing project has been considered during this proposal to incorporate lessons learned. This proposal will build on the experience developed by FUNDEMAR and the ongoing project to implement restoration actions. |
| 7 | "Co-management schemes of the Saltos de La Damajagua Natural Monument and the Jamao protected area" In 2005, a co-management agreement was signed between the Ministry of Environment and the Association of Damajagua River Lifeguard Guides for the management of the protected area. This is a co-management modality that integrates a council with representation from the public and private sectors that jointly manage the protected area. Rates and benefit percentages are defined for the actors involved, along with their respective roles in administering the resources generated by the activity and in managing the area. The Ministry of the Environment is in charge of supervising and monitoring compliance with the objectives of the agreement and the execution of management and operational plans. 13 protected areas have co-management agreements for specific activities. | Completed | 2005 | This co-management experience has been considered during the formulation as the main development to inform the support to the co-management scheme planned as part of the activities of Component 1 . The project will follow the agreements and references set out by the MMARN. |
| 8 | Courses provided by INFOTEP. INFOTEP is an institution that has developed over the last few years a wide variety of courses related to hotel management, catering, tourism, languages, and tour guides | Ongoing | 1980 | The training courses to be provided by this project activities will be organized in conjunction with INFOTEP. Contrary to duplication, the project will seek synergies and take advantage of INFOTEP's existing capacities to promote access to these options for the population of the project area. Regarding the specific needs to be a nature guide and cultural guide in the project area, it will also articulate with INFOTEP to design the related content. |
| 9 | "MMARN's environmental education programs" Through the Environmental Education Directorate, it offers non-formal and informal environmental education programs in coordination with public and private institutions, non-governmental organizations, and community entities. Among the topics it brings to the different stakeholders are climate change and respect for ecosystems, disseminating knowledge and information through talks, workshops and playful educational dynamics aimed at raising the level of environmental awareness of the Dominican population. | Ongoing | - | The project will build on the experience of educational and awareness-raising activities will be organized taking lessons learned from MMARN's environmental education programs . Resources still available to date (2025) |
| 10 | "Enhancing Climate Resilience in San Cristóbal province, Dominican Republic Integrated Water Resources Management and Rural Development Programme" AF project | Completed | Closing scheduled in July 2024 | For the Funding Proposal stage, the formulating team will explore the experiences related to this project since there are no overlapping areas but there are common activities from which lessons will be learned, such as those dedicated to reforestation to increase water reserves. There will also be a reflection on the lessons learned from the implementation of a project financed by the Adaptation Fund in the country. |
| 11 | GEF 10054 "Promoting Climate-smart Livestock Management in the Dominican Republic" it aims to mitigate climate change and to restore degraded lands through the promotion of climate-smart practices in the livestock sector, whilst focusing on family farming. | Completed | 2018 | This GEF project on climate-smart livestock management could provide lessons on working with cattle ranchers; however, it was oriented towards GHG mitigation in the Yuna Camú basin, which is distant from the project area, so it was confirmed that there is no overlapping. |
| 12 | GEF 10260 "Integrated Landscape Management in Dominican Republic Watersheds" The objective of this programme is to strengthen integrated landscape management in targeted watersheds in the Dominican Republic. | Completed | 2021-2024 | This GEF project on integrated landscape management does not overlap with the proposed project either, as it is being implemented in other basins in the country. Its experience with the restoration of degraded agricultural lands and agroforestry projects will be taken into account. |
| 13 | GCF FP097 "Productive Investment Initiative for Adaptation to Climate Change (CAMBio II)" This initiative | Ongoing | 2018 | This project is focused on the agricultural sector, which is not the main objective of this proposal as it will only be involved in promoting |

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| | will provide concessional loans and technical assistance to encourage MSMEs to invest in adaptation. It is also designed to consolidate agricultural production systems adapted to climate change. A grant component of this programme will provide financial rewards to MSMEs and intermediary financial institutions for their successful implementation of adaptation activities. | | | reforestation. Lessons learned from these types of investments will be considered. |
| 14 | GCF FP174 "Ecosystem-based Adaptation to increase climate resilience in the Central American Dry Corridor and the Arid Zones of the Dominican Republic" The programme (implemented with the Central American Bank for Economic Integration) aims to strengthen the adaptive capacity and climate resilience of vulnerable, rural communities, including farmers and entrepreneurs, in the Dry Corridor region of Central America (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Panama) and in the arid zones of the Dominican Republic. Through financing and technical assistance, the programme will encourage private sector participation and create an enabling environment for the investment and uptake of large-scale ecosystem-based adaptation and water/energy-efficient technologies. | Ongoing | 2021 | This project is focused on the agricultural sector, which is not the main objective of this proposal as the agriculture farmers will be engaged to promote reforestation. Lessons learned from these types of investments will be considered. |
| 15 | "National Reforestation Plan - Forestry Resources" The objective is to increase forest cover and restore areas degraded by land use change or that have been affected by forest fires. | Completed | 2023-2025 | Lessons learned from the National Plan will be used to develop strategies for the implementation and monitoring of reforestation activities to be conducted under this project. |
| 16 | Construction of infrastructures in the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary | Completed | 2019-2023 | Objective: To generate positive impacts on social and environmental well-being and improve the facilities for the preservation and awareness of manatees and other marine mammals, ensuring that the infrastructure becomes an environmental and architectural landmark for the Estero Hondo area, Puerto Plata. The project consists of the construction of the following infrastructures: A) Visitor Centre. B) Construction of a wetland for the treatment of wastewater. |
| 17 | "2017, USAID CCIS, Climate Risk in Dominican Republic: Country Risk Profile" This study highlights the country's vulnerability to climate change impacts such as droughts, floods, storms, and rising sea levels. It emphasizes the need for climate risk management and adaptation strategies, particularly in the context of agriculture, coastal areas, and infrastructure. | Completed | 2017 | This project builds on key findings from the 2017 USAID study, which projected major climate change impacts by 2050–2070 across coastal zones, water resources, agriculture, health, and ecosystems. |

G. If applicable, describe the learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned.

418. Knowledge management within the framework of the project will focus on systematizing information, generating evidence and lessons learned for dissemination.
419. In Component 4 of the project, specific training and awareness-raising activities will be conducted for key institutional and local stakeholders. These actions include communication and capacity building campaigns to raise awareness on climate change, protected areas and climate change adaptation to improve the resilience of coastal ecosystems. Case studies, communication materials and knowledge products, such as videos, will be developed to disseminate information in an accessible way. In addition, there will be exchange of experiences at the regional level, reflection and learning workshops to foster dissemination and replication of adaptation activities.
420. Within Component 1 of the Project, activities have been planned to strengthen the collection, recording, systematization, and monitoring of climate change impacts on coastal and marine resources, as well as on the livelihoods of the tourism sector. These actions seek not only to improve recording, but also the processing of information, creating visual and educational tools to facilitate evidence-based decision making by government and policy makers. The aim is to increase the resilience of ecosystems and local livelihoods to threats such as heat waves, drought, and coastal erosion. This information will also be useful for Comp. 4 awareness raising and training activities throughout project implementation, benefiting local decision makers, government institutions and the general population.
421. Within Comp. 3, focused on strengthening and diversifying livelihoods, actions will be conducted to train local people in new ecotourism developments, preparing them to act as local guides and promote the cultural and natural heritage of protected areas. The capacities of artisanal fishers will also be strengthened to diversify their livelihoods, promoting sustainable practices such as aquaculture y fishing with traps and rafts, while respecting closed areas. Likewise, the capacities of farmers and livestock producers will be enhanced to improve the sustainable management of their businesses. Component 2, ecosystem restoration, will work with agricultural producers in silvopasture and agroforestry systems as a measure to adapt to droughts. The focus will be on generating lessons learned and recorded results for dissemination among local producers, encouraging the adoption and replication of similar practices.

422. Finally, the project will also have a monitoring, evaluation and learning system that will be used to ensure the recording of key information, the use of this information for management purposes and to generate lessons learned not only from the successes of the project but also from the challenges and implementation strategies that worked to overcome them. This will be shared with key stakeholders and is expected to be used in future initiatives, fostering a **culture of continuous learning** among project stakeholders.
423. The monitoring and evaluation system will capitalize on information from both the regular monitoring conducted by the PMU, evaluations, and participatory monitoring, in order to promote **continuous learning processes**. These efforts will be supported by the activities planned under Comp. 4, including workshops, knowledge exchanges, and case systematization, to identify good practices, challenges, and to foster ongoing reflection and learning throughout the project.
424. Relevant indicators for tracking progress on knowledge outputs and outcomes are embedded in the results framework (see Part III.E). Some of these indicators are: 22 knowledge products developed by the project and disseminated to relevant stakeholders, 60 women participants in gender sensitization workshops, 3 artistic and cultural activities, 4 case studies to systematize lessons learned from the project, 600 people participating in knowledge management workshops. In terms of outcomes, it is expected that 1,670 people with increased awareness of climate risks and appropriate adaptation solutions, of which 885 men and 785 women, 90 local officials and staff trained on climate risks (50% women); and that the 7 government institutions targeted by the Project will make use of the improved systems, strategies, plans and community-based monitoring reports developed by the project for decision-making and planning of coastal and marine resources. This will be measured through interviews and triangulated by reviewing documents, budget decisions and audit logs of the platform. Additionally, the level of strengthened capacities and improved awareness from trainings will be assessed through pre and post training surveys and participatory exercises that identify the skills and knowledge of communities and staff.

H. Describe the consultative process, including the list of stakeholders consulted, undertaken during project preparation, with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

425. The formulation of this project has been led by MMARN – the National Designated Authority to the Adaptation Fund – and CAF, Development Bank of Latin America. It is important to note that there are no Indigenous populations in the project area.
426. The study “Climate change risk analysis of the Dominican Republic’s coastal-marine systems” conducted by DAI during the technical assistance financed by the French Development Agency (AFD) within the framework of the Adaptation Fund serves as background for the formulation of this proposal. This was the first stage of the “Vulnerability of the Dominican Republic’s coastal zones” project and included consultations with as many stakeholders, experts, and decision-makers as possible on the prioritization of climate risks for the Dominican Republic.¹¹⁷
427. The queries conducted during the two stages of proposal preparation are described below: 1) concept note and 2) full proposal.
428. In the framework of the **formulation of this concept note**, consultations were conducted in five main instances between February and May 2024: 1) Inception workshops with key national stakeholders; 2) Weekly meetings with government stakeholders; 3) Origination mission with field trip, which included interviews with representatives of the local population and a workshop and validation with local governments; and 4) Additional virtual bilateral consultations with representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations. In total, during this stage, 95 people were consulted (59% women), of whom 27 were from the national government (78% women), 49 from local governments (53% women), and 19 representatives from associations and the local population (47% women).
429. With all these stakeholders, it was possible to validate the threats and impacts caused by hurricanes, changes in sea conditions, coastal erosion, and drought exacerbated by climate change, as well as non-climatic issues present in each of the prioritized areas. Institutional strengthening needs and monitoring of various impact variables from adaptation measures were identified. All possible adaptation measures were also explored. Some of the topics discussed with local population representatives provided better insight into the impacts of heat waves and drought, beach loss, dependence on tourism as a livelihood and local income source, poor waste management and sanitation practices, and the lack of opportunities for young people. Thanks to these joint analyses between technical teams and the realities of the territory, the measures included in the concept note were defined.
430. During the **field mission** conducted between May 6 and 10, priority was given to the exchange with the **local population**, since virtual meetings with local governments and governmental institutions had been held previously and would be deepened during the on-site visit. There were spaces for exchange where the progress and information gathered on climate hazards and the proposals to be developed within the project were presented. **Local representatives** of the protected areas and sites of tourist/cultural interest were consulted at each visit site, as well as the neighbors of Estero Hondo and a **focus group of 16 women** in La Isabela to learn about their perceptions of the current situation and their opinions and comments on the proposals made as well as other alternatives to be developed.
431. With **government stakeholders**, the topics addressed were the discussion on site prioritization and alignment with the Adaptation Fund’s eligibility criteria, the review of past, present, and planned projects, the assessment of the vulnerability of populations and ecosystems, lessons learned from previous experiences, communication channels with the population, interinstitutional coordination spaces, and access to financing. Outcomes of the meetings with government stakeholders provided key inputs related to the definition of the approach, methodology, stakeholders, and activities for the development of the proposal. Furthermore, they validated the prioritized threats and impacts to address with the project as well as provided insights on additional non-climatic issues in the prioritized area. They shared their needs and adaptation gaps which were included as capacity building activities.
432. The **feasibility of the measures** was discussed. Efforts were also made to identify other actions being conducted by civil society that had not yet

¹¹⁷ DAI 2022, “Climate change risk analysis of the coastal-marine systems of the Republic”.

been mapped. The outcomes of the meetings with the local population include the validation of the impact of drought, reliance on trucked water, and inconsistent water supply, awaiting the completion of the aqueduct construction being carried out by State Public Works (“Obras Públicas del Estado”) which will cover the provision of water for the project area’s population consumption. The population expressed concern about increasingly intense heatwaves, and showed particular interest in training as tourism guides, leading to the proposal of forming nature guides. Additionally, concerns about low education levels, literacy difficulties among children and youth, and lack of motivation for studying and working were addressed.

433. **Gender discussions** during the consultation process: As part of the stakeholder engagement process, a specific focus group with women from the community was held to understand their roles within the local populations and their involvement in economic activities such as tourism and fishing. These issues were also discussed in broader focus groups with community members and with governmental organizations that operate locally.

434. The actors consulted throughout the entire consultation process are listed below in Table 8, considering both the concept note stage and the full proposal stage.

Table 8. Actors consulted throughout the consultation process.

| Stakeholder | Detail | |
|--|---|---|
| Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources | Protected Areas Directorate Directorate of Financial Mechanisms and Portfolio Management Climate Change Adaptation Department Vice-Ministry of Protected Areas and Biodiversity Responsible for Comanagement Ministry of Environment Responsible for the National Ecotourism Strategy Vice-Ministry of Forestry Resources | - Directorate of Coastal and Marine Resources - Department of Ecotourism and Public Use - Administration of the Hispaniola National Park protected area. - Administration of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary Protected Area. - Statistics Unit of the Vice-Ministry of Coastal-Marine Resources - Dominican Institute of Meteorology (INDOMET) Vice-Ministry of Forestry Resources |
| Ministry of Tourism | -Vice-Ministry of Destination Management -Directorate of Provincial Tourism Initiatives | |
| Ministry of Culture | • National Office of Underwater Cultural Heritage | • National Directorate of Monumental Heritage. |
| Ministry of Agriculture | • CODOPESCA | • Department of Risk Management and Climate Change. |
| Ministry of the Presidency | • Autoridad Nacional de Asuntos Marítimos (ANAMAR) / National Maritime Affairs Authority • Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidráulicos (INDRHI) / National Institute of Hydraulic Resources | • Civil Defense - National Directorate of Puerto Plata • Ministry of Women |
| Municipal Governments | • La Isabela Municipal District • Estero Hondo Municipal District | • Luperón City Hall |
| Non-governmental organization | • The Nature Conservancy (TNC) • Fundemar • Agrofrontera-Proyectos Costeros y marinos. • Acción verde NGO • Jaragua | |
| Private Sector | Juri, Owner of beach restaurant in La Isabela and promoter of athletics activities with young people in La Isabela | |
| Public-Private Partnership | Ecotourism Project in Mato Grosso (Brazil) Ecotourism Project in Samaná | |
| Representatives of the local population | • <u>Estero Hondo</u> : Focal group with women in the community. Cattle ranchers and fishers of the community. Fishers from the community of Punta Rucia and La Ensenada | • <u>La Isabela</u> : Neighbors. • <u>La Jaiba</u> : Community and women's focus group. Interview with woman rancher. La Jaiba Cattlemen's Association. Farmers from Solimán. |

435. **Full Proposal Development Stage:** Discussions were deepened and expanded to include other stakeholders. Exchanges were held with interested parties from civil society organizations, NGOs, and the tourism sector before, during, and after the field mission. **A total of 198 people participated in this process (38.39% women).**

436. The consultation period for the formulation of the Full Proposal took place between September 2024 and April 2025. Specifically, from October 14 to 18, 2024, the first mission for the formulation of the full proposal was conducted in the country to continue the consultation process and visit the prioritized sites. During this time, meetings and workshops were held with national and local institutions, and exchanges were generated with the local population. After the mission, numerous thematic meetings on several topics of interest were held with different governmental and non-governmental institutions or groups. These meetings discussed, for example, the impacts of erosion on cultural heritage and possible activities to strengthen it with the Cultural Heritage department, agreements that must be secured with CODOPESCA, obtaining more inputs from ecotourism projects underway, among others. The second mission took place from April 7 to 11, 2025, during which consultations with the prioritized groups

were deepened.

437. A total of 173 people participated in the consultation process during the missions (36.42% women), of which 65 were from ministries, governmental and non-governmental organizations, with 24 women among them (36.92%). Additionally, 108 people participated in workshops with civil society and focus groups, of whom 39 were women (36.11%).
438. Institutional meetings were held where spaces for exchange were created to align the proposed activities mentioned in components 1 and 4, aimed at information registration and capacity building with government actors. Meetings with the community and fishers/ranchers helped to better understand their needs and formulate specific activities in coordination with government actors to facilitate the appropriation and effectiveness of the measures mentioned in Components 2 and 3.
439. Regarding specific gender discussions during the mission, focused meetings were held with women from the community to validate proposals and strengthen the Gender Action Plan. During the closing workshop of the full proposal mission, the Ministry of Women highlighted the successful mainstreaming achieved throughout all project activities.
440. The complementary meetings provided essential inputs to strengthen the definition of the activities proposed in this project. Through the consultation process, three main needs were identified: 1) awareness and sensitization about the impacts of climate change on ecosystems and livelihoods, recognized by both governmental and non-governmental institutions as well as the population; 2) the need to strengthen the livelihoods of fishermen and agricultural producers by modifying current fishing techniques, supporting producers, and improving training and tools available to them; and 3) the importance of reforestation in the Jaiba area, as well as the community's interest in training and participating in guide programs and ecotourism activities.
441. These instances contributed to the development of the Environmental and Social Management Plan aligned with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy. Consultations with women's focus groups continued during the mission on gender matters to validate activities and design the Gender Action Plan, which guides activities according to the specific needs identified in this area. In all instances, it was announced that the project would include these plans and a Grievance Mechanism.
442. The following table shows the meetings carried out during the formulation process, disaggregated by gender and with the specification of how each one contributed to the final document presented.

Table 9. Summary of the consultations carried out.

| Organization/ Institution-Participants (Pt.) disaggregated by gender. | Main lessons learned and how they have been included in the design of the project. |
|--|--|
| MMARN and MEYPD Kick-off meeting on January 18, 2024. 8 pt. (7 women (W)) | The project timeline was reviewed, and consultation planning defined. Examples of Adaptation Fund-supported measures guided the technical approach. The need for local validation and a field visit was agreed. Priority site analysis began. Key stakeholders were identified, and initial stakeholder mapping was developed. |
| EXPANDED KICK-OFF MEETING March 21, 2024 19 pt. (15 W.) | The scope of the consultancy, the Adaptation Fund's prioritization criteria, and the proposed schedule, approach, and methodology were jointly reviewed. The current situation of the tourism sector, past and present projects in the prioritized areas, and the main information needs were also discussed. In addition, the importance of tourism for the local economy, ongoing or planned investments, and lessons learned from previous processes that could be incorporated into the concept note formulation were identified. Pt. from MMARN, MEYPD, MITUR, government institutions such as MIMARENA and INDRHI, academia: PUCMM, and non-governmental organizations: ECORED and Propagas. |
| FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS | Since the beginning of the consultancy's formulation, periodic meetings have been held with CAF, the extended MMARN team (Directorate of Protected Areas, Department of Climate Change Adaptation, Department of Marine Resources Management, and the Directorate of Financial Mechanisms and Portfolio Management), and the consulting team. Periodic meetings with MMARN and CAF have continued to be held to monitor the progress of bilateral consultations and interviews, coordination arrangements for the mission, including stakeholder outreach. During the months of March and April 2025, follow-up meetings were held with CAF and the Directorate of Financial Mechanisms and Portfolio Management of MMARN. These meetings have allowed for joint planning, reflection, and progress in structuring the expanded stakeholder consultation mission to make the most of the mission days. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with PROTECTED AREAS DEPARTMENT- MMARN April 3, 2024. 4 pt. (2 W.) | Environmental and management issues in the prioritized area were validated, highlighting the need to strengthen governance around La Hispaniola National Park due to ongoing institutional conflicts. Weaknesses in past mangrove restoration were noted, linked to site selection and ecological conditions, indicating maladaptation risks. Community participation was emphasized as an opportunity to deepen co-management. Inputs included recent activities like manatee observatory rehabilitation and government tourism plans for the park. The need to integrate resilient ecotourism, review willingness-to-pay studies, and strengthen sustainable finance design was highlighted. The importance of incorporating gender and inequality studies in future assessments, in coordination with relevant ministries, was also noted. Finally, local land-use planning documents were recommended as inputs for project formulation. These inputs informed the design of C 1, 2, 3, and 4. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with THE NATURE CONSERVANCY April 8, 2024. 1 pt. (0 W.) | Climate change impacts were identified in Estero Hondo and La Hispaniola National Park, including flood and tsunami risks, and environmental challenges from tourism, agriculture, and livestock. Recent mangrove restoration and tourism infrastructure rehabilitation were validated, with lessons learned on species misplacement, unsuitable conditions, and poor hydrological planning, highlighting maladaptation risks and the need for stronger technical assessments. Community participation in private land restoration was noted as a basis for co-management and local monitoring. Strengthening ties between conservation and sustainable tourism was recommended, involving local educators and municipal authorities. Institutional conflict over park jurisdiction between the Ministries of Culture and Environment was also noted. The importance of reviewing tourism willingness-to-pay studies, land-use plans, and municipal strategies was emphasized to align the project with local frameworks. These inputs informed the design of C 1 and 2. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with | Climate change impacts on artisanal fishing were identified, including rising sea temperatures, coral loss, drought, and erosion. The impact of |

| Organization/ Institution- Participants (Pt.) disaggregated by gender. | Main lessons learned and how they have been included in the design of the project. |
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| CODOPESCA April 16, 2024. 1 pt. (0 W.) | the lionfish as an invasive species and the need to strengthen existing control programs were highlighted. Lack of institutional coordination in implementing fishing bans led to conflicts with communities. Early participatory processes were recommended to ensure adaptation uptake. The “Pescadería en mi barrio” program, mostly led by women, was valued as a replicable model. Aquaculture’s potential, especially for women, was highlighted. Avoiding imposed measures, incorporating gender approaches, and supporting community-led initiatives were recommended for sustainability. These inputs informed C 3. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with LUPERÓN MAYOR’S OFFICE April 17. 1 pt. (0 W.) | Prolonged droughts affecting agriculture and daily life, along with recurrent flooding from poorly maintained streams with sedimentation and waste dumping, were validated as risks to homes and livelihoods. The mayor’s office lacks resources and access to central government projects despite coordination efforts with the Ministry of Environment. In fishing, severe impacts from commercial vessels causing fuel pollution were identified, alongside artisanal fishers’ sustainable practice adoption supported by CODOPESCA, which should be included in interventions. The La Hispaniola National Park Law was noted as limiting local tourism development despite its conservation purpose. Gender approaches are important due to women’s low visibility in fishing and tourism. These inputs mainly support livelihood diversification in C 3. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with THE NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF MONUMENTAL HERITAGE April 22, 2024. 1 pt. (0 W.) | Coastal erosion impacts in La Isabela Histórica were validated, with up to 20 meters lost in heritage sites like the Columbus House. Urgent high-engineering interventions are needed to reduce sea aggressiveness while preserving the original coastline. Existing sketches and studies lack funding. A water buffering system was proposed as a priority solution. Storm frequency and intensity are rising, with no mitigation in place. Recent restorations occurred on the site’s buildings, and improving museography with oceanographer support was suggested. Involving local artisans and creating community spaces in existing infrastructure were recommended. La Isabela’s historical and symbolic significance was highlighted. These inputs contributed to C 2 and 4. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE - UNDERWATER HERITAGE April 24. 1 pt. (0 W.) | Climate change impacts on underwater heritage in La Isabela were validated, with severe coastal erosion threatening historic structures. The recent UNESCO mission was key to identifying needs and strengthening community ties. Nine underwater anomalies were found, but funding for excavation and valorization is lacking. Training locals in diving, history, and tourist management was recommended as a sustainable alternative to fishing, replicating successes like Bayahibe. Basic infrastructure to support tourism linked to submerged heritage was identified as needed. Good coordination with ANAMAR prevented jurisdictional conflicts. Underwater museums’ educational and conservation potential and ensuring community participation at all stages were highlighted This feedback has been considered in the development of C 1, 3, and 4. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE April 26, 2024. 1 pt. (0 W.) | Agricultural activity in the prioritized area is limited, focusing on corn and some livestock in semi-arid Luperón with low productivity. Specific agricultural adaptation measures are not viable here, though possible elsewhere in the country. Local agriculture could partly integrate into the tourism value chain using products like goat meat. The Ministry of Agriculture has strategic and contingency plans for Puerto Plata, data on severe droughts, and sector damage assessment forms, useful for the proposal. An early warning system is being developed with the National Emergency Commission. Relevant projects in other parts of the country were mentioned, such as sustainable agriculture with the World Bank, water management, and reforestation with coffee and cocoa for carbon capture, which could provide lessons or replicable components. These inputs allowed for deeper consultations with focus groups, which would later mainly support the activities of C 3. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with ANAMAR May 4, 2024. 1 pt. (0 W.) | Possible interventions in the national heritage area were reviewed, identifying the urgent need to mitigate erosion, which has caused the loss of one-third of the Columbus House in La Hispaniola National Park. The training of currently volunteer tour guides was proposed, exploring employment opportunities for the community. The importance of strategically planning activities with the involvement of key actors and authorities was also highlighted, aiming to design a profitable tourism product that attracts international tourists. Public lands susceptible to reforestation were identified, although most surrounding areas are private. These are inputs to C 1, 2, 3, and 4. |
| CONCEPT NOTE MISSION – WOMEN OF THE COMMUNITY Monday, May 6 – Estero Hondo, women’s group. 6 pt. (6 W) | During the consultation with local women, impacts from droughts, heat waves, sea level rise, and flooding were identified. Issues included well loss, water scarcity, reliance on tanker trucks, animal mortality, and household effects. Concerns were raised over intense heat waves, especially for vulnerable groups, and interest in tourism guide training was expressed. Severe flooding, solid waste problems, insects, rodents, and beach loss affecting tourism livelihoods were also noted. Additionally, ecosystem changes were recorded, including the loss of flora, marine species, and impacts on mammals such as the manatee. The need to strengthen environmental monitoring was highlighted. This information provided key inputs to further develop the proposals for C 1, 3, and 4. |
| CN MISION – LA ISABELA COMMUNITY – FUNDEMAR Wednesday, May 8. 9 pt. (3 W.) | Various challenges related to governance, climate impacts, and tourism opportunities in the prioritized area (La Hispaniola National Park and Estero Hondo) were identified. Conflicts over use between conservation and fishing were mentioned, as well as intentional fires in sensitive areas. The potential of sustainable tourism was emphasized, especially through a marine spatial planning approach and infrastructure strengthening, but past failed initiatives due to lack of maintenance were warned against. It was proposed to integrate influential community actors and coordinate with existing projects, avoiding starting from scratch. Finally, multiple climate threats (hurricanes, erosion, flooding) affecting livelihoods, habitats, and infrastructure were identified. Lessons learned were used for the design of C 2, 3, and 4. |
| CN MISION NC LUPERÓN Thursday, May 9, 2024. 1 pt. (0 W.) | It was confirmed that Luperón has virtually no influence over La Hispaniola National Park, as the Municipal District of La Isabela holds jurisdiction. This meeting allowed for limiting the areas to be intervened. |
| CN MISSION – CLOSING WORKSHOP MEETING Friday, May 10, 2024. 19 pt. (14 W.) | Sustainable tourism strategies focused on a greener, more inclusive, and innovative approach were presented, and fundable operations aligned with the project were detailed. Climate change impacts were validated and potential activities identified. It was recommended to leverage existing initiatives and models such as Damajagua and Jamao. For cultural tourism, developing immersive experiences and evaluating a single ticket system were proposed. The need to consider current regulations and involve youth and local actors was emphasized. Finally, the next steps and timeline for the concept note were reviewed. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with FUNDEMAR May 13, 2024. 3 pt. (3 W.) | The progress and results at the end of the mission were shared to validate the issues with them and gain a deeper understanding of the activities carried out by the organization and the information available. Their inputs were used in the design of C 1, 2, and 4. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with CIVIL DEFENSE-PROVINCIAL DIRECTORATE OF PUERTO PLATA May 14, 2024. 1 pt. (0 W.) | The scope and progress of the project, the prioritized area, and the identified threats and impacts were discussed to validate them with the Civil Defense team and learn which measures are currently being implemented. The information allowed for avoiding duplication of efforts and designing complementary measures. |

| Organization/ Institution- Participants (Pt.) disaggregated by gender. | Main lessons learned and how they have been included in the design of the project. |
|--|--|
| BILATERAL MEETING with NGO AGROFRONTERA October 2. 1 pt. (0 W.) | A meeting with the director of Agrofrontera-Coastal and Marine Projects validated activities in fishing and livestock. Issues included poor agricultural practices and tensions among fishers, some supported by Agrofrontera. Despite interest in ecotourism, overfishing and inadequate practices require state intervention to protect biodiversity. Local committees with government presence have been formed to lead conservation actions in protected underwater areas. Lessons learned were used in the design of C 3 and 4. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with NGO ACCIÓN VERDE October 3. 1 pt. (0 W.) | A meeting with the NGO Acción Verde served to present the project and validate proposed measures. Strengthening governance and regulation in protected areas was emphasized, due to subsistence and conservation conflicts. Training in economic sustainability was identified as a key challenge. The successful "27 Charcos de Damajagua" case—with integrated management, trained guides, and a land protection fund—was highlighted. Tourism impacts and ecotourism potential in the area were also validated. The inputs contributed to the formulation of C 3 and 4. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with NGO JARAGUA October 8, 2024. 1 pt. (1 W) | A meeting with the Jaragua Association to present progress and validate proposals. According to their experience, the population is willing to participate in revegetation projects such as mangroves, although strong anthropogenic pressure persists. The need to regulate activities on the coast and in protected areas was noted, as well as the challenges of transforming tourism and improving silvopastoral systems without firm government commitment. The inputs were used in the design of C 2 and 3. |
| First FP MISSION - Estero Hondo: Meeting with local authorities Monday, October 14, 2024. 12 pt. (2 W.) | The need to strengthen coordination across government levels and improve governance was highlighted. Environmental awareness initiatives were proposed, including reforestation, local media outreach, and involvement of livestock associations and women's groups. A co-management scheme for the protected area is underway. Creating youth-supported monitoring committees and systematizing information were suggested. Mangrove restoration through nurseries was also suggested, leveraging local technical capacities despite financial limitations. This was fundamental in the design of C 2 and 4. |
| First FP MISSION - Meeting with the community - Ranchers and Fishermen Monday, October 14, 2024. 6 pt. (4 W.) | The need to conduct surveys and hire technicians for nursery activities was indicated. Fishers shared their experience implementing fishing bans due to coral-related fish declines. Strengthening organization through workshops was recommended, along with addressing links between quality of life, tourism, and ecosystem pressure. This meeting mainly contributed to the design of activities in C 3, and to a lesser extent, C 2 and 4. |
| First FP Mission- Meeting with the Community - Women's Group Monday, October 14, 2024. 9 pt. (9 W.) | Nursery and reforestation experience was shared. Overlapping responsibilities, including household and childcare, were noted as challenges. Needs identified included strengthening livelihood diversification, awareness, and development support. Their knowledge in reforestation validated the activities of C 2, and the needs were incorporated into the solutions proposed in C 4. |
| First FP MISSION - Meeting with Local Authorities - La Jaiba Tuesday, October 15, 2024. 6 pt. (2 W.) | Key inputs identified included the impact of drought on agriculture and livestock, with differences depending on the size of producers; the need to strengthen capacities and carry out surveys with state support; reforestation and water body cleanup actions already implemented; and the proposal to promote the development of agrotourism and ecotourism as complementary strategies, which were used for the development of C 3 and 4. |
| First FP MISSION - La Jaiba Community + Interview with a female livestock farmer Tuesday, October 15, 2024. 11 pt. (4 W.) | It was concluded that the main problem is the persistent lack of land ownership (out of 400, 250 do not own land), which pushes livestock farmers to graze in public areas. Gender inequality in this sector was highlighted for the design of cross-cutting measures to be applied in the project. |
| First FP MISSION - Meeting with local authorities and community representatives – La Hispaniola National Park Wednesday, October 16, 2024. 20 pt. (7 W.) | Key inputs included the erosion-deforestation link and its water cycle impact, with proposals for dune reforestation and gabions to stabilize beaches, pending feasibility studies. Creating natural or artificial marine reefs was suggested, in coordination with projects like UNESCOs. Early childhood awareness through workshops, nurseries, and school gardens was emphasized, fostering heritage commitment and youth participation in meteorological monitoring. Balancing area protection with sustainable community activities was recommended, aligned with ongoing zoning. Additionally, a program of awareness and training on anthropogenic impacts on ecosystems was proposed, and the urgency of increasing personnel in protected areas was noted. These inputs contributed to the development of C 1, 2, and 4. |
| First FP MISSION – Meeting with the community – Women's group Wednesday, October 16, 2024. 14 pt. (14 W.) | Key inputs identified included the importance of training and educating youth and women in languages, reforestation, and local culture; the need for greater participation of the neighborhood council; increased dissemination of educational materials and events through social media and WhatsApp; and the demand for technical English courses along with activities to diversify livelihoods, such as baking and pastry making. These inputs were mainly used for designing the trainings of C 4, and the need for livelihood diversification was taken into account for C 3. |
| First FP MISSION – Meeting with the community – Fishermen Thursday October 17, 2024. 6 pt. (2 W.) | Key inputs identified included the risks associated with compressor fishing, including fatal accidents; the need for studies on marketing, pricing, and coastal characterization to identify critical zones; proposals to strengthen co-management, restoration, guide training, coordination with NGOs, livelihood diversification, coral planting, and integrated resource management; the importance of improving public-private coordination through sectoral roundtables; interest in participating in carbon credit projects; and the analysis of ecotourism based on previous experiences and visualization platforms. This information was used in the design of C 2 and 3. |
| First FP MISSION – CLOSING WORKSHOP Friday, October 18, 2024. 7 pt. (4 W.) | Each of the four components was addressed in working groups to determine the main requirements, potential challenges, and associated costs. The coordination of entities, organizations, and ministries, as well as the involvement of the population, were highlighted as key points for the successful implementation of measures and their maintenance over time. This activity was vital to validate the four C presented in the complete proposal. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with UNDERWATER HERITAGE October 23, 2024. 3 pt. (1 W) | Proposals included reinforcing the cliff without altering the visual environment and restoring native flora through a nursery to conserve endemic species. Solutions for protecting reefs and the coastline, such as vegetative barriers and reforestation, were considered. The importance of geological and archaeological studies to assess environmental impact was highlighted. This information was used in the development of monitoring C (1) and coastal system restoration (C 2). |
| BILATERAL MEETING with TOURISM MATO GROSSO October 29, 2024. 3 pt. (1 W) | A successful ecotourism project in Brazil was reviewed as input to enrich the proposed activities, concluding that, although interesting, its implementation in the project area is currently unlikely. Therefore, it was taken as a precedent while more viable alternatives for the local context continued to be explored. |

| Organization/ Institution- Participants (Pt.) disaggregated by gender. | Main lessons learned and how they have been included in the design of the project. |
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| BILATERAL MEETING with the FORESTRY DIRECTORATE October 30, 2024. 1 pt. (1 W.) | It was confirmed that they have reforestation brigades, and coordination was established for the possibility of creating one in the project area if none exists. They also have their own nurseries and consider reforestation feasible even on private properties. These validations reinforced the proposal for C 2. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with ECOTOURISM October 31, 2024. 1 pt. (0 W.) | The need to align the project with the national strategy was identified as an input, emphasizing that the first pilot will be implemented in La Isabela, where contact has already been established to continue collaboration. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with CO-MANAGEMENT MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT October 31, 2024. 1 pt. (1 W.) | It was identified as an input the need to strengthen training and awareness in the co-management process, as well as to provide support to new pt. Additionally, data on the costs of the planned activities were collected to be included in the proposal. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with CODOPESCA November 1, 2024. 1 pt. (0 W.) | A key input identified was the request for cost estimates for the proposed activities, including the transition to a buoy system and the replacement of the current compressor-based fishing method, for incorporation into the project planning. This information supported the formulation of C 1 and its budget. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with ANAMAR November 1, 2024. 1 pt. (0 W.) | It was identified as an input the need to have specific instruments, equipment, and software for monitoring, and the costs of these items were collected to be included in the proposal budget. This information contributed to C 1 and its budget. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with INDOMET November 1, 2024. 3 pt. (2 W.) | It was identified as an input the need to address gaps in drought measurement equipment, considering that although basic instruments are available, new equipment is required to improve studies in the project area, which has a particular microclimate. This information contributed to C 1 and its budget. |
| BILATERAL MEETING for the INFORMATION PLATFORM November 5, 2024. 2 pt. (1 W.) | It was identified as an input the need for a centralized platform for coastal monitoring that allows managing dispersed information, along with defining requirements, costs, and responsible parties for its implementation. Additionally, support was proposed for acquiring equipment to improve monitoring in the project area. This information contributed to C 1 and its budget. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with SAMANÁ November 6, 2024. 1 pt. (1 W.) | It was identified as an input the collection of information about a successful ecotourism project in Samaná, considered better suited to local opportunities and with potential to be replicated in the project area, which contributed to the development of C 3. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with INFOTEP November 7, 2024. 3 pt. (2 W.) | It was identified as an input the potential partnership with INFOTEP to design and implement specific training programs in the prioritized community, with an emphasis on gender inclusion and the elimination of access barriers. Additionally, steps were defined to formalize the collaboration, assess logistics, and coordinate with other institutions to ensure a comprehensive approach to capacity building, which enabled the development of the proposal for C 4 focused on capacity strengthening. |
| EXPLORATORY TRIP MEETINGS (before the 2nd FP mission) March 28-29, 2025 25 pt. (2 W.) | This trip gathered pt. for focus groups in the second full proposal mission to refine activities in components 1, 2, 3, and 4. In the fishermen's group, tensions overfishing methods—especially spearfishing—were noted as damaging fishing grounds. A coral nursery managed by the association and an annual community restoration program were highlighted. Concerns about tourist boats displacing fishing areas and harming the marine ecosystem were expressed. Among cattle ranchers, issues included drought, lack of technical assistance, dairy taxes, and youth disinterest threatening generational succession. Commitment to environmental care and past collaboration with the Punta Cana group were shared. In the meeting with farmers, a productive transition was noted from coffee cultivation toward more diverse crops such as cacao, fruit trees, and ecotourism activities, within the framework of an operational route established since 2014. Doubts were raised about the economic viability of planting timber species by small producers, and it was suggested to include the communities of Gualate due to their relevance in the watersheds mentioned in the project. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN April 3, 2025 1 pt. (1 W.) | Key inputs included validation of the Gender Analysis and Action Plan by the Ministry of Women; strategies to strengthen women's participation in resource management and decision-making; and measures like inclusive language and childcare services during consultations. Previous cases—such as women shellfish gatherers in San Cristóbal and women fishers supported by the MIPYMES Center—were highlighted, along with the importance of adapting schedules and using community spaces to improve participation. These elements will guide the project's gender approach. This approach has been applied transversally in the formulation and adjustment of C 1, 2, 3, and 4, and has been key to the completion of the associated gender annexes. |
| Second FP MISSION – Meeting with the agricultural and livestock community of la Jaiba Tuesday, April 8, 2025. 23 pt. (0 W.) | Cattle ranching is the main economic activity, with limited agriculture. Reconfirmed issues include reduced production due to droughts, deforestation, water scarcity, and lack of land titles. Constraints to diversification include fear of theft and negative views of tree planting. Low participation of women and youth and decline of activities like beekeeping were noted. Proposed inputs include improved water management, reforestation with technical support, model farms with sustainable practices, environmental awareness in schools, and strengthening agrotourism. These inputs contributed to the design of C 2, 3, and 4. |
| Second FP MISSION – Meeting with the coffee growing and agricultural community of Tuesday, April 8, 2025 22 pt. (3 W.) | Coffee cultivation abandonment was noted, shifting to cacao, subsistence farming (conuco), and extensive cattle ranching due to pests and droughts. This occurred amid severe erosion, deforestation, soil degradation, and water scarcity. Structural limitations include lack of land tenure, poor connectivity, low education, and organizational challenges. Key inputs are strong interest in agroforestry with fruit trees, cacao, and timber; reactivating reforestation brigades; promoting agrotourism; and sustaining nurseries via permanent staff and interinstitutional coordination. There is willingness for technical training and active participation in ecological restoration. This information was valuable for the design of C 2, 3, and 4. |
| Second FP MISSION – Meeting with the artisanal fishing focal group Wednesday, April 9, 2025 18 pt. (3 W.) | Unsustainable fishing practices were identified, such as the use of compressors and drag nets ("chinchorros") outside of designated closed seasons, as well as the deterioration of coral reefs, the spread of green algae ("baba verde"), and increasing sea turbidity. Tourist boats' negative impact on fishing was also noted. Proposed inputs included strengthening traditional sustainable practices like raft construction, supporting supply and boat acquisition, creating no-fishing zones with clear signage, and enforcing seasonal bans. Fishers expressed willingness to join training and ecological restoration, including coral replanting. These inputs were key to defining C 1, 3, and 4 of the projects. |
| Second FP MISSION – CLOSING WORKSHOP Friday, April 11, 2025 | The work with key institutions involved in the project formulation was concluded, consolidating the foundational elements of the proposal to the Adaptation Fund. Next steps were agreed upon, strengthening inter-institutional coordination between CAF and the Government of the |

| Organization/ Institution-Participants (Pt.) disaggregated by gender. | Main lessons learned and how they have been included in the design of the project. |
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| 15 pt. (7 W.) | Dominican Republic. The institutions represented were CAF, Ministry of Women, MMARN (Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources), Ministry of Tourism, UNDP, Ministry of Agriculture, CODOPESCA, and Ministry of Culture. |
| BILATERAL MEETING with WATERSHED MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE May 13, 2025 3 pt. (1 W.) | The Watershed Management Directorate's interest in soil conservation, deforestation, and crop changes in the upper basin was validated, along with strengthening water resource monitoring through measurement stations due to observed water scarcity. They expressed willingness to collaborate with local communities, aligned with proposed approaches. The importance of involving the Water Directorate and coordinating with other Ministry departments with prior studies, such as in La Jaiba, was also highlighted. This meeting supports the proposals outlined in C 2 and 4. |

I. Provide justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning.

443. In formulating this proposal, careful consideration has been given to the non-duplication and complementarity of the project with other initiatives, as described in section F. In addition, care has been taken to ensure that project activities can generate adaptation results independently. It is important to note that none of the proposed activities are dependent on additional investments from other sources or stakeholders. These activities are focused on specific groups and areas in order to ensure verification of adaptation results.

444. The following are the scenarios with and without AF funding for each project component.

Component 1. Climate-resilient plans and monitoring systems in the coastal and marine areas of Estero Hondo and La Isabela

445. Baseline: There is a recognized limitation in the coordination between the ministries responsible for the prioritized protected areas (MMARN, MITUR and the Ministry of Culture). As a result, several initiatives have not been promoted or sustained over time in the project area. On the other hand, there are currently no plans to regulate the activities and uses of the resources by tourism, and the protected areas are seeking to develop co-management schemes, without much progress. Although different ministries and non-governmental organizations have some measurements of variables in the area, there are still important limitations in the monitoring systems for coastal dynamics, drought, fauna and deforestation, and the records of extreme events are not automated. In addition, the population has little knowledge of its environment and the impacts of climate change.

446. With AF funds: The project will generate an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism to ensure that the proposed actions have the support of all relevant ministries and guarantee their sustainability over time. With project funds, plans will be developed to organize activities and accelerate the definition of protected area co-management schemes. Finally, the project will devote significant efforts to the development of monitoring systems.

Component 2. Reforestation of degraded land and restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems

447. Baseline: There is a marked lack of funding to invest in restoration measures for coastal ecosystems (including corals, mangroves) that are severely affected by climate change; as well as terrestrial ecosystems that have been degraded by human activities in the past and are now more exposed and vulnerable to climate change.

448. With AF funds: The project will help restore coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems.

Component 3. Strengthening sustainable livelihoods to reduce pressure on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change

449. Baseline: In terms of tourism, there is great potential for developing ecotourism, respectful of nature, and cultural tourism as an alternative to sun and beach tourism. At the same time, the local population, especially young people, find themselves without job opportunities and therefore end up migrating to other areas of the country or abroad. On the other hand, the fishing sector is having serious difficulties in finding commercial species due to overfishing and changing sea conditions due to climate change and, finding no alternative, they continue to fish in more remote areas and do not respect fishing bans. Meanwhile, farmers and livestock producers face losses due to heatwaves and droughts without diversifying their businesses.

450. With AF funds: Investments will be made to implement a community-based ecological and cultural tourism plan that will revalue the points of interest and provide opportunities for the local population, especially young people. It will also help fishers and farmers improve their practices and diversify into other productive activities related to their knowledge.

Component 4. Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas.

451. Baseline: There is a lack of a comprehensive understanding of climate change and its risks and adaptation measures among most of the stakeholders in the project area. In addition, there are few instances of knowledge sharing.

452. With AF funds: Awareness-raising, sensitization and capacity building will be contributed to both the local population and key project stakeholders, including civil society organizations, the private sector, and governmental actors. It also seeks to generate lessons learned, systematize experiences and use all the information generated by the project to promote the exchange and dissemination of knowledge.

J. Describe how the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes has been taken into account when designing the project/programme.

453. For the sustainability of the project, several elements have been considered in the design of the activities aimed at strengthening capacities and good practices, monitoring and making decisions based on evidence of climate change impacts and improving livelihood planning in the project area. The activities thus include the various aspects that are expected to contribute to the environmental, social, institutional, and economic sustainability of project results over time.

454. **Capacity building of governmental entities** that will have permanence in the territory and will be able to use the knowledge obtained over time and replicate it in their public government functions. Capacity building includes training and technical assistance and the installation of systems to record coastal-marine dynamics, as well as key data for monitoring climate change impacts of drought, and to contribute to the monitoring of marine-coastal biodiversity and protected areas. Furthermore, capacity building activities of key adaptation practices for managing risks of coastal-marine areas and the diversification of livelihoods of the local communities will be shared. This will allow to strengthen the practices of supervision, monitoring and real-time evidence-based decision making, and ensure that climate change aspects are considered in future interventions.
455. **Strengthening the planning** of the fisheries, agriculture, tourism, and protected areas sectors through the co-management scheme considering climate change impacts. Planning will generate long-term strategies, integrating ecosystemic, economic, climatic, gender and social aspects. This allows for a comprehensive territorial and sectoral vision, ordering investment needs with sustainability and climate adaptation criteria. Although the project will cover some investment needs, a pathway will be established for future interventions to strengthen the resilience of protected areas and livelihoods. Co-management will create co-responsibility among stakeholders and contribute to long-term sustainability.
456. **Articulation of activities with private sector stakeholders.** In this sense, the project will work on three axes:
- Enhance the visibility/tourist interest that already exists in the area. The project area is bordered by tourist destinations that currently receive significant international tourism, such as Punta Rucia. Currently, the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park do not benefit from this influx because they do not offer an attractive visitation experience. The project will work with these stakeholders to promote the creation of a single ticket to leverage tourism inflows for new developments.
 - Promote joint work with private stakeholders. In this sense, during the execution of the activities, they will be involved and sensitized to learn about the benefits of the various ecosystem restoration and recovery activities, in the hope of obtaining long-term support to continue promoting and sponsoring similar actions. In addition, through Component 3, a platform for managing the tourism offer will be created, generating incentives and improved capacities for entrepreneurs who apply adaptation practices in the business sector. And the support for sustainable agrotourism and agricultural MSMEs will strengthen their management capacity and enable them to connect with responsible markets that value climate adaptation and environmental sustainability as competitive advantages. Technical assistance to strengthen cooperativism and fisheries associations will provide fishers with tools to improve their businesses and thus strengthen their adaptive capacity.
 - Dissemination of lessons learned for replication: Project activities, such as silvopastoral and aquaculture management will allow the generation of learning and evidence of the benefits for these economic activities by applying adaptation measures. These and other actions will be disseminated among producers in the area to encourage replication and scaling up at the private level.
 - Through the integrated work of upstream reforestation, restoration of marine and coastal ecosystems, improvement of facilities such as museums and trails, and the diversification of productive activities, the project strengthens the adaptive capacities of livelihoods in the face of coastal erosion, water, and heat stress. Component 2 improves the resilience of key ecosystems. Component 3 finances the diversification of the community-based tourism offer in the area; tourism is not only focused on sun and beach, but the entire value chain is strengthened to present a more complete experience, also integrating the agricultural sector and improving natural, historical, and cultural tourist attractions, adapting them to the impacts of climate change. In fisheries, the sustainable approach of their activities against climate change is supported by strengthening organizational capacities, promoting improved fishing gear that allows operations further from the coast, and includes a pilot of low-water-consumption aquaculture, suitable for scarcity scenarios as a more climate-resilient diversification of the activity. This is reinforced by investments from Component 1 with environmental and social monitoring and adaptive planning, and Component 4 with awareness-raising and capacity-building for the entire community and government technicians.
457. Implementation of activities in **coordination with existing programs**, ensuring **complementarity** with other projects and programs that will be able to continue supporting and monitoring similar activities once the project activities are completed. The project will work in coordination with CODOPESCA, which has been operating for more than 20 years in the Dominican Republic, the MMARN, which carries out capacity building and awareness programs on climate change, is responsible for the administration and supervision of national parks and coastal and marine resources, the MITUR, which accompanies the development of tourism projects throughout the country, the Ministry of Culture, Civil Defense, and private organizations such as FUNDEMAR and TNC.
458. Strengthening of **systems for recording, monitoring, and use of information for decision-making**. By strengthening these systems, information will be generated, which in turn will be disseminated and analysed for decision-making, reflection and learning about what works and what does not, thus working on a culture of continuous learning that capitalizes on best practices and allows scaling up what, according to the evidence, works best.
459. The project has a strong component of **sensitization and involvement of the population** in the monitoring of adaptation measures to help civil society understand the benefits, preserve and replicate these actions.
460. **Interinstitutional agreements** for sustainability: work will be done on an interministerial coordination component for the management of protected areas and coastal-marine resources in a more comprehensive manner in the project area. In addition, work will be done to achieve commitments, determine roles and responsibilities for the maintenance of the project's investments and actions.
461. The project will promote training and communication strategies based on local practices, cultural and social norms that can effectively promote behavioural change and ensure greater acceptance and commitment of the local community in the implementation of the proposed measures.
462. Therefore, the project has a series of interlinked elements that have been considered in the formulation stage and dedicated strategies for the implementation of activities that are expected to contribute to guarantee the social, economic, and environmental sustainability.
463. **Social Sustainability**: The project will establish enabling conditions for inclusive participation in decision-making by identifying relevant actors from civil society, the private sector, and the public sector. The processes of socialization and awareness raising on climate variability and climate change

will ensure interest and ownership of the activities in the short, medium, and longer term.

464. **Economic and Financial Sustainability:** The diversification of economic activities and the implementation of sustainable livestock, fishing, and tourism practices will generate higher incomes for participating families, ensuring the continuity of these practices beyond the project's duration. Training and knowledge exchange among actors will foster open dialogue and create more income-generating opportunities, resulting in a multiplier effect. The involvement of the private sector along with the strengthening of capacities and awareness raising at the governmental and community level is expected to contribute to the financial sustainability of the actions by promoting the adoption of the promoted actions. In addition, a climate resilience screening step will be included during project implementation to ensure the long-term sustainability of the livelihoods promoted.
465. **Environmental Sustainability:** Raising awareness about the climate change risks and strengthening monitoring systems will enhance coordination among decision-makers, environmental authorities, and other relevant actors. This will establish coordinated actions to better protect the areas of Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park beyond the end of the project and consider evidence on climate change risks. The involvement of stakeholders in the design and updating of integral plans which will embed climate, and environmental considerations will ensure their empowerment and commitment to the continuity of actions. Additionally, component 4 includes an activity to strengthen the environmental and social risk management systems at the government level to strengthen capacities to manage these risks. A comprehensive analysis of the project's environmental and social risks was conducted, resulting in an Environmental and Social Management Plan (Annex 06) that includes mitigation measures, information of the project's grievance mechanism, and implementation responsibilities.
466. **Institutional Sustainability:** The capacity building at the government level coupled with the strategy of complementarity with existing government programs and joint work with public and private organizations -such as FUNDEMAR and the private sector- contributes to the institutional sustainability of the actions and results. Capacities of key stakeholders will be strengthened, and local population will be involved in all activities through participatory approaches thus fostering the local appropriation and ownership of the results. The involvement of the beneficiaries throughout the management process is widely guaranteed since communities, non-governmental organizations, and regional and national actors have been involved in the design of this proposal. The project acknowledges that institutional sustainability is only consistent when working with local organizations since they open the important dialogue between the diverse groups in society, which is why they are key to its consultation, design, and implementation strategy.
467. **Operation & Maintenance:** To ensure the long-term functionality of its key outputs, RESILTUR incorporates clear strategies for operation and maintenance (O&M) across infrastructure, digital platforms, and ecosystem restoration efforts. The Ministry of Culture, supported by MMARN and local actors, will lead the protection and reinforcement of the Casa del Almirante, including feasibility studies and the implementation of resilient infrastructure, with provisions for long-term O&M. Tourist infrastructure such as trails, access paths, and interpretive signage will be designed for durability and low maintenance, with MITUR and the Ministry of Culture responsible for upkeep, supported by training of local teams. Marine buoys for mooring and signalling will be installed and maintained by ANAMAR in collaboration with the Dominican Navy and MMARN, with their integration into existing maritime protocols ensuring long-term care. The socio-environmental information platform will be managed by DIARENA within MMARN, with institutional ownership and trained staff guaranteeing continued operation and system updates. A separate platform to support climate-resilient community tourism will be operated by MITUR, with local involvement, governance arrangements, and technical support to ensure sustainability. For restored ecosystems—both coastal (e.g., coral reefs, mangroves) and upland (e.g., riparian forests, agroforestry systems)—maintenance will be led by MMARN and partners such as FUNDEMAR and local producers. The project provides funding for nurseries, planting materials, labour, and community training to enable continued care and stewardship. Overall, sustainability of O&M is reinforced by assigning formal institutional responsibilities, building local and national capacities, allocating resources within and beyond the project timeline, and implementing monitoring systems that enable adaptive management.

K. Provide an overview of the environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project/programme.

468. This preliminary analysis of the Project's impacts and risks takes into account the AF's Environmental and Social Policy and Principles, and CAF's Environmental and Social Safeguards. Based on the location, type, scale of the intervention and nature of the project activities, the project has been classified as a **Category B** project, whose potential impacts are few, small in scale and not extremely widespread, reversible, or easily mitigated. Under Component 3, activity "3.1.1 Protection and reinforcement of Cultural Heritage against coastal erosion" has been classified as Unidentified Sub-Projects (USP). This USP correspond to a "Partially Undefined," where the specific location has been identified, but activities are yet to be determined. This USP requires infrastructure investment in an archaeological site "La Hispaniola National Park" to ensure its protection of against coastal erosion and rising sea levels. Previous studies regarding potential options to protect this site includes installation of gabions, however this has yet to be define through a feasibility analysis that will be supported by the project to identify the most appropriate local adaptation solutions. Special attention will be placed to ensure the potential E&S risk and impacts of these investments are within Category B rating, an environmental and social risk analysis once the scope of the activities is determined and will be subject to a validation process with stakeholders. As part of the due diligence process, the corresponding mitigation measures will be established, and the results will be socialized with the communities and corresponding authorities. A detailed analysis of the project's potential environmental and social risks and impacts was conducted (refer to Annex 06 Environmental and Social Management Plan - ESMP). The ESMP includes specific mitigation measures, information on the project's grievance and complaint mechanism and identifies the main parties responsible for implementing the Plan. Furthermore, a Gender Action Plan was prepared (Annex 04), which includes a comprehensive and participatory approach that addresses gender and inclusion aspects, and outlines measures to integrate gender and social inclusion into each of the project's components and activities.

Table 10. Checklist of environmental and social principles & Potential risks identified.

| Checklist of environmental and social principles | No further assessment required for compliance | Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance |
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| <i>Compliance with the Law</i> | Additional evaluation required | Project design takes into account compliance with applicable national and international legislation, additionally the project promotes good sectoral practices. Some of the project activities related to components 2 and 3 will require permits or licenses (e.g., environmental or construction permits). Continuous monitoring will be conducted to corroborate that corresponding permits or license are obtained and that during the implementation stage activities comply with national regulations and with good international practices. |
| <i>Access and Equity</i> | Additional evaluation required | The project identified vulnerable and marginalized groups as part to the Project stakeholder mapping process and local consultation process (Refer to Annex 02). The project does not pose risks to access to essential services or rights. However, there is a potential risk of exclusion for vulnerable and marginalized groups due to limited skills or education, which could lead to unequal access to project benefits, opportunities, and lead to social tension. The project integrates inclusive and participatory approaches across all components, including sensitization campaigns, capacity building tailored to the needs of these stakeholders. The project also commits to fair distribution of benefits, such as access to ecosystem services and decent work opportunities. A dedicated inclusion mechanism will be developed to ensure continuous engagement of marginalized groups, local stakeholders, and authorities throughout the project's implementation. |
| <i>Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups</i> | Additional evaluation required | Project activities should avoid imposing any disproportionate adverse impacts on marginalized and vulnerable groups that have initially been identified by the project which includes children, women, elderly, and people living with disabilities, as well as local fishers and farmers. If appropriate engagement and consultation process is not carried following an inclusive approach, there is a risk of widening inequality gaps among vulnerable groups. Plans and strategies developed under the project will be designed and implemented integrating a social and gender perspective. Targeted campaigns on child sexual abuse and exploitation, with content adapted for children, families, schools, tourism workers, and institutions, will take place. Additional consultation and analysis will be conducted in the full proposal to ensure the inclusion of marginalized and vulnerable groups and that their needs and vulnerabilities are integrated in the project and that they access project benefits. |
| <i>Human Rights</i> | No additional evaluation required | All activities shall respect and comply with national legislation and international human rights conventions. The project is designed using a human rights-based approach. It ensures transparent communication, inclusive participation, and non-discrimination based on race, gender, or social status. A grievance and complaint mechanism are included in the ESMP, and consultation processes (outlined in Annex 2) help ensure that human rights are respected and upheld throughout project implementation. |
| <i>Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i> | Additional evaluation required | The project faces the risk of not addressing the different needs and priorities of women and men in terms of access to services, assets, and resources, potentially reinforcing gender-based discrimination and inequalities. The project has designed activities with a gender perspective to ensure that gender-based discrimination inequalities are not reinforced. The project will have a Gender Assessment and Gender Action Plan, delving into additional considerations to reduce gender gaps and avoid aggravating current situations of inequality between men and women. A Gender Action Plan was prepared (Annex 04), which includes a comprehensive and participatory approach that addresses gender and inclusion aspects, and outlines measures to integrate gender and social inclusion into each of the project's components and activities. |
| <i>Core Labour Rights</i> | Additional evaluation required | The country has ratified fundamental ILO conventions related to force labour, freedom of association, collective bargain, equal remuneration, abolition of force labour, discrimination (employment and occupation), minimum age, and worst forms of child labour. The project adheres to compliance with labour laws and standards. Nevertheless, the country still faces challenges including child labour, gender-based discrimination, high labour informality, and limited labour rights protections for people with disabilities. Employment relationships will be based on the principle of equal opportunity and fair treatment, and non-discrimination. Some project activities will require the support of contractors and/or subcontractors who must comply with labour laws and International Labor Organization (ILO) regulations. Additionally, awareness-raising activities to promote understanding of decent work principles will also take place. |
| <i>Indigenous Peoples</i> | No additional evaluation required | In the area of influence there are no Indigenous communities territorialized or living in communities. |
| <i>Involuntary Resettlement</i> | No additional evaluation required | Project activities will not lead to voluntary or involuntary resettlement processes, nor will they adversely affect the livelihoods of the communities in the area of influence. If any materials, objects, or artifacts suggesting archaeological, paleontological, or historical significance are discovered during project activities, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MMARN) and the Ministry of Culture will be immediately informed. No further work shall take place until authorization is granted by the relevant authorities. |
| <i>Protection of Natural Habitats</i> | Additional evaluation required | The project includes activities in two ecologically and culturally significant protected areas: Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and Hispaniola National Park. These areas contain sensitive marine and terrestrial ecosystems, as well as important archaeological and cultural sites. Although the project activities are site-specific and low impact, they are designed to enhance |

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| | | ecosystem resilience and connectivity in the face of climate change and environmental degradation. Risks such as unauthorized fishing, overexploitation of resources, illegal hunting of manatees, and marine mammal collisions with fast-moving tourist boats have been identified. To address these, all project activities will comply with national regulations and protected area management plans, incorporating environmental good practices and subject to review by competent authorities. Additional environmental studies and a carrying capacity assessment for ecotourism will be conducted to ensure that ecosystem integrity and visitation levels remain within sustainable limits. Alliances will also be created with ecosystem conservation NGOs, private institutions, and local communities to promote sustainable conservation practices. |
| <i>Conservation of Biological Diversity</i> | Additional evaluation required | Unsustainable fishery, agriculture, and livestock practice pose a risk to biodiversity conservation (e.g. overexploitation, deforestation, others). Use or release of invasive, non-native, or alien species is prohibited. All species promoted as part of the reforestation and restoration processes for marine or terrestrial ecosystem will be native and local species adapted to the area. No genetically modified organisms will be used. No land conversion will take place, activities that can covert of degrade natural habitat will not be promoted by the project. Local authorities protected area sponsors and managers, local communities, and other stakeholders will be involved in project planning, implementation, and monitoring process. The project activities aim at reducing the vulnerability of coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems and enhancing local communities' adaptive capacity, through sustainable livelihood and use of good industry practices, and strategic planning (e.g. for resilient and sustainable local tourism development), others. |
| <i>Climate Change</i> | No additional evaluation required | The project has an adaptation focus (increasing the resilience of ecosystems and people's livelihoods). Additionally, some activities have direct carbon sequestration benefits (e.g. reforestation activities, forestry, etc.). In this regard, project activities are not expected to significantly increase GHG generation; where civil works are required, it is recognized that vehicle movement may increase emissions, but this impact is not considered to be significant. |
| <i>Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</i> | Additional evaluation required | Mostly, risk related to pollution are related with inappropriate waste and wastewater management, lack of infrastructure and lack of environmental education and the use of unsustainable agriculture and livestock practices, includes: inappropriate disposal of garbage in ravines and bodies of water that later reaches wetlands and the sea; excessive use of pesticides and fertilizers and poor management of animal waste (contaminate water and soil, affects biodiversity and increasing erosion). Project will promote good international industry practices and will engage with communities and different stakeholders to promote sustainable resource management (e.g. integrated pest management, awareness raising, among others). The project will not purchase, store, manufacture or use hazardous waste, nor will project constitute a significant source of waste emission. Project will comply with national and international practices related to minimizing adverse impacts on human health and the environment and promote sustainable use of resources (e.g. water and soil conservation, silvopastoral practices). |
| <i>Public Health</i> | No additional evaluation required | No public health risks are foreseen. Best practices related to the sectors in which the project operates will be taken into account to address and manage risks related to community health and safety. Project activities are expected to improve priority ecosystem services and diversify and strengthen community livelihoods (become more resilient). |
| <i>Physical and Cultural Heritage</i> | Additional evaluation required | The project's zone of influence encompasses the Hispaniola National Park protected area, which includes the Villa de La Isabela Archaeological Site and the underwater heritage. Currently, the ruins of the La Isabela settlement, listed on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List, are in the process of being re-nominated for recognition as a World Heritage site, considering the richness of all the different types of heritage present in the area. The activities to be implemented will be limited and in consultation with the relevant local and national authorities (e.g. Ministry of Culture) and with the involvement of local stakeholders. Activity 3.1.3 is a partially undefined USP. The location of the activities is known but the specific adaptation measures to protect the archaeological site will be determined through a feasibility study take into consideration different environmental and social aspects to minimize environmental and social impact. |
| <i>Lands and Soil Conservation</i> | Additional evaluation required | There could be risks of soil degradation or loss of productive lands and desertification because of extreme climatic events (not due to activities of the proposed program), uncontrolled deforestation activities or use of unsustainable agricultural practices. Project activities are expected to increase ecosystem resilience by integrating good sectoral practices to reduce coastal degradation (e.g. restoration practices, warning, and monitoring systems) and reduce slope erosion (e.g. agroforestry). However, further analysis will be required to ensure that none of the activities can cause harm and that appropriate mitigation measures are put in place. |

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

A. Describe the arrangements for project/programme implementation.

469. At the request of the Government of the Dominican Republic, CAF is the Regional Implementation Entity (RIE) of the project. The Executing Entity (EE) is the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
470. The key actors related to climate impacts in the project area, as described in the context/background section, will also be involved in the project implementation under the framework described below.
471. The project will have two levels of coordination: an operational structure to manage the coordination of the accredited entity, the executing entity, and the operational team/project management unit (PMU), and a strategic coordination level that will include a Steering Committee and Technical Committees. These levels are described below and illustrated in Figures 10 and 11.

a. Operational structure Implementing Entity (IE)

472. CAF will serve as the Implementing Entity of the Project, drawing on its experience in successfully conducting similar activities in the LAC region.

CAF will maintain responsibility for the daily supervision of the project and will have direct accountability for fulfilling the duties and obligations of a GEF Implementing Entity. It will be responsible for financial management and will be accountable for the use of GEF funds within the framework of the project. CAF will provide technical and administrative support to the Operational Team (see below) to ensure results-oriented management and proper administration of funds. The IE's functions include providing monitoring and evaluation services. CAF will maintain ongoing coordination with the project staff and dialogue with stakeholders involved in the project.

The Executing Entity (EE) and the Operational Team

473. UNDP will be the Executing Entity (EE) of the project. The Operational Team within the EE—the Project Management Unit (PMU)—will have a dedicated team to ensure that all components and activities are conducted according to the project design. It will coordinate with the monitoring and evaluation activities (covered by CAF as the IE) to ensure that all expected results are achieved on time and within budget.

474. This PMU will include a Project Coordinator, a resilient tourism specialist, a marine biology specialist, a forestry specialist, an environmental and social safeguards specialist, a gender specialist, a monitoring and evaluation specialist, an administrative and financial assistant, and a procurement assistant. All of them will have implementation as well as monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) responsibilities, and will work in coordination with the CAF specialists assigned to the project.

475. The environmental and social safeguards specialist and the gender specialist will be responsible for ensuring the implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and the Gender Action Plan, in coordination with CAF's Environmental and Social Assessment and Monitoring Coordination (CESAS) and CAF's Gender Coordination.

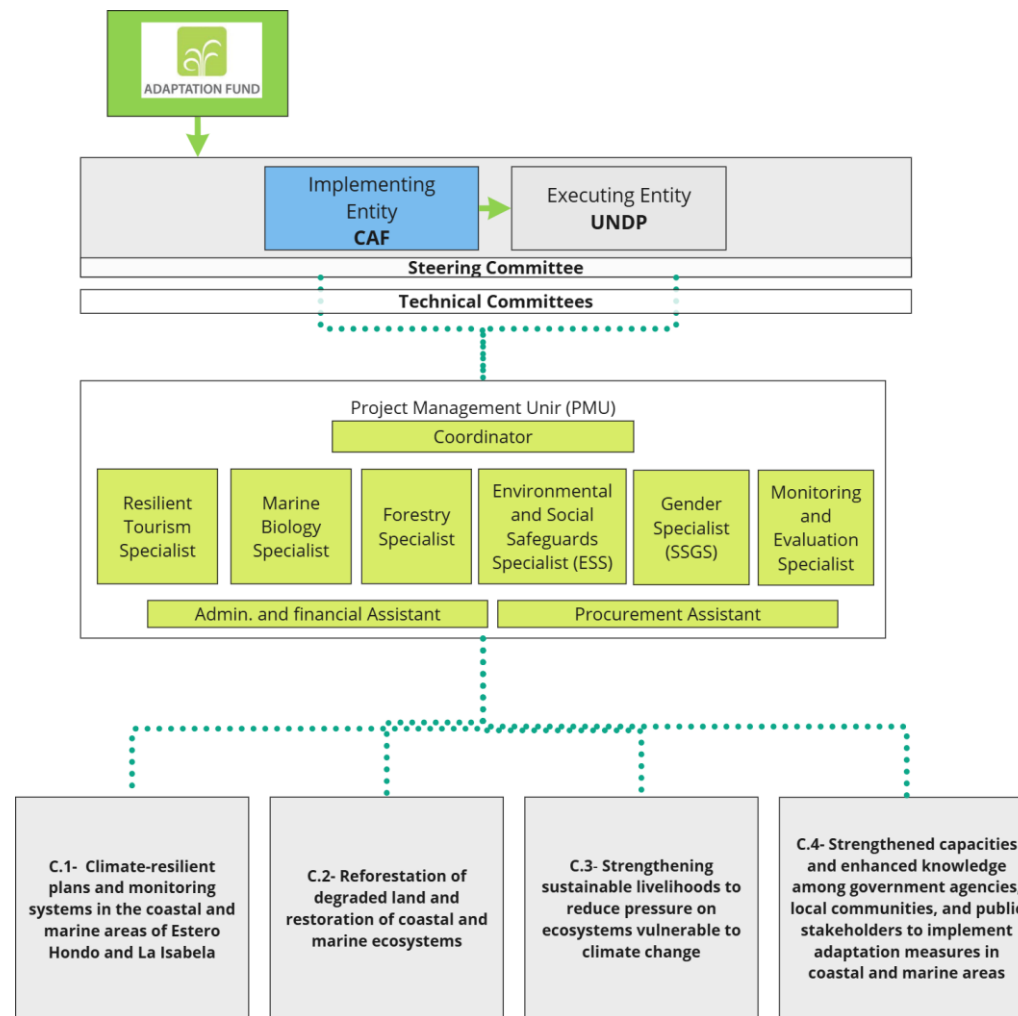
476. In addition to having training and experience in social and gender issues and project implementation, these specialists must have demonstrated experience in communication and facilitation with local communities, as well as in outreach to strengthen the project's visibility at the local, regional, and national levels. Ideally, the gender specialist profile will include experience in the field of climate change and/or climate change adaptation, and knowledge of the Gender Policies of the Adaptation Fund.

477. The PMU will work in close collaboration with the administrative departments of CAF.

478. The PMU will ensure that the Project implementation progresses smoothly through well-prepared work plans, Terms of Reference, and carefully designed administrative arrangements that comply with CAF and Adaptation Fund requirements. The responsibilities of the PMU include the following tasks:

- Monitoring the achievements of the Project's results, outputs, and objectives.
- Manage the daily implementation of the Project, coordinating activities according to CAF/AF rules and procedures.
- Provide technical input as appropriate to the results.
- Facilitate the processes of personnel hiring and procurement.
- Coordinate with stakeholders and other relevant regional programs, together with CAF.
- Convene quarterly Project Implementation meetings with CAF to review progress in the execution of work plans.
- Ensure, together with CAF, that specific tasks are subcontracted to suitable suppliers or national and international consultants through competitive bidding processes. The responsibilities of the UGP include the development of bidding documents and terms of reference, as well as monitoring the overall progress of these processes.
- Organize meetings and workshops at the Project level, such as kick-off workshops, among others.
- Supervise financial progress reports and the Project's financial balance reports.
- Prepare general Project reports.
- Plan and monitor the technical aspects of the Project, including regular field visits and periodic reports.
- Ensure that advance funds are used according to the agreed work plans and budget.
- Prepare and adjust commitments and expenses authorized by CAF, ensuring timely disbursements, financial recording, and reporting in accordance with budgets and work plans.
- Manage and maintain budgets, including tracking commitments, expenses, and planned expenditures compared to the budget and work plan.
- Maintain productive, regular, and professional communication with other Project stakeholders to ensure the smooth progress of Project implementation.

Figure 10 Operational level organization chart.



b. Level of strategic coordination

Steering Committee.

479. The highest decision-making authority, the Steering Committee, will be led by representatives from CAF, MMARN, and the Implementing Entity (UNDP), and may include representatives from various key government institutions related to the management of issues concerning the project activities as observers. The meetings, which will take place annually, will include the Project Coordinator and the MEL Specialist, whose main purpose is to inform the Committee about the progress and results of the project.

1. The Steering Committee will be responsible for:

- Review and approve the Annual Operational Plan.
- Evaluate and approve the Annual Procurement Plan.
- Review and approve the PPR – Project Progress Report to the Adaptation Fund.
- Approve changes to the project procurement plans, with possible variations in procurements between the project’s Outputs, for amounts exceeding 10% (according to the Fund’s rules, this 10% applies to both the increase and decrease, based on the total project amount). Changes to procurement plans involving amounts below this threshold will be approved by CAF and reported to the Committee at each meeting.
- Evaluate the project’s performance.
- Review and approve the mid-term and final project evaluations, providing comments and recommendations.
- Resolve conflicts that may arise during execution.
- Receive reports from the project coordination semi-annually and annually during its sessions, as well as be informed about the progress of the annual report to be submitted to the Adaptation Fund.
- Verify compliance with the Project implementation.
- Provide strategic guidance aligned with the national climate change policy and local actions.

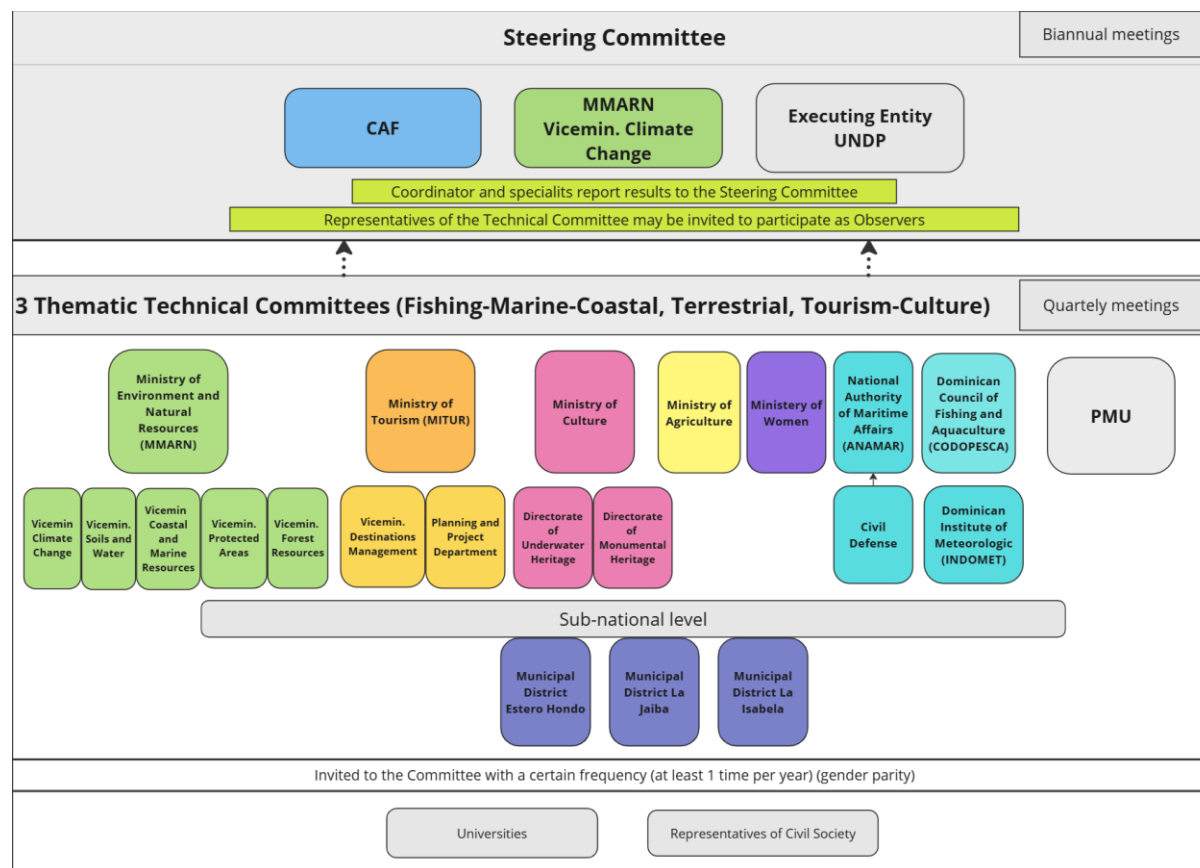
Thematic Technical Committees.

480. The Technical Committees (a total of three, divided by theme: Fisheries-Marine-Coastal, Terrestrial, and Tourism-Culture) will provide advice on technical aspects and report on the progress of execution to the Steering Committee. While the Steering Committee is composed of senior representatives from the institutions, the Technical Committees will be made up of technical experts from these institutions. Participants will include technicians from MMARN, MITUR, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Culture, CODOPESCA, ANAMAR, INDOMET, and the UGP team. These committees will meet quarterly. At least once a year, representatives from the private sector (tourism/fishing/agriculture), universities, and civil society organizations will be invited to participate as observers, ensuring gender parity.

481. The three Technical Committees will be responsible for:

- Advising on and supervising the consolidated Annual Operational Plan.
- Advising on and supervising the consolidated Annual Procurement Plan.
- Advising on and supervising the PPR – Project execution report and making recommendations.
- Advising on and supervising changes to the procurement plan of the program with variations in procurements between the project outputs, for amounts exceeding 10%.
- Advising on and supervising the project's performance.
- Advising on and supervising the information necessary for the mid-term and final project evaluations.
- Advising on and supervising the progress of the annual report to be submitted to the Adaptation Fund on a quarterly and annual basis.

Figure 11. Steering and Technical Committees



B. Describe the measures for financial and project/programme risk management.

Table 11. Measures for financial and project/programme risk management

| Risk No. | Identified risks. | Type | Probability of occurrence | Level of impact | Mitigation measures |
|----------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|--|
| 1 | Difficulties in organizing hiring and procurement processes for the multiple responsible actors. | Administrative | Low | High | The budget, disbursement schedule, and contracting modalities have been reviewed together with the Implementing Entity. UNDP has extensive experience in project implementation in the country. |
| 2 | Identification of consulting firms or suitable consultants to provide the required services. | Human Resources / Consultant shortage | Medium | Low | Clear terms of reference will be prepared, and procurements will be advertised on the appropriate networks. |
| 3 | Long-term maintenance costs of territorial investments | Financial | Low | Medium | The territorial investments to be made have low maintenance costs. Additionally, ecosystem-based solutions have been favoured so that the project avoids these costs. National and departmental governments will sign agreements to ensure the allocation of resources for maintenance. |
| 4 | Uncertainty about the intensity of climatic events that may affect project interventions, including ecosystem restoration. | Environment | Low | High | Climate resilience and flexibility approaches will be incorporated into the design and planning of activities. Climatic conditions and the status of interventions will be continuously monitored, allowing for real-time adjustments. Restoration practices will also be implemented in phased stages, facilitating periodic evaluations that adjust interventions and reinforce especially vulnerable areas. |
| 6 | Low interest/participation from stakeholders | Social | High | High | To address the potential low interest of stakeholders, the project will implement periodic communication mechanisms to provide concise and clear information about the progress and impacts of the interventions. Update meetings will be organized at key milestones of the project to ensure that representatives from relevant institutions and local communities are informed about the benefits achieved and the next steps. Additionally, the project team will facilitate the involvement of key actors in technical decisions through brief and effective consultations, reinforcing alignment between the project and local priorities without demanding significant additional effort. |
| 7 | Limited capacity of stakeholders (communities and government) to continue with the actions. | Institutional / Social | Low | Medium | To strengthen the capacity of stakeholders and ensure the sustainability of actions, the project will provide practical training focused on key management and maintenance techniques that are easy to replicate. Additionally, brief manuals and guides, adapted to the local context, will be developed so that communities and government personnel have reference resources after the project ends. Networks will also be established among participants to promote mutual support and facilitate future technical consultations. |

C. Describe the measures for environmental and social risk management, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

482. An environmental and social risk analysis was conducted for the four components of the project. For the development of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), implementation arrangements, as well as the roles and responsibilities of the involved entities (implementing agency, various government ministries), were taken into account. The risk identification and ESMP development followed a risk-based approach, incorporating inputs obtained from consultation processes conducted to validate the project's activities with the relevant stakeholders. The general characterization of each component was determined based on the identified risks and associated impacts.
483. In developing the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), consideration was given to the implementation arrangements and to the roles and responsibilities of the entities involved, including the implementing agency and various government ministries.
484. Based on the results of risk categorization, it is concluded that none of the components are expected to have significant or irreversible impacts. Components 1 and 4 are classified as low risk (Category C) due to the nature of their activities, which are related to the development of plans and strategies, awareness-raising and outreach activities, capacity building, training, and knowledge exchanges. These activities are not expected to generate any significant environmental or social impacts.
485. Components 2 and 3 are classified as medium risk (Category B) because they include minor infrastructure works that are low-impact and site-specific, such as the improvement and rehabilitation of access points and trails within protected areas; signage (installation of mooring buoys or marine buoys, marking of navigation channels for boats); and watershed reforestation and restoration of reefs and seagrass beds using native species. In addition, Component 3 includes an Unidentified Subproject (USP) (more details below). A comprehensive analysis of the project's environmental and social risks was conducted, resulting in an Environmental and Social Management Plan (Annex 06) that includes mitigation measures, information of the project's grievance mechanism, and implementation responsibilities. Additionally, a Gender Action Plan (Annex 04) was developed to ensure gender and social inclusion across all project components through a participatory approach.
486. It was determined that most of the components had implications related to Principle 2 "Access and Equity," Principle 3 "Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups," and Principle 5 "Gender Equity." To address this, the project will develop a Dissemination Plan and a Participatory Strategy tailored to the specific characteristics of the two areas of influence. This plan will be developed and validated with local stakeholders prior to the start of activities. Additionally, a communication and awareness plan will be designed and implemented with a social and gender perspective, differentiating target

audiences to tailor messages, media, and actions accordingly. As outlined in the Disclosure Guidelines and Participatory Strategy section of the ESMP, the plans will address the dissemination of information, messaging, communication channels, roles of community members and leaders and organizations, appropriate types of communication for different groups, including gender groups, sex, age, and persons with disabilities; the frequency of meetings, community member participation in activities, grievance mechanisms, gender objectives, and also the disclosure of the project's grievance and complaints mechanism.

487. Principle 5, "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment," proved to be relevant. The project proposes concrete and specific activities, actions, and measures to integrate a gender and social inclusion approach into each of the project's components and activities. The project includes a Gender Action Plan and allocates budget for the recruitment of both an Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist (ESS) and a Gender Specialist to support the implementation and monitoring of the plan. The project promotes active participation of women and recruitment of women for project implementation activities, collection and monitoring of gender and sex disaggregated. Furthermore, project-related plans and strategies will adopt an inclusive and gender-sensitive approach to address vulnerability of women and establish mechanisms for participatory consultation and collaborative decision-making processes. Additionally, the project's Disclosure Plan and Participation Strategy incorporate a gender perspective across all areas, as well as specific actions to ensure inclusive participation of women.
488. The project covers two important protected areas: the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park. Principles 9 and 10 on the protection of natural habitats and biodiversity conservation are applied. These principles are relevant to Component 2, "Reforestation of Degraded Lands and Restoration of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems," and Component 3, "Strengthening sustainable Livelihoods to reduce pressure on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change " which propose concrete activities to strengthen the resilience of marine-coastal and upper watershed systems such as increasing forest cover, planting coral reefs, mangroves and coastal vegetation in the project area. The components also include activities for the protection and enhancement of cultural heritage (**USP** activity) and the strengthening of tourism infrastructure. The proposed activities will be implemented within the framework of the Co-management Plans for these areas. A capacity study for ecotourism will take place to ensure that the coastal-marine ecosystem and the archaeological sites are not compromised and to keep visitations levels within the ecological limits. In accordance with the environmental regulations and procedures of the Dominican Republic, relevant environmental and social studies and assessments will be conducted for the activities or works to be financed. Before these activities are implemented, the necessary permits and authorizations will be obtained from governmental and local authorities (MMARN, Ministry of Culture), as applicable. The Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) includes specific measures to address risks related to both principles.
489. The impacts related to Principle 12: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency are considered applicable to Components 2 and 3. The risks are associated with a lack of environmental education and awareness, which leads to inadequate management of solid waste and wastewater. They are related to minor infrastructure work activities that are low-impact and site-specific (e.g., improvement and rehabilitation of access routes and trails within protected areas and signage activities), as well as reforestation and ecosystem restoration activities. For these activities, it was determined that the impacts would be temporary, of moderate importance, and limited to pollution prevention and water management. The ESMP recommends that interventions be conducted following the appropriate studies and that good environmental and agricultural practices be incorporated. Through the activities of Component 2, which focus on ecosystem-based adaptation solutions such as the restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems and the reforestation of upstream watersheds, it will be possible to holistically improve ecosystem services: provisioning (e.g., fisheries), supporting (e.g., maintaining the life cycle of wildlife and local communities), regulating services (e.g., erosion prevention, climate change mitigation), and enhancing connectivity between ecosystems.
490. Principle 14 "Physical and Cultural Heritage," Activity 3.1.1 "Protection and Reinforcement of Cultural Heritage" has been designed to protect La Hispaniola National Park from coastal erosion and rising sea levels. This cultural site is currently being evaluated by UNESCO for designation as a World Heritage Site, a process led by the Ministry of Culture. Activity 3.1.1 is a partially undefined USP; the location of the activities is known, but the specific adaptation measures to protect the archaeological site have not yet been defined. These will be determined through a feasibility study, and an environmental and social impact assessment will also be conducted in accordance with the scale or magnitude of the proposed activities. The corresponding permits or authorizations must be obtained from the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Culture, and consultation processes with authorities and local communities must be conducted. All activities related this principle will be aligned with the international standards (e.g., UNESCO guidelines for environmental education) and will include pre/post training. The proposed activities will be framed within the Co-management Plan of this area. The ESMP will be updated based on the results and recommendations of these studies.
491. Principle 15 "Land and Soil Conservation" The project activities were designed to reduce the vulnerability of coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems, mainly to erosion. The proposed measures are based on ecosystem-based adaptation solutions to improve coastal-marine habitats and increase the adaptive potential of these ecosystems in the face of climate change, coastal erosion, drought, and other extreme events.
492. For the implementation of this Plan, an amount of USD 237,689 has been allocated within the project budget. This amount will cover the hiring of the Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist and Gender Specialist , as well as the corresponding travel expenses; the execution of the required environmental and social assessments for the activities mentioned above; and a portion of the costs associated with technical training and Plans across the different project components that include safeguards-related content and the grievance and redress mechanism.

D. Describe the monitoring and evaluation arrangements and provide a budgeted M&E plan, in compliance with the ESP and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

493. For the monitoring and evaluation of the project, the Project Management Unit (PMU) will hire a MEL Specialist who will work closely with the specialist responsible for supervising this project at CAF and the key project stakeholders in the Dominican Republic. The specialist will be responsible for developing a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, ensuring that the application of the M&E system: (i) collects data from the project logical framework as well as gender-disaggregated information that meets the gender targets according to the Gender Action Plan and aligns with the

Adaptation Fund Gender Policy; (ii) ensures the necessary data on Adaptation Fund indicators are collected following the corresponding definitions and methodologies; (iii) processes information according to the different needs of the project, the Adaptation Fund, and CAF to guarantee dissemination, decision-making, and knowledge management; (iv) promotes a continuous learning cycle to incorporate lessons learned from monitoring or evaluations into project implementation; and (v) incorporates information on the monitoring of environmental and social aspects in compliance with the Adaptation Fund's environmental and social safeguard policies. The MEL specialist will be responsible for ensuring the quality of information and will support local authorities and technicians in implementing the monitoring, evaluation, and tracking system of coastal adaptation measures. This training will strengthen local capacities to ensure effective and sustainable management of the project interventions over time.

494. The MEL specialist, in coordination with the PMU and CAF, will be responsible for leading and supervising each stage of the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, ensuring the effective implementation of the following milestones.
495. **Kick-off Workshop and Inception Report:** A kick-off workshop will be organized with all key stakeholders to review the project milestones and develop an adjusted operational plan. The inception report will include a brief description of the launch workshop, and the activities planned for the next period.
496. **Baseline Update:** As part of the initial activities, a review and update of the baseline will be conducted. The MEL specialist will begin by analysing the project indicators that require the collection or formulation of a baseline for subsequent monitoring. This initial analysis will establish a solid reference point from which project achievements and impacts will be evaluated. Specifically, baseline should be collected for AF core indicators aligning to the corresponding methodologies. Additionally, the specialist will design data collection tools and databases to facilitate the capture and processing of relevant information and its subsequent progress tracking.
497. **Indicator Monitoring, including sex-disaggregated data:** During the monitoring of activities and results, the specialist will ensure the collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data, aligned with the specific indicators of the results framework and the **Gender Action Plan**, which have been embedded in the results framework. This information will allow for evaluating the project's differential impact and promote progress tracking to ensure greater equity and inclusion in the benefits obtained. Monitoring will occur at least semi-annually. This monitoring includes data collection and continuous supervision of progress at each prioritized site through field visits as needed. These visits will allow the MEL specialist to verify the progress of activities and delivered outputs, as well as assess the proper implementation of investments and achievement of objectives. Furthermore, this information will be compiled into the semi-annual report to be submitted to CAF. **Participatory Monitoring with the Community:** The project promotes a participatory monitoring approach, involving youth and neighbours from the intervention areas. Data collected periodically by the communities will be integrated into the monitoring system. The MEL specialist will be responsible for compiling and combining these diverse data sources into the monitoring system to ensure a comprehensive and collaborative evaluation.
498. **Environmental and Social Monitoring:** The environmental and social specialist will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the mitigation measures established in the Environmental and Social Management Plan (Annex 06), while the gender specialist will monitor the activities of the Gender Action Plan (Annex 04). Both specialists will provide updated information on the progress of these plans during the annual PPR assembly, including any corrective actions implemented.
499. **Compilation and Analysis for the Project Annual Performance Report (PPR):** The M&E specialist will gather all the necessary data and inputs to complete the Project Annual Performance Report (PPR) and submit it to CAF. CAF will be responsible for its analysis and processing to comply with the formats pre-established by the FA. This report evaluates the achievement of impact and outcome indicators, and monitors progress toward the goals outlined in the results framework. The specialist will share recommendations with the UGP and relevant stakeholders, based on the annual findings, to adjust project actions as needed.
500. **Project Monitoring Missions:** CAF will conduct an annual monitoring mission to the Project in coordination with the UGP team to analyse the Project's progress and make recommendations to ensure the achievement of the objectives.
501. **Mid-Term Evaluation of the Project:** A mid-term evaluation will be conducted by an independent external consultant commissioned by CAF, who will be responsible for overseeing it. This evaluation will assess progress toward the project's objectives and provide an opportunity to make adjustments that improve the project's effectiveness in its second phase of implementation. The findings of this evaluation will be used to optimize the project's resources and strategies. The evaluation will ensure primary data collection through interviews and surveys to compare to the baseline and be able to track progress towards the AF and project indicators. The methodologies to measure the AF core indicators should follow the [AF guidance](#) and their updates, if available. More information on the methodology for the core indicators has been included in the logframe.
502. **Final Evaluation of the Project:** At the project's closure, an independent external consultant will conduct a final evaluation to assess the overall impact of the interventions and the achievement of the stated objectives. This evaluation will include a review of the results and must comply with the methodologies and guidelines included in the Adaptation Fund's Evaluation policy and the methodologies for reporting AF core impact indicators, ensuring a focus on lessons learned and recommendations for future projects.
503. At the conclusion of the Project, a **final workshop** will be held to ensure that the lessons learned, best practices, and project results are shared with the community and key stakeholders, as well as to create opportunities for replication and scaling up of the project.

Table 12. M&E costed budget.

| M&E activity | Responsible Party | Budget (USD) | Budget | Frequency |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|---|
| 1. Kick-off workshop | CAF & PMU | 20,000 | Covered by IE fee | It will be done within 3 months of the start of the project |

| | | | | |
|---|--|---------|-------------------|---|
| 2. Startup Report | CAF | 2,000 | Covered by IE fee | One month after the kick-off workshop. The initial report will include a brief description of the kick-off workshop, and the activities planned for the following period. |
| 3. Updating the project baseline | External Consultant | 38,000 | Covered by IE fee | Within the first six months from the start of the project. |
| 4. Monitoring of indicators of outcomes and outputs | Specialists from the PMU (Project Management Unit) | 90,000 | Covered by IE fee | Six-monthly data collection to monitor the progress of activities, with a focus on outputs and activities. |
| | Field Managers | | | Monthly field visits to different activities. |
| | PMU Specialists | | | Annual monitoring of progress on the indicators of the results framework with a focus on outcomes. |
| 5. Environmental and social and gender monitoring activities | Gender Specialist | 50,000 | Covered by IE fee | Quarterly data collection to monitor the progress of the activities and results of the gender action plan. |
| | Environmental and Social Specialist | | | Quarterly monitoring of the progress of the environmental and social management plan, and the gender plan. |
| 6. Annual Project Performance Reports (PPRs) for the Adaptation Fund and Project Monitoring | CAF M&E Specialist | 110,000 | Covered by IE fee | The PPR must be filed annually (no more than two months after the close of the reporting year). The first PPR will be presented one year after the start of the project (date of the start workshop). The final report will be submitted no more than two months after the end of the last year of the project. |
| 7. Project follow-up missions | CAF PMU specialists M&E Specialist | 25,000 | Covered by IE fee | They will be held annually. |
| 8. Mid-term evaluation (external) | Independent External Consultant | 50,000 | Covered by IE fee | Halfway through the implementation of activities and financing (estimated in 2028). |
| 9. Project completion summary | CAF M&E Specialist | 10,000 | Covered by IE fee | Within six (6) months after Project completion |
| 10. Final evaluation of the project (external) | Independent External Consultant | 60,000 | Covered by IE fee | Two months before the end of the project. The final evaluation will include a comprehensive analysis of the results achieved, the sustainability of the project, and lessons learned for future coastal-marine conservation projects. |
| 11. Final Workshop | CAF | 20,000 | Covered by IE fee | At the end of the project. This workshop will serve to present the results, share experiences, and define the next stages of sustainability for the conservation of coastal-marine ecosystems in the areas of intervention. |
| 12. Biannual Reports | M&E Specialist PMU specialists | 8,000 | Covered by IE fee | CAF reviews and monitors the bi-annual progress of the reports sent to CAF by project coordination on a bi-annual basis. |

E. Include a results framework for the project proposal, including milestones, targets and indicators, including one or more core outcome indicators of the Adaptation Fund Results Framework, and in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

Table 13. Results Framework – Core indicators – Impact level

| Project objective | Adaptation Fund Impact Indicators | Baseline | Target at Project Approval | Adjusted target (first year of implementation) | Actual at completion | Means of verification Source | Responsible and frequency | Risks and assumptions |
|--|--|---|--|--|----------------------|--|---|--|
| <p>Objective: Reduce the vulnerability of coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems of La Hispaniola and Estero Hondo Mammal Sanctuary protected areas, as well as improve the climate change adaptive capacity of local communities to the risks of heat waves, drought, and coastal erosion caused by sea level rise and an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme events, ocean acidification, and sea surface temperature rise.</p> | <p>Core: Number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (total)</p> <p>Direct beneficiaries supported by the Project, of which:</p> <p>Female beneficiaries</p> <p>Youth beneficiaries (18-24)</p> <p>Indirect beneficiaries, of which:</p> <p>Female beneficiaries</p> <p>Youth beneficiaries</p> | <p>0 (there are no Adaptation Fund projects in this area)</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> | <p>8,665 beneficiaries (47% women, 18% youth)</p> <p>4,087 Direct beneficiaries, of which</p> <p>1,921 (women)</p> <p>735 (youth)</p> <p>4,578 indirect beneficiaries, of which</p> <p>2,152 (women)</p> <p>824 (youth)</p> | | | <p>Primary information collection (interviews + surveys)</p> <p>Project M&E system</p> <p>Mid-term and end-of-project evaluation</p> | <p>Data collection: PMU technicians</p> <p>Annual frequency</p> | <p>People participating in the project adopt adaptation practices and improve their knowledge of climate change, contributing to the conservation of coastal-marine ecosystems.</p> <p><u>Methodology for Adaptation Core Indicator Number of Beneficiaries:</u> The people/household needs to be identified by the project as receiving direct support and counted individually. In terms of the adaptation benefit, the evaluation needs to ensure through surveys the adoption of the project-supported adaptation practices and strengthened capacities.</p> |
| | <p>Core: Natural assets protected or rehabilitated to improve erosion and degradation.</p> <p>Natural assets or ecosystems</p> <p>Type: upper basin ecosystem</p> <p>Change in state. Effectiveness of protection/rehabilitation scale</p> <p>Type: mangroves</p> <p>Change in state. Effectiveness of protection/rehabilitation scale</p> <p>Type: coral</p> <p>Change in state. Effectiveness of protection/rehabilitation scale</p> <p>Total number of natural assets or ecosystems protected/rehabilitated.</p> | <p>Ecosystems have varying degrees of vulnerability (scale to be revised during baseline)</p> <p>800 ha.</p> <p>Scale 1</p> <p>105 ha.</p> <p>Scale 1</p> <p>1 ha</p> <p>Scale 1</p> <p>0</p> | <p>800 ha.</p> <p>Scale 4- mostly improved.</p> <p>105 ha.</p> <p>Scale 4 -mostly improved.</p> <p>1 ha.</p> <p>Scale 4 -mostly improved.</p> <p>3 (upper basin, mangroves, coral)</p> | | | <p>Monitoring studies of forest and marine-coastal ecosystems.</p> <p>GIS analysis, Project participatory monitoring system.</p> | | <p><u>Methodology for Adaptation Core Scale 1 to 5 according to core indicators methodology -AF</u> According to the scale of the methodological sheets for this indicator, the change in hectares of the ecosystem should be measured on a scale from 1 (not improved) to 5 (totally improved).</p> |

Table 14. Results Framework – Project Indicators per component

| Component 1. Climate-resilient plans and monitoring systems in the coastal and marine areas of Estero Hondo and La Isabela | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Outcome 1 Strengthened planning and monitoring of coastal and marine areas that promote climate-resilient decision-making.</p> | <p>Number of institutions using the improved systems, strategies, plans, monitoring reports developed by the Project considering climate change for the decision-making and planning of coastal and marine resources.</p> | <p>0 Institutions use improved systems, strategies, plans and monitoring reports for decision-making and planning.</p> <p>Currently there is limited information on coastal-marine characterization and impacts of future climate change for proper planning and management of the prioritized sites.</p> | <p>7 institutions use the improved systems, strategies plans, and community-based monitoring reports developed by the project for decision-making and planning of coastal and marine resources.</p> | <p>Key informant interviews Review of secondary documentation such as budgets and activities carried out.</p> <p>Information generated by the systems and participatory monitoring supported by the Project.</p> | <p>Mid-term and end of project evaluation</p> | <p><u>Assumption:</u> Systems developed and strengthened, as well as plans and strategies are put in place and used for recurrent action planning at prioritized sites. Investment decisions are aligned with this information.</p> <p><u>Risk:</u> that the technological systems are not used prior to the evaluation. In this case, the use of plans, strategies and available monitoring information may be considered as evidence.</p> |
| <p>Output 1.1 Enhanced inter-institutional technical coordination.</p> | <p>Number of interministerial technical coordination mechanisms for the management of coastal-marine and cultural resources in the face of climate change and gender.</p> <p>Focal point of the Ministry of Women designated in the coordination mechanism.</p> <p>% of the members of the coordination mechanism receive training on gender approach, inclusion, and climate change</p> | <p>0 Interministerial technical coordination mechanism for the management of coastal-marine and cultural resources considering climate change and gender.</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> | <p>1 interministerial technical coordination mechanism set up for the management of coastal-marine and cultural resources considering climate change and gender.</p> <p>1</p> <p>100%</p> | <p>Key informant interviews</p> <p>Progress reports of the project.</p> <p>Participation records in the coordination mechanism signed by gender focal points from other Ministries.</p> <p>Communication and/or dissemination materials are prepared with non-sexist language.</p> | <p>Data collection: PMU technicians.</p> <p>Project M&E reports.</p> <p>Frequency: annual</p> <p>Gender Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | <p><u>Assumption:</u> interest and participation of government entities in participating in the project.</p> |
| <p>Output 1.2 Coastal-marine sector plans developed for sustainable resources management considering</p> | <p>Number of gender-sensitive protected area <u>strategies</u> and <u>action plan</u> developed</p> | <p>0</p> | <p>2 gender-sensitive <u>strategies</u> developed integrating climate change.</p> <p>2 gender-sensitive <u>local action</u></p> | <p>Data collected by the project monitoring system.</p> | <p>Data collection: PMU technicians.</p> <p>Project M&E reports.</p> | <p><u>Assumption:</u> interest and participation of the communities in getting involved in co-management and participating in the project.</p> |

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|---|
| <p>climate change.</p> | <p>integrating climate change.</p> <p>Number of gender-sensitive protected area <u>co-management plans</u> prepared.</p> <p>% of the technical team from the MMARN receive training on the design of co-management plans for protected areas with a gender and inclusion approach</p> <p>% of female co-managers trained.</p> | <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> | <p><u>plans</u> integrating climate change.</p> <p>2 gender-sensitive protected area <u>co-management plans</u> prepared.</p> <p>100%</p> <p>47%</p> | <p>Co-management plans, which include specific gender analyses.</p> <p>Engagement Plans for women and vulnerable groups designed to be applied in community consultations for the development of the Strategy and Action Plan</p> | <p>Frequency: annual</p> <p>Gender Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | <p>From the total number of people consulted in La Isabela, La Jaiba, and Estero Hondo 47% are women and young women.</p> <p>Plans and strategies developed, designed with a gender and inclusion approach, integrating gender analyses and with specific activities targeting women and youth as the intended beneficiaries.</p> |
| <p>Output 1.3. Improved socio-environmental data registries and processing for climate-resilient decision-making</p> | <p>Number of gender-sensitive information systems with periodic and systematic information on hazards, erosion risk, drought, and coastal-marine monitoring.</p> <p>Drought Monitoring System with installed capacity to record and monitor sex- and age-disaggregated information on the effects of drought on the population of Puerto Plata.</p> <p>% of technical team members trained on gender and climate</p> | <p>0 gender sensitive information systems</p> <p>Currently there is only fragmented information scattered in different templates and systems that do not allow for the integration and use of information. Ecosystem changes are monitored on an ad hoc rather than systematic basis.</p> <p>0</p> <p>0%</p> | <p>1 gender-sensitive information systems with periodic and systematic information on hazards, erosion risk, drought, and coastal-marine monitoring.</p> <p>1</p> <p>100%</p> | <p>Improved/developed information systems.</p> <p>Interviews</p> <p>Reports with focus on children, youth, women, and the elderly population</p> <p>Training and consultation sessions with women and youth</p> <p>100% of the risk maps are designed with inclusion criteria and a gender perspective.</p> | <p>Data collection: PMU technicians.</p> <p>Project M&E mechanism reports.</p> <p>Frequency: annual</p> <p>Gender Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | <p><u>Assumptions</u>: governmental entities maintain their interest in working on information sharing and publishing them</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u> Reports produced under the developed/ strengthened systems have disaggregated data including children, youth, women, and the elderly population.</p> |

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|---|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| | change | | | | | |
| | % people trained on the platform and coastal dynamics are women and young women | 0% | 47% | | | |
| Component 2: Reforestation of degraded land and restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems | | | | | | |
| Outcome 2 Improved coastal-marine habitats and enhanced soil health to better withstand the impacts of erosion, drought, and extreme events | Number of natural assets strengthened to withstand impacts resulting from climate change. -Number of hectares restored and reforested | 0 natural assets strengthened to withstand impacts resulting from climate change. 0 | Natural resource assets of 2 sites: La Hispaniola Historical Park and Estero Hondo Mammal Sanctuary strengthened. - 105 hectares of restored mangrove ecosystems. - 1 hectare of restored coral ecosystems - 800 hectares of upper Bajabonico River basin ecosystems reforested. | Data collected by the project monitoring system. Site inspection visits Mid-term and end-of-project evaluation | Data collection: PMU technicians. Frequency: annual | <u>Assumption</u> : Restoration and reforestation activities are maintained and the objective of reducing erosion of beach ecosystems is achieved by restoring mangroves and planting coastal vegetation that fixes sediments, preventing the loss of the beach line. Reforestation increases soil water uptake to reduce drought impacts. Coral reefs function as natural barriers against storm surges, decreasing their speed and strength and reducing erosion. |
| Output 2.1 Increased coverage of coral reefs, mangroves, and sand-stabilizing plants in the Project Area | Number of hectares of mangroves restored. Number of hectares of coral reefs restored. % of the technical team of the Directorate of Coastal and Marine Resources (MMARN) involved trained on gender and climate change % of women number of people consulted and trained | 0 0 0% 0% | 105 hectares of restored mangroves 1 hectare of coral restored. 100% 47% | Data collected by the project monitoring system. Site inspection visits Environmental and Social Assessments for each project and site developed with social inclusion criteria. Records of proportional women and young women participation in the installation and maintenance of nurseries. | Data collection: PMU technicians. Frequency: annual Gender Specialist of RESILTUR | <u>Assumption</u> : the community is interested in participating in community monitoring activities and in conserving the restored ecosystems. |
| Output 2.2 Increased upstream forest cover in the Project area | Number of riparian hectares reforested in the upper watershed. | 0 hectares reforested in the project site. | 800 hectares reforested in upper basin areas. | Data collected by the project monitoring system. Site inspection visits | Data collection: PMU technicians. | <u>Assumption</u> : community interest in participating in community monitoring activities and conserving reforested/restored ecosystems. |

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| | <p>Number of mappings of women's participation in local agriculture and livestock farming</p> <p>% of individuals participating in the training and environmental education workshops are women farmers and/or livestock keepers</p> | <p>0</p> <p>0</p> | <p>1 mapping of women's participation in local agriculture and livestock farming</p> <p>At least 30%</p> | | <p>Frequency: annual</p> <p>Gender Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | |
| Component 3. Strengthening sustainable livelihoods to reduce pressure on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change | | | | | | |
| <p>Outcome 3: Strengthened livelihoods to increase their resilience and reduce vulnerability on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change</p> | <p>Number of households that strengthen their livelihoods with the actions of the Community Based Climate Resilient Ecotourism Plan.</p> <p>Number of fishing households implement resilient fishing.</p> <p>Number of trained agriculture entrepreneurs applying improved business practices with a climate change adaptation approach.</p> | <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> | <p>100 (47% women = 47 women).</p> <p>180 fishing households implement resilient fishing practices (20% women= 36 women)</p> <p>50 trained agriculture entrepreneurs applying improved business practices with a climate change adaptation approach (48% women = 24 women).</p> | <p>Data collected by the project monitoring system.</p> | <p>Data collection: PMU technicians.</p> <p>Frequency: annual</p> <p>Gender Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | <p>Currently, the Estero Hondo area and Hispaniola National Park are highly dependent on tourism and fishing for subsistence, and these activities are among the most impacted by climate change.</p> |
| <p>Output 3.1 Community-based climate-resilient ecotourism plan implemented</p> | <p>Number and type of adaptive assets created or strengthened to support resilient tourism livelihoods in Estero Hondo Mammal Sanctuary and Hispaniola</p> | <p>0 tangible and intangible assets strengthened.</p> | <p>11 tangible assets to support resilient tourism livelihoods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 infrastructure adapted to protect Hispaniola National Park's cultural heritage from erosion. • 8 accesses built to protect vulnerable ecosystems. • 2 interactive and | <p>Data collected by the project monitoring system.</p> <p>All content for interactive exhibits is designed with a gender and inclusion perspective.</p> <p>Tender documents published</p> | <p>Data collection: PMU technicians.</p> <p>Frequency: annual</p> | |

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| | National Park | | Augmented Reality exhibits | with requirements for gender equality and social inclusion (environmental and social requirements, and gender equality requirements). | | |
| | Number of entrepreneurs trained in adaptation practices for the tourism sector and business resilience. | 0 entrepreneurs trained. | 1 Intangible asset to support resilient tourism livelihoods: <i>[Knowledge and interpretation and awareness-raising skills on tourism sector adaptation measures]</i> | | | |
| | Number of Ecotourism and Cultural Action Plan revised and updated with a gender and inclusion approach. | 0 | 480 entrepreneurs trained in tourism sector adaptation and business resilience practices. (47,08% women = 226 women) | | Gender Specialist of RESILTUR | |
| | % of the businesses promoting their services on the platform that are led by women and/or have high female participation in middle management positions. | 0 | 1 Ecotourism and Cultural Action Plan revised and updated with a gender and inclusion approach. | Includes 1 promotional campaign on the educational value of protected areas designed with a gender and inclusion approach. | | |
| | | 0 | At least 30% | Work programs and advisory content prepared with a gender and inclusion approach. Materials on sustainable tourism and gender perspective included on the Platform. | | |
| Output 3.2 Improved resilient and environmentally sustainable fishing practices | Number and type of adaptation assets created or strengthened to support resilient fishing livelihoods considering gender and climate change. | 0 tangible and intangible assets strengthened. | 122 Tangible assets to support resilient fishing livelihoods. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 rafts, 30 traps, 30 boats and 2 RAS aquaculture tanks. 1 Intangible asset to support resilient tourism livelihoods: Knowledge and capacities for interpretation and awareness of adaptation measures in the fisheries sector (including climate change and sessions on gender and inclusion.) | Data collected by the project monitoring system. Observation during field visits | Data collection: PMU technicians. Project M&E mechanism reports. Frequency: annual Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR | |
| | Number of | 0 | 3 supported cooperatives and | | | |

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| | <p>cooperatives and associations supported.</p> <p>Number of fishers trained and sensitized on resilient fishing practices.</p> <p>Number of documents on good practices and lessons learned on women's participation in fishing.</p> <p>Number of aquaculture pilot project designed with a gender and inclusion approach.</p> | <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> | <p>associations, including action plan to increase the participation of women.</p> <p>200 fishers trained and sensitized on resilient fishing practices (20% women= 40 women)</p> <p>1 document on good practices and lessons learned on women's participation in fishing.</p> <p>1 aquaculture pilot project designed with a gender and inclusion approach.</p> | <p>Diagnostic document on women's participation in local fishing. And training workshops held on marketing strategies specifically for women.</p> | | |
| <p>Output 3.3 Inclusive integration of rural producers into the climate-resilient tourism value chain</p> | <p>Number of producers trained and supported to offer sustainable tourism products and services adapted to climate change.</p> <p>Number of census and diagnostic prepared to survey and identify women and young women leading enterprises and MSEs, and MSEs with female participation.</p> <p>Number agriculture entrepreneurship supported by UNDP's En Marcha program</p> | <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> | <p>180 producers trained and supported to offer sustainable tourism products and services adapted to climate change. (47,22% women = 85 women)</p> <p>1 census and diagnostic prepared to survey and identify women and young women leading enterprises and MSEs, and MSEs with female participation.</p> <p>50 agriculture entrepreneurship supported by UNDP's En Marcha program (48% women = 24 women)</p> | <p>Data collected by the project monitoring system.</p> <p>Observation during field visits</p> | <p>Data collection: PMU technicians.</p> <p>Project M&E mechanism reports.</p> <p>Frequency: annual</p> <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | |
| Component 4. Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas | | | | | | |
| <p>Outcome 4: Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge</p> | <p>Number of people in government institutions with</p> | <p>90 local staff with limited capacities.</p> | <p>90 local staff with strengthened capacities (47,8% women= 43 women)</p> | <p>Data collected by the project monitoring system.</p> | <p>Data collection: PMU technicians.</p> | <p><u>Methodology:</u> Level of capacity to be measured in officials prior to training and workshops on a 5-point scale (very</p> |

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| <p>among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas.</p> | <p>strengthened capacities (limited to high) for decision making to reduce the risk of climate change impacts.</p> <p>Number of people in the Estero Hondo and La Isabela community and vulnerable groups with increased knowledge of climate change impacts and appropriate adaptation measures in the project area.</p> | <p>There is limited capacity of technicians, technicians, and political decision-makers at the local level on climate change impacts and adequate adaptation options to reduce flood and coastal erosion risk. Baseline to be updated.</p> <p>1,670 people with limited knowledge of climate change impacts and appropriate adaptation measures</p> <p>Limited knowledge and awareness of the communities about the importance of the national park as a protected area and the impacts of climate change on tourism, fishing, and integrated watershed management.</p> | <p>1,670 people with increased knowledge of climate change impacts and appropriate adaptation measures, of which</p> <p>885 men 785 women</p> | <p>Observation during field visits.</p> | <p>Project M&E mechanism reports.</p> <p>Frequency: annual</p> | <p>limited/limited/moderate/high/high/very high capacity in the different topics to be disseminated.</p> <p>Increased knowledge to be measure through pre and post training survey and perception scales as well as participatory exercises to understand the extent to which knowledge has improved (5-point scales)</p> <p><u>Assumption</u>: Interest of communities and government entities in participating in the project.</p> |
| <p>Output 4.1. Government entities trained to manage climate impacts</p> | <p>Gender-sensitive environmental and social risk management system with updated protocols and tools and with sex- and age-disaggregated information.</p> <p>Number of local officials and staff trained on climate risks.</p> <p>Number of workshops for training in gender and inclusion, climate change, and risk management in marine areas.</p> | <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> | <p>1 methodology document on risk analysis and management with sex- and age-disaggregated information.</p> <p>90 officials and staff (47,8% women= 43 women)</p> <p>8 (2 per year for 4 years)</p> | <p>Data collected by the project monitoring system.</p> <p>Plans and strategies developed.</p> <p>100% of local, regional, and national government officials trained in gender and inclusion, and sustainable tourism management.</p> | <p>Data collection: PMU technicians.</p> <p>Project M&E mechanism reports.</p> <p>Frequency: annual</p> <p>Gender Approach Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | <p><u>Assumption</u> Interest and commitment of governmental stakeholders to participate in project activities</p> |

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| | % of the mayors and governors /technical team of INDOMET involved receive training on gender and climate change | 0 | 100% | This training considers 2 training sessions every year and 1 training session for INDOMET in the first year | | |
| Output 4.2 Local population sensitized on climate change and trained in adaptation options for resilient livelihoods. | <p>Number of scholarships for capacity building in sustainable tourism</p> <p>Number of Communications and awareness-raising plan on climate change, protected areas, and cultural heritage with information, recommendations, and materials to communicate with a gender perspective.</p> <p>Updated risk management plan for educational centres.</p> <p>Number of community members sensitized through project activities.</p> <p>Number of people participate in knowledge management workshops.</p> <p>Number of students participating in sensitization visits to project site</p> | 0 0 0 0 0 0 | <p>50 (At least 60% women = at least 30 women)</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>480 people from the community sensitized (47,08% women and young women =226 women and young women)</p> <p>600 people participate in knowledge management workshops (47% women and young women = 282 women and young women)</p> <p>960 students visit the site for sensitization activities (47,08% female = 452 women)</p> | <p>Data collected by the project monitoring system.</p> <p>Plans and strategies developed.</p> | <p>Data collection: PMU technicians.</p> <p>Project M&E mechanism reports.</p> <p>Frequency: annual</p> <p>Gender Approach Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | <p>The development of communication materials should ensure representation of gender balance of voice. One of the case studies should especially assess the differentiated impacts of climate change experienced by women in and the differentiated benefits generated for women implementing the project technologies.</p> <p>Workshops and working sessions will ensure that they are held at times and on days when women can help and will include babysitting staff to promote women's participation and reduce the risk of women not being able to attend.</p> <p>The design of information campaigns will ensure to provide gender-differentiated benefits addressed by the adaptation technologies promoted by the project and differentiated climate-related impacts for women and men.</p> <p>Proportional women participating in the exchange visits (47%)</p> |
| Output 4.3 Climate change adaptation knowledge disseminated | Number of knowledge products developed by the | 0 | 22 (posters, infographics, videos including data disaggregated by sex and age) | Data collected by the project monitoring system. | Data collection: PMU technicians. | |

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| among key stakeholders, | <p>project disseminated to relevant stakeholders considering specific gender and inclusion aspects.</p> <p>Number of women participants in gender sensitization workshops</p> <p>Number of artistic and cultural activities</p> <p>Number of innovative proposals for young people</p> <p>Number of case studies to systematize lessons learned from the project developed with gender and social inclusion perspective.</p> <p>Number of experiences visited related to the implementation of the gender and inclusion approach in the RESILTUR project.</p> | <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> | <p>60</p> <p>3</p> <p>6 (50% women = 3 women)</p> <p>4 case studies</p> <p>2 experiences visited related to the implementation of the gender and inclusion approach in the RESILTUR project.</p> | <p>Plans and strategies developed.</p> <p>At least one case study on the participation of women in the activities of the RESILTUR project identified and developed.</p> | <p>Project M&E mechanism reports.</p> <p>Frequency: annual</p> <p>Gender Approach Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | |
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F. Demonstrate how the project/programme aligns with the Results Framework of the Adaptation Fund

Table 15. Alignment of the project with de Results Framework of the Adaptation Fund

| Project Objective(s) ¹¹⁸ | Project Objective Indicator | Fund Outcome | Fund Outcome Indicator | Grant Amount (USD) |
|---|---|--|--|--------------------|
| Reduce the vulnerability of coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems of La Hispaniola and Estero Hondo Mammal Sanctuary protected areas, as well as improve the climate change adaptive capacity of local communities to the risks of heat waves, drought, and coastal erosion caused by sea level rise and an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme events, ocean acidification, and sea surface temperature rise. | Core: Number of beneficiaries (total), disaggregated by direct and indirect female and youth | Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas | 6.2. Percentage of targeted population with sustained climate-resilient alternative livelihoods | 2,394,518 |
| | | Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level | 3.2. Percentage of targeted population applying appropriate adaptation responses | 871,920 |
| | | Outcome 7: Improved policies and regulations that promote and enforce resilience measures | 7. Climate change priorities are integrated into national development strategy | 2,311,152 |
| | Core: Natural assets protected or rehabilitated to improve erosion and degradation. Change of state: Effectiveness of rehabilitation/protection Scale 1 to scale 4. | Outcome 5: Increased ecosystem resilience in response to climate change and variability-induced stress | 5. Ecosystem services and natural resource assets maintained or improved under climate change and variability-induced stress | 2,764,410 |
| Project Outcome(s) | Project Outcome Indicator(s) | Fund Output | Fund Output Indicator | Grant Amount (USD) |
| Outcome 1: Strengthened planning and monitoring of coastal and marine areas that promote climate-resilient decision-making | Number of institutions using the improved systems, strategies, plans, and community-based monitoring reports developed by the Project considering climate change for the decision-making and planning of coastal and marine resources | Output 7: Improved integration of climate-resilience strategies into country development plans | 7.2. No. of targeted development strategies with incorporated climate change priorities enforced. | 2,311,152 |
| Outcome 2: Improved coastal-marine habitats and enhanced soil health to better withstand the impacts of erosion, drought, and extreme events | Number of hectares restored and reforested. Number of physical and natural assets strengthened to withstand impacts resulting from climate change | Output 5: Vulnerable ecosystem services and natural resource assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability. | 5.1. No. of natural resource assets created, maintained, or improved to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by type and scale) | 2,764,410 |
| Outcome 3: Strengthened livelihoods to increase their resilience and reduce vulnerability on ecosystems vulnerable | Number of households that strengthen their livelihoods with the actions of the | Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability | 6.1.1.No. and type of adaptation assets (tangible and intangible) created or strengthened in support | 2,394,518 |

¹¹⁸ The AF utilized OECD/DAC terminology for its results framework. Project proponents may use different terminology, but the overall principle should still apply

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| to climate change | Community Based Climate Resilient Ecotourism Plan. Number of fishing households implementing resilient fishing practices. Number of agricultural households that strengthen their livelihoods with the business support program. | | of individual or community livelihood strategies | |
| Outcome 4: Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas | Number of people with knowledge of climate change impacts and appropriate adaptation measures in the project area. Number of knowledge products developed by the project disseminated to relevant stakeholders | Output 3.2: Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning | 3.2.2 No. of tools and guidelines developed (thematic, sectoral, institutional) and shared with relevant stakeholders | 871,920 |

G. Include a detailed budget with budget notes, a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use, and an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs.

Table 16. Detailed budget

| Components | Outputs | Activities | Description | Budget account description | TOTAL AMOUNT (USD) | Notes and assumptions |
|--|--|--|---|---|--------------------|---|
| C.1- Climate-resilient plans and monitoring systems in the coastal and marine areas of Estero Hondo and La Isabela | Output 1.1. Enhanced inter-institutional technical coordination | Activity 1.1.1 Design and implementation of an inter-institutional technical coordination mechanism for the management of coastal-marine and cultural resources in the face of climate change | Consultant for stakeholder mapping, institutional arrangements, development of coordination and communication protocol and conducting training workshops for members of the coordination mechanism | Consultant - Individual - Local 1 (Coordinator) | 25,000 | Contract to a consultant for finished product (inter-ministerial technical coordination mechanism) for a duration of 4 months |
| | | | Travel of staff conducting coordination and monitoring mechanism workshops | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 6,723 | Travel expenses for staff who teach the workshops: Driver for 2 days from Santo Domingo USD300 + travel expenses (hotel and meals) for 4 people, 1-night USD120 each. 2 times a year for 4 years |
| | | | Space for the implementation of the coordination mechanism | Workshop/Training | 9,696 | Small workshop (15 people) for face-to-face meetings 2 times a year |
| | Output 1.2. Coastal-marine sector plans developed for sustainable resources management considering climate change. | Activity 1.2.1 Support the development of protected area co-management plans with climate change considerations | Consultant for the development of the Work Plan, communication with the community, training. Development of 2 studies to establish the financing mechanism for protected areas/co-management. And training for administrators in collaboration with INFOTEP | Consultant - Individual - Local 5 (co-management and protected areas) | 88,800 | Support Consultant, 24-month contract, USD3,700 per month at 100% drawdown. It includes the realization of 2 studies to establish the financing mechanism of protected areas/co-management. And administrative training for 4 people. |

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| | | | Workspace workshops | Workshop/Training | 71,409 | Small workshop (15 people) 6 times a year (4 with the co-managers and 2 with the council), more than signing the first year. Total 25 small workshops. And the first year 2 large workshops (50 people) one for technical surveys and another for socialization for each municipality |
| | | | Travel of Ministry staff conducting co-management workshops | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 40,812 | Travel expenses for personnel who teach the workshops: Driver for 3 days from Santo Domingo USD450 + travel expenses (hotel and meals) for 4 people, 2 nights USD120. For each time a workshop is held |
| | | | Purchase of projector for use in face-to-face work meetings | Equipment | 927 | 1 portable projector for workshops |
| | | Activity 1.2.2 Design of a strategy and plan for resilient and sustainable ecotourism development | Consultant to develop the strategy and associated tourism development plan for each of the protected areas, including community consultation and gender analysis | Consultant - Individual - Local 2 (Tourism) | 30,000 | Contract with a consultant for finished products (strategy and associated tourism development plan) for a duration of 6 months |
| | | | Carrying capacity study | Consultant - Individual - Local 6 (Tourism) | 50,000 | Contract to a consultant for finished products (Carrying Capacity Study) for a duration of 5 months |
| | | | Travel and per diem to the territory | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 2,101 | Travel expenses for personnel consultation in the territory: Driver for 2 days from Santo Domingo USD300 + travel expenses (hotel and meals) for 4 people, 1-night USD120. 3 times a year |
| | Output 1.3 Improved socio-environmental data registries and processing for climate-resilient decision-making | Activity 1.3.1 Information management platform for monitoring key socio-environmental data to support climate-resilient decision-making in Estero Hondo and La Isabela | Hiring a company for the development of a platform | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 919,674 | Contract to a consulting company for finished products (Monitoring Data Platform and User Training) for a duration of 1 year and then annual maintenance and server. The platform will be developed by a specialized international firm with a multidisciplinary team (including developers, UX/UI designers, environmental management experts, data integration and climate adaptation specialists), working in close coordination with the client to ensure functionality, usability, and technical sustainability. The budget breakdown by key items is: 1. Requirements Gathering and Technical Planning: USD 100,000; 2. Prototype Design and Platform Architecture: USD 180,000; 3. Development, Iteration, and Testing: USD 300,000; 4. Implementation, Infrastructure, and Initial Support: USD 220,000; 5. Training, Documentation, and Handover: USD 80,000; 6. Project Management and Indirect Costs: USD 20,000. The budget covers licensing, server infrastructure, testing, and post-implementation support. Annual infrastructure and server maintenance costs USD 6,558. |
| | | | IT company for advice as an IT manager and as a support business technician for guidance with all actors in the development of the platform | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 75,000 | One-year contract with an IT company for advice on the creation of the platform with at least one IT Manager consultant and business consultant. |
| | | | Specialist consultant in gender for a specific product | Consultant - Individual - Local 7 (Gender Specialist) | 3,500 | Contract Gender Consultant per finished product (1 document of guidelines for the registration and monitoring of key information on the differentiated impacts of vulnerable population of the effects of CC and training day) |
| | | | Workshop on socialization of the platform for technicians, community, and government officials | Workshop/Training | 9,415 | 5 medium-sized workshops (30 people) to socialize the platform to technicians, governors, and the community in the 2 municipalities |
| | | | Travel of the staff who teach the workshops | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 2,673 | Travel expenses for staff who teach the workshops: Driver for 4 days from Santo Domingo USD600 + travel expenses (hotel and meals) for 4 people, 4 nights USD120 each |
| | | | Activity 1.3.2 Improve monitoring of coastal dynamics | Purchase of equipment and software for monitoring coastal dynamics | Equipment | 54,836 |
| | | MONITOREA Training for Community Monitoring | | Workshop/Training | 13,030 | Training for 30 people for 3 days, 15 at each site: 2 watch groups. + Incentive and per diem for 2 trainers USD 2000 |

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| | | | Community monitoring equipment | Equipment | 13,493 | zip level (USD775) 2 for each site, 10 structures that mark where to position the cell phone or camera for the photo (USD1000) |
| | | | Community monitoring sessions | Workshop/Training | 32,190 | Community monitoring days: Small workshops (15 people) 1 time every 2 months for the 4 years + incentive coordinator of the day USD120 |
| | Activity 1.3.3 Strengthen the drought monitoring system in the project area | | Consultant for a diagnostic study of meteorological and agricultural drought in the project area. Training for several technicians of a PMR SINI inter-institutional team. INDOMET, site reconnaissance (includes travel expenses). | Consultant - Individual - Local 8 (drought management) | 75,000 | Contract to a Consultant for one year for the development of 1 study for the collection of data on measurement and regional climate behaviour and for the delivery of technical training for 15 people from the inter-institutional team with recognition of the territory and training of other diversified audiences. |
| | | | Training for farmers, mayors, students | Workshop/Training | 12,163 | Diversified public training: 6 people from the mayor's offices (snack for USD15) + 30 livestock farmers (medium workshop) + 200 students (USD 5 each in didactic material) trained in information and drought warning, for each site distributed in the first and third year |
| | | | Purchase of drought monitoring equipment and software | Equipment | 22,825 | 2 Thermal-rainfall stations, geothermometers and Copernicus platform license |
| | Activity 1.3.4 Prepare coastal erosion risk maps with climate change considerations | | Contract with a company to conduct an erosion risk map (includes 2 days of training and consultation with women and young people) | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 200,000 | Contract to company for the realization of 2 erosion risk maps for 1 year |
| | | | Socialization of maps | Workshop/Training | 15,290 | 2 medium-sized workshops (30 people) in the 2 municipalities to socialize the maps in years 2 and 3 |
| | | | Travel of the staff who teach the workshops | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 5,427 | Travel expenses for staff who teach the workshops: Driver for 4 days from Santo Domingo USD600 + travel expenses (hotel and meals) for 4 people, 4 nights USD120 each |
| | Activity 1.3.5 Improve the monitoring of manatee, coral, mangrove, and seagrass populations | | Mission costs for the coastal-marine characterization of the entire project area | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 2,503 | 3-day per diem for coastal and marine characterization EH and LI: Navy: Vehicle: 4 x 4, Fuel: 30 gls. Diesel = US\$111 + Boat: 1 Boat fuel: 20 gls. Gasoline and 2/4 oil 2 strokes = US\$ 113 + Tolls = US\$6 + Travel expenses for 3 days: 1 Manager = US\$250 + 2 Professionals = US\$220 (x 2) + 1 Technician = US\$180 + 1 driver = US\$170 Total Budget approx. US\$1270 Coastal: Vehicle: 4 x 4 Fuel: 30 gls. Diesel = US\$111 + Tolls: US\$6 + Travel expenses for 3 days: 1 Manager = US\$250 + 2 Professionals = US\$220 (x 2) + 1 Technician = US\$180 + 1 driver = US\$170 Total Budget approx. US\$1160 |
| | | | Technician Selection Workshop in Isabela/Estero Hondo | Workshop/Training | 1,622 | Workshop for the selection of technicians: Premises, coffee break, for about 20 people/accommodation for 4 people/diet 4 people 5 days |
| | | | Creation of training plan | Consultant - Local 9 (FUNDEMAR) | 600 | Contract to consultant for finished product (training plan) |
| | | | Trips of the selected technicians to Bayahibe for their training | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 7,725 | Travel expenses for MONITOREA training: transfer, per diems, accommodation in Bayahibe, equipment rental, technical incentives (5-6 technicians, 5 days per trip, per diem of 16.55 x day) 3 trips in total |
| | | | Training of technicians at the Punta Rusia dive centre in coral spawning monitoring | Workshop/Training | 6,180 | Diving course: USD 500 per course, must do up to the advance (2 courses) for 6 people |
| | | | Mission to Punta Rusia dive centre in coral spawning monitoring | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 2,575 | Training for the dive centre: 1 trip to Bayahibe for training. The amount is by calculating your travel and accommodation expenses |
| | | | Spawning monitoring outings in the EH zone | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 6,286 | Spawning monitoring outings: USD 667 per outing (9 outings total), depending on where the reefs are and dive centre costs |

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| | | | Guide Association Training | Workshop/Training | 2,704 | 2 trips, (the trip is used for the monitoring of manatees), a small workshop is contemplated: room, food and costs and salary of the trainer for the training (+900) |
| | | | Diving equipment | Equipment | 18,540 | 6 complete sets of diving equipment (without tank) USD 3000 |
| | | | Creation of a database for the national download of data | Consultant - Local 9 (FUNDEMAR) | 20,000 | Company contract for the creation of an automated platform for data download and analysis, 2 months |
| | | | MONITOREA Data Gathering Day: North Coast, Monitoring of pastures, reefs, and mangroves | Consultant - Local 9 (FUNDEMAR) | 122,811 | The MONITOREA data collection day in EH and LI includes: Lodging, food, diving equipment, tanks, boat, fuel, vehicle rental, toll, incentive (6 technicians), community technicians' incentive (16.55 x day x 2 technicians x 5 days), unforeseen events. Data analysis and processing, reporting, and coordination and monitoring. 3 times a year, every year |
| | | | Manatee Data Gathering Day - Photo ID and Population Monitoring | Consultant - Local 9 (FUNDEMAR) | 24,821 | The day of data collection of manatees in HD includes: Accommodation, food, fuel, vehicle rental, toll, expert pilot service, incentive community technicians (16.55 x day x 3 technicians x 4 days). 3 times a year, every year |
| | | | Community training on marine and coastal ecosystems | Workshop/Training | 20,659 | Medium workshop for about 20 people/accommodation for 4 people/diet 4 people 5 days. 1 per quarter for 3 years |
| | | Activity 1.3.6 Improve recording and monitoring of deforestation | Purchasing of drones, cameras, and computers | Equipment | 17,747 | Drone Acquisitions (USD 1500, No License Required (2)), Camera Traps (\$100 (3)), Security Cameras (\$105 (3)) and Computers plus Office Supplies (2) |
| | | | Consultant for technical training for environmental ranger | Consultant - Individual - Local 5 (co-management and protected areas) | 12,000 | Consulting contract for technical training of the use of the monitoring and assembly base equipment and for technical training of environmental crimes for environmental nursery personnel of each park |
| | | Activity 1.3.7 Integrated Basin Planning and Monitoring for the Protection of Coastal Ecosystems | Consultant for the development of the river basin Management Plan, including community consultations, elaboration of the monitoring protocol and training for community monitoring | Consultant - Individual - Local 10 (environmental-basins) | 73,000 | Contract to a consultant for 2 finished products (Basin Management Plan, monitoring protocol) and for technical coordination of the use of the monitoring equipment and base assembly for 30 people |
| | | | Community monitoring sessions | Workshop/Training | 64,378 | Community monitoring days: Small workshops (15 people) 1 time every 2 months for the 4 years + incentive coordinator of the day USD120, for 2 sites |
| | | | Community monitoring equipment | Equipment | 46,350 | USD 30000 for monitoring equipment |
| | | | Awareness workshops | Workshop/Training | 69,808 | Medium workshops (30 people) for different audiences, 1 per quarter for 4 years, for the 2 municipalities + incentive for those who teach the workshops |
| | | | Travel of the staff who teach the workshops and conduct monitoring | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 10,859 | Travel expenses for staff who teach the workshops: Driver for 4 days from Santo Domingo USD600 + travel expenses (hotel and meals) for 4 people, 4 nights USD120 each |
| Subtotal Component 1 | | | | | 2,311,152 | |
| C.2- Reforestation of degraded land and restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems | Output 2.1 Increased coverage of coral reefs, mangroves, and sand-stabilizing plants in the Project Area | Activity 2.1.1 Establishment and strengthening of plant nurseries | Strengthening of the plant nursery with assured water supply in the 2 sites | Equipment | 88,497 | Installation of a nursery (with assured water supply) and putting it into operation and strengthening of another with supplies and materials requires approximately USD 35,000 + USD2500 per year for supplies, water or unforeseen |
| | | | Consultant for training personnel who join nurseries in the propagation and management of coastal species | Consultant - Individual - Local 3 (marine-coastal) | 4,000 | Hiring a consultant for technical training for nursery staff (15 people) |
| | | | Community training in nursery care | Workshop/Training | 39,210 | Training for the community in nursery care and care of coastal ecosystems. Medium workshop (30 people) 2 per year for each site + incentive for the one who dictates the trainings |
| | | Activity 2.1.2 Restoration of coastal ecosystems | Feasibility study | Consultant - Individual - Local 3 (marine-coastal) | 10,000 | Contract to consultant for finished product (feasibility study) |
| | | | Environmental impact study | Consultant - Individual - Local 11 (Environmental impact study) | 10,000 | Contract to consultant for finished product (Environmental impact study) |

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| | | | Local technician for the monitoring of the mangrove planting and dune revegetation work, school sessions and community monitoring | Consultant - Individual - Local 3 (marine-coastal) | 120,400 | COASTAL-MARINE BIOLOGIST Consultant for 48 months contract, USD3,500 per month (the first year is divided among other activities), dedication to 80% (PMU) |
| | | | Equipment purchase | Equipment | 1,500 | laptop USD1500 |
| | | | Labor: session of the brigade for dune revegetation | Consultant - Local 12 (Fiel Workers) | 104,292 | Per month for labourer USD375 (10 labourers), for supervisor USD450, for 12 months, in the second and last year, for dune revegetation on Punta Devora beach and other points of the coast of the project area |
| | | | Labor: Mangrove Planting Brigade Session (10 Workers and a Foreman) | Consultant - Local 13 (Fiel Workers) | 165,268 | Mangrove plantation USD/Ha 4,500, 35 hectares per year, 105 in total. Daily wage per month for labourers USD375 (10 labourers), for supervisor USD45+, tools, transportation, supplies. |
| | | | Inputs, tools for plantations | Materials & Goods | 351,195 | |
| | | | Community monitoring days | Workshop/Training | 24,496 | Community monitoring days: Small workshops (15 people) 1 time every 2 months for the 3 years + incentive for the coordinator of the day |
| | | | Reforestation sessions in schools | Workshop/Training | 39,350 | Mangrove reforestation days in schools USD 100 school bus + USD10 snack per student + USD1000 materials. 40 students per school, per year |
| | | | Environmental impact study | Consultant - Individual - Local 11 (Environmental impact study) | 10,000 | Contract to consultant for finished product (Environmental impact study) |
| | | | Evaluation of the zones and selection of the intervention area with reference and control. Implementation of intervention actions | Consultant - Local 9 (FUNDEMAR) | 37,034 | The day in EH includes: Lodging, food, diving equipment, tanks, boat, fuel, vehicle rental, toll, incentive (6 technicians), incentive community technicians (16.55 x day x 2 technicians x 3 days), unforeseen events. Data analysis and processing, reporting, and coordination and monitoring. 1 trip for evaluation, then 3 trips per year for implementation. |
| | | | Plan design | Consultant - Local 9 (FUNDEMAR) | 1,000 | Contract to consultant per finished product (plan design) |
| | | | FUNDEMAR work team for all project activities | Consultant - Local 9 (FUNDEMAR) | 148,665 | USD6900 annual salary (part-time) for a coordinator, monitoring officer, megafauna manager, restoration manager, and community program manager |
| | | | Restoration session | Consultant - Local 9 (FUNDEMAR) | 63,220 | The marine ecosystem restoration day includes: Lodging, food, diving equipment, tanks, boat, fuel, vehicle rental, toll, incentive (6 technicians), community technicians' incentive (16.55 x day x 2 technicians x 5 days), unforeseen events. Data analysis and processing, reporting, and coordination and monitoring. 3 times a year, the last 2 years |
| | Buoy location studies | Consultant - Individual - Local 14 (ANAMAR - buoys) | 7,000 | Contract to consultant for finished product (Buoy location studies) | | |
| | Acquisition and installation of mooring buoys and signalling | Equipment | 68,959 | Acquisition and installation of mooring and signalling buoys (USD 650 each), 100 units | | |
| | Output 2.2. Increased upstream forest cover in the Project area | Activity 2.2.1 Upstream reforestation | Hydrogeological study | Consultant - Individual - Local 4 (Forestal) | 20,000 | Contract to consultant for finished product (Hydrogeological study) |
| | | | Environmental impact study | Consultant - Individual - Local 11 (Environmental impact study) | 10,000 | Contract to consultant for finished product (Environmental impact study) |
| | | | Local technician for the realization of the open assembly for land capture, diagnosis, monitoring of the reforestation work, follow-up of the cattle ranchers, school, and community sessions | Consultant - Individual - Local 4 (Forestal) | 114,400 | FOREST BIOLOGIST Consultant for 48-month contract, USD3,500 per month (first year divided into another activity), 80% dedication (PMU) |
| | | | Equipment purchase | Equipment | 1,500 | laptop USD1500 |
| Specialist consultant in gender for a specific product | | | Consultant - Individual - Local 7 (Gender Specialist) | 3,000 | Contract Specialist Consultant in Gender per finished product (1 mapping on women's participation in local agriculture and livestock and training day) | |

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| | | | Labor: session of the reforestation brigade (9 workers and a supervisor) | Consultant - Local 15 (Fiel Workers) | 455,040 | Reforestation USD/Ha 1500, 50 hectares per year per brigade (4 brigades), 800 hectares in total: Daily wage per month for labourer USD230 (9 labourers), for supervisor USD300 + tools (USD 700, 2 times per year per brigade) + Plant supplies and transportation. In addition, USD33,000 to adapt a transitory storage area, which guarantees shade and water availability | |
| | | | Plants, supplies, tools | Materials & Goods | 777,960 | | |
| | | | Reforestation session in schools | Workshop/Training | 55,158 | | Reforestation days in schools: USD 100 school bus + USD10 snack per student + USD1000 materials. 30 students per school, per year + incentive for the day coordinator |
| | | | Community monitoring sessions | Workshop/Training | 21,459 | | Community monitoring days: Small workshops once every 3 months for the 4 years + incentive for the coordinator of the day |
| | | | Training for farmers | Workshop/Training | 11,807 | | Small workshops of 20 producers, 2 times a year, every year + incentive for the workshop |
| Subtotal Component 2 | | | | | 2,764,410 | | |
| C.3- Strengthening sustainable livelihoods to reduce pressure on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change | Output 3.1 Community-based climate-resilient ecotourism plan implemented | Activity 3.1.1 Protection and reinforcement of cultural heritage from coastal erosion | Diagnostic Studies and Executive Project | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 75,000 | Company contract for preliminary technical studies: Topo-Bathymetry, Currents, Tides, Modelling, Coastal/Marine, Environmental and Social Engineering and executive project of the work | |
| | | | Environmental assessment study | Consultant - Individual - Local 11 (Environmental impact study) | 25,000 | Contract to consultant for finished product (Environmental impact study) | |
| | | | Contracting of a company for construction work | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 200,000 | Execution of the work, construction company contract. The budget was established based on recent reference costs for hard infrastructure options previously considered for the site. The project anticipates that the selected solution will most likely be a nature-based intervention, aligned with the ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) approach promoted throughout the project. To ensure that the cost does not exceed the planned budget, a contingency margin was included at the design stage, providing flexibility to accommodate technical adjustments during implementation. | |
| | | Activity 3.1.2 Strengthening tourism infrastructure and raising awareness on climate change and resilience in protected areas | Design and installation of informative posters | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 106,090 | USD 2121.8 for poster design and installation, 50 posters | |
| | | | Environmental impact study of trails and accesses | Consultant - Individual - Local 11 (Environmental impact study) | 20,000 | Contract to a consultant for finished product (Environmental Impact Study) for trails and accesses | |
| | | | Design and construction of trails and accesses | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 400,000 | Execution of the work, Improvement of accesses and trails for the 2 parks | |
| | | | Educational Videos | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 40,000 | 4 videos and immersive experience of manatees and caves and the Spanish settlement. | |
| | | | Augmented reality equipment and installation | Equipment | 95,481 | Augmented reality images + game operationalization and putting it on GPS, equipment, and interactive material for the museum | |
| | | Activity 3.1.3 Support platform for community-based and climate-resilient tourism management | Consultant for the mapping of actors and needs and coordination of all activity | Consultant - Individual - Local 2 (Tourism) | 104,400 | TOURISM SPECIALIST Consultant for 48-month contract, USD3,500 per month (first year is divided into other activities), 80% dedication (PMU) | |
| | | | Equipment purchase | Equipment | 1,500 | laptop USD1500 | |
| | | | Consultant for advice on planning and business resilience | Consultant - Individual - Local 16 (Business/Accounting) | 36,000 | Consultant for 3 months a year contract, USD3,000 per month, 100% dedication | |
| | | | Consultant for the development of climate adaptation guidance | Consultant - Individual - Local 6 (Tourism) | 10,000 | Contract for the development of guides and resources to implement regenerative tourism practices | |
| | | | Sustainable Tourism Training Workshop | Workshop/Training | 32,663 | Medium workshop (30 people) on sustainable tourism 2 times a year for the 2 sites + incentive for the one who gives the workshop | |
| | | | Travel of the staff who teach the workshops and conduct monitoring | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 10,859 | Travel expenses for staff who teach the workshops: Driver for 2 days from Santo Domingo USD600 + travel expenses (hotel and meals) for 4 people, 2 nights USD120 each. 2 trips per year | |
| | | Promotional website development | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 20,350 | Consultant contract for the creation of a promotional website, contract for a month and a half and then contract for annual update and server license | | |

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| | | | Continuous training program | Consultant - Individual - Local 17 (Communication) | 150,000 | Consultant to plan, organize and implement the Program of diverse training for the private sector in climate adaptation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable tourism practices |
| | | | Materials and expenses for conducting the competition | Materials & Goods | 4,918 | USD500 cost of conducting the contest |
| | | | INNOVATION CHALLENGE Competitions Example UN TOURISM | Grants | 39,350 | 4 annual competitions with USD3000 prize |
| | Activity 3.2.1 Technical assistance to strengthen fisheries cooperatives and associations as an adaptation strategy | | Consultant for technical support to fishers | Consultant - Individual - Local 16 (Business/Accounting) | 28,800 | Consultant for assistance support in the organization of cooperatives, 12-month contract, USD3,000 per month at 80% availability |
| | | | Consultant for administrative support to fishers | Consultant - Individual - Local 16 (Business/Accounting) | 28,800 | Consultant for accounting support, 12-month contract, USD3,000 per month at 80% drawdown |
| | | | Specialist consultant in gender for a specific product | Consultant - Individual - Local 7 (Gender Specialist) | 8,000 | Contract Gender Consultant per finished product (1 document of good practices and lessons learned on women's participation in fishing and 1 technical training day and 4 workshops with the community) |
| | | | Beginning and ending and gender workshops | Workshop/Training | 19,853 | 2 large workshops (50 people) for 3 sites: For the beginning of awareness, training and accompaniment and the end for results. 3 small workshops for women |
| Output 3.2 Improved resilient and environmentally sustainable fishing practices | Activity 3.2.2 Promote resilient fishing practices | | Study of the location of the raft | Consultant - Individual - Local 18 (fishing specialist) | 6,000 | Contract to a consultant for the study of the location of the rafts |
| | | | Purchase and installation of raft | Equipment | 63,682 | 10 rafts (fish aggregation device) for the 3 project sites: installation depends on ballast depth, rope is higher cost 250 feet, plus fuel: USD1000 each. They are renewed in the third year |
| | | | Boats | Equipment | 247,200 | 30 boats with a 40 HP outboard motor of USD8,000 |
| | | | Purchase of traps | Equipment | 4,635 | 30 traps for the 3 project sites (60): USD 50 each |
| | | | Consultant to support Codopesca | Consultant - Individual - Local 16 (Business/Accounting) | 16,800 | Consultant for market negotiation support, 7-month contract, USD3,000 per month at 80% drawdown |
| | | | Travel of the staff who teach the workshops and conduct monitoring | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 5,351 | Travel expenses for personnel who teach the workshops: Driver for 2 days from Santo Domingo USD600 + travel expenses (hotel and meals) for 4 people, 2 nights USD120 each. The first year 2 trips, the next 1 trip |
| | | | Training and awareness on sustainable fishing gear | Workshop/Training | 33,581 | Medium workshop (30 people) for 3 sites: 2 workshops per month for 2 months in the first year, 1 follow-up in the second year and 1 in the last year. For awareness-raising, training, and accompaniment |
| | | | Environmental Impact Assessment of the RAS aquaculture pilot system | Consultant - Individual - Local 11 (Environmental impact study) | 3,000 | Contract to consultant for finished product (Environmental Impact Study) for aquaculture pilot |
| | | | Land conditioning work, equipment, and installation for aquaculture RAS system | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 10,609 | Contract to company for works for land reconditioning, acquisition of equipment and installation for 2 RAS system ponds |
| | | | Inputs for Tilapia harvesting in aquaculture | Materials & Goods | 14,756 | Annual purchase of inputs, fish, balanced feed, other necessary inputs, cost of electricity. |
| | | Consultant for technical assistance for aquaculture production | Consultant - Individual - Local 18 (fishing specialist) | 6,000 | Consultant contract for technical, aquaculture, industrial and commercial support, accompaniment for 3 months | |
| Output 3.3 Inclusive integration of rural producers into the climate-resilient tourism value chain | Activity 3.3.1 Support for sustainable agrotourism and agricultural MSMEs and startups as a strategy for climate change adaptation | | Census and initial diagnosis | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 5,000 | Company contract for the conduct of the census, contract for finished product |
| | | | Group Training Consultant | Consultant - Local 16 (Business/Accounting) | 30,000 | Consultant contract to 5 people for the delivery of the group training (5 groups) of 12 days distributed over 6 months plus costs of small workshops (10 people) |
| | | | Personalized technical assistance + roadmap | Consultant - Local 16 (Business/Accounting) | 98,340 | Consultant contract with 5 people for personalized technical assistance for 6 months (USD3,278 monthly) for 50 ventures and realization of a roadmap. Each consultant serves 10 businesses. |

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| | | | Improved commercial image | Consultant - Local 16 (Business/Accounting) | 30,000 | Hiring a design team of 3 people for specialized brand improvement for 50 ventures. You will be assigned 17 businesses per consultant on average. |
| | | | Support staff (In charge of implementing this activity) | Consultant - Individual - Local 1 (Coordinator) | 40,000 | Hiring of a consultant for the implementation of the project (leader responsible for the activity) |
| | | | Support staff (Project Assistant implement this activity) | Consultant - Individual - Local 19 (Auxiliar) | 20,000 | Hiring of a consultant for the implementation of the project (Assistant responsible for the activity) |
| | | | Transportation services from Santo Domingo to the prioritized territory | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 70,000 | Hiring of transportation services to mobilize project monitoring equipment to the implementation area and travel expenses of the personnel who dictate the workshop, as well as the personnel who monitor the project. |
| | | | Communications services to make success stories visible | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 37,500 | Communications services for the development of programme success stories, infographics of implementation results, events, and project promotional material |
| | | | Impact evaluation to measure the impact of the program | Consultant - Individual - Local 19 (Auxiliar) | 20,000 | Hiring a consultant for the design and implementation of a project impact assessment |
| | | | Purchase of basic equipment for businesses | Equipment | 175,000 | Acquisition of USD3,500 in basic equipment for 50 enterprises to increase their productivity and business resilience. |
| Subtotal Component 3 | | | | | 2,394,518 | |
| C.4- Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas | Output 4.1: Government entities trained to manage climate impacts | Activity 4.1.1 Training on climate change mainstreaming and risk management for coastal and marine resources, tourism, and cultural heritage | Consultant to coordinate all activities and give training and awareness workshops | Consultant - Individual - Local 1 (Coordinator) | 146,000 | PROJECT COORDINATOR Consultant for 48-month contract, USD4,500 per month (divided into other activities), 100% dedication (PMU) |
| | | | Equipment purchase | Equipment | 1,500 | Laptop USD1500 |
| | | | Awareness-raising and training workshops in government entities (with a gender and generational perspective) | Workshop/Training | 30,594 | Medium workshop (30 people). 2 per year for each municipality. |
| | | | Graphic material for the workshops: guides, brochures, etc | Materials & Goods | 8,618 | Graphic and interactive material for 50 people, USD 10 each |
| | | Activity 4.1.2 Strengthening interinstitutional coordination and training for climate risk management | Technical training of Civil Defense and INDOMET personnel | Consultant - Individual - Local 1 (Coordinator) | 5,000 | Hiring of a consultant for technical training of 30 Civil Defense and INDOMET personnel |
| | | | Training on prevention, mitigation, and response (governors, mayors, schools, community, private) | Workshop/Training | 15,298 | Medium workshops (30 people) for different audiences, 1 per semester for 4 years |
| | | | Travel of workshop staff and monitoring | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 10,859 | Travel expenses for the staff who teach the workshops: Driver for 4 days from Santo Domingo USD600 + travel expenses (hotel and meals) for 4 people, 4 nights USD120 each |
| | | Activity 4.1.3 Strengthening environmental and social risk management systems, including gender-related aspects | Consulting company that will develop tools and protocols for the assessment and mitigation of climate and social risks, with a gender perspective | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 21,218 | Contract to a consulting company for finished product (tools and protocols for the assessment and mitigation of climate and social risks) for a duration of 3 months |
| | | | Training materials | Materials & Goods | 646 | Graphic and interactive material for 30 people, USD 10 each |
| | | | Training for government personnel | Workshop/Training | 3,823 | 2 medium-sized workshops (30 people) in the second and third years |
| | Output 4.2: Local population sensitized on climate change and trained in | Activity 4.2.1 Promote access to training programs in sustainable tourism and hospitality services | Study of mapping of beneficiary actors, specific training needs and alliances with training institutions | Consultant - Individual - Local 6 (Tourism) | 15,000 | Contract to a consultant for finished product (Mapping study of beneficiary actors, specific training needs and alliances with training institutions). |
| | | | 50 scholarships for the first cohort of sustainable tourism (60% women) | Grants | 100,000 | 50 scholarships of USD 2000 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| adaptation options for resilient livelihoods. | Activity 4.2.2 Communication and sensitization campaign for the local population on climate change, protected areas and cultural heritage | Consultant for the design of the communication and awareness plan (with a gender and generation perspective), to update the Risk Management Plan in the Educational Centres and to dictate the workshops in the museum and in the schools | Consultant - Individual - Local 17 (Communication) | 57,000 | Contract to a consultant for 2 finished products (communication and awareness plan, Risk management plan in educational centers) for a duration of 6 months. And dictation of workshops USD 250 per workshop. 8 in museums and 36 in schools |
| | | Awareness workshops for residents in museums | Workshop/Training | 43,083 | Large workshop (80 people per visit, USD 5,000) at the museum. 1 in the first and last year, 3 in the second and third years for each municipality |
| | | Graphic material for workshops in schools and museums | Materials & Goods | 24,993 | Graphic and interactive material for 1000 students (8 schools) and 480 people in museums, USD 5 each |
| | | Practical activities (excursions) for schools: transport, food, material | Workshop/Training | 26,233 | School excursion to the museum: USD 100 school bus + USD10 snack per student + USD500 materials. 40 students per school, per year |
| | | Simple weather equipment for schools | Equipment | 20,600 | \$2,500 weather kit for all 8 schools |
| | | Interactive material: explanatory videos of the ecosystem restoration process | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 31,827 | Company contract to produce interactive videos (3) USD 10,000 each |
| | | Informative posters on the impact of human actions on the environment: design and installation | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 5,305 | Contract to company for the design and installation of posters in the project area: USD 250 per poster, 20 units |
| | | Workshop with women from civil society who are directly affected by the project's activities | Workshop/Training | 15,298 | Annual medium workshop (30 women) per municipality |
| | | 3 artistic-cultural activities (materials, prints, bookcase, frames, canvas) | Workshop/Training | 13,609 | 3 large workshops (50 people) of artistic-cultural activities plus USD1500 for necessary material |
| | | 6 competitions of innovative proposals for young people to promote the appropriation of the place | Workshop/Training | 54,106 | Awards Day Catering + USD 2000 Prize for 4 Contests |
| | | Design and printing of cards with contest results | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 6,365 | USD 1000 per contest results sheet |
| | | Digital content creators | Consultant - Local 20 (Influencer) | 15,000 | One digital content creator contract per year, the last 3 years |
| | | Travel of staff who coordinate workshops in museums and monitoring | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 12,215 | Travel expenses for personnel who teach the workshops: Driver for 3 days from Santo Domingo USD450 + travel expenses (hotel and meals) for 4 people, 2 nights USD480. 1 time per-workshop |
| | | Output 4.3: Climate change adaptation knowledge disseminated among key stakeholders. | Activity 4.3.1 Promote the systematization of the Project's lessons learned and their dissemination | Case studies, annual reports of challenges and lessons learned | Professional Services – Companies/Firm |
| Economic studies | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | | | 33,765 | 3 economic studies, USD10,000 each |
| Communication Products | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | | | 63,028 | 4 videos (1 video on the experiences of women targeted by the project's actions), 4 learning sheets, infographics, and audiovisual material for the population. |
| Reflection workshop for all stakeholders | Workshop/Training | | | 17,379 | Large workshop (50 people) in the 2 municipalities once a year for 3 years |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|---|---|--|-----------|---|
| | | | Travel of the staff who give the reflection workshops | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 6,197 | Travel expenses for the staff who teach the workshop: Driver for 3 days from Santo Domingo USD450 + travel expenses (hotel and meals) for 4 people, 2 nights USD480. 1 time per-workshop in the museums |
| | | Activity 4.3.2 Exchange of experiences | Guests at the annual exchange workshop | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 3,345 | 3 technicians per municipality (plus UGP equipment) travel and food (150 dollars per tour for mobilization) are paid for an exchange workshop. Once for 3 years |
| | | | Annual Exchange Workshop | Workshop/Training | 3,689 | Annual Small Exchange Workshop |
| | | | Project Closing Congress | Workshop/Training | 11,255 | For the organization of the congress, considering rental, catering, convocation |
| | | | Travel by staff to or from Santo Domingo | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 4,052 | Mobility to the congress for 20 people per municipality (50% women). 4 Chauffeur for 2 days from Santo Domingo USD300 + per diem (hotel and meals) for 20 people, 1-night USD120 |
| Subtotal Component 4 | | | | | 871,920 | |
| Total activities | | | | | 8,342,000 | |
| | | Administrative and financial costs | Annual Audits | Professional Services – Companies/Firm | 40,000 | 4 annual audits, USD10,000 each |
| | | | 3 Micro-assessments | Evaluation | 11,800 | 1 Government, 3 Responsible Parties, USD2,950 each |
| | | | Administrative and Financial Associate | Consultant - Individual - Local (Administrative) | 44,000 | Financial Administrative Consultant for a 48-month contract, USD22,000 per year, 50% dedication |
| | | | Procurement Associate | Consultant - Individual - Local (Acquisition) | 44,000 | Consultant Procurement Area for 48-month contract, USD22,000 per annum, 50% dedication |
| | | | Monitoring and Evaluation Analyst (NPSA-8) | Consultant - Individual - Local (MEL) | 43,200 | Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant for 48-month contract, USD36,000 per annum, 30% dedication |
| | | | Purchase of work equipment | Equipment | 4,500 | 3 laptops USD1500 each (2 Administrative Unit, MEL) |
| | | | Purchase of technological equipment | Equipment | 4,759 | Technological equipment (screens, dock stations, headphones, conference microphones) |
| | | General Management Support (GMS): 8% total project. It covers the costs to the organization necessary to fund the UNDP management and oversight costs of the project. | Financial administration of project funds and accounting services management systems | Professional Staff | 220.000 | Financial administration of project funds and accounting services management systems |
| | | | Legal support services for project activities and institutional policy guidance | Professional Staff | 152.000 | Legal support services for project activities and institutional policy guidance |
| | | | Support for the AF activities development. Human resources for management and oversight. | Professional Staff | 104.000 | Support for the AF activities development. Human resources for management and oversight. |
| | | | Communications and disseminations, engagement with project implementation partners, local stakeholders and public. Information and communication technology (ICT) support. Marketing strategy (POP design, website design). | Professional Staff | 84.000 | Communications and disseminations, engagement with project implementation partners, local stakeholders and public. Information and communication technology (ICT) support. Marketing strategy (POP design, website design). |
| | | | Equipment, furniture, office | Materials & Goods | 72.000 | Equipment, furniture, office |
| | | | Project oversight. Including visits to project sites to verify quality of deliverables and overseeing independent evaluations. | Travel (Lodging, per diems and transportation) | 30.000 | Project oversight. Including visits to project sites to verify quality of deliverables and overseeing independent evaluations. |
| | | | Miscellaneous expenses | Materials & Goods | 20.741 | Miscellaneous expenses |

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|-------------------|
| TOTAL PEC | | | | | 875,000 |
| Total project (components + PEC) | | | | | 9,217,000 |
| Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable) | | | | | 783,000 |
| Amount of Financing Requested | | | | | 10,000,000 |

Table 17. IE management fee

| Activities | Account CAF | Budget | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Inception/closure workshop | Workshops / Events | 40,000 | 20,000 | | | 20,000 |
| Translations | Translations / Prints | 18,000 | 2,000 | 8,000 | | 8,000 |
| Project oversight: Include visits to project sites to verify quality of deliverables, and overseeing independent evaluations | Workshops / Events | 51,000 | 10,000 | 15,500 | 10,000 | 15,500 |
| Ensurance compliance with audits requirements at the project level | Consulting Fees | 20,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| M&E Specialist (Set up of M&E system, Inception Report, Final Project Report, Annual PPR) | Consulting Fees | 144,000 | 36,000 | 36,000 | 36,000 | 36,000 |
| Independent Mid Term Review, Independent Final Project Evaluation, | Consulting Fees | 110,000 | | 50,000 | | 60,000 |
| CAF AF Corporate costs* (includes financial administration of project funds and accounting services) | Consulting Fees | 160,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| Technical support (ESyG, Gender) | Consulting Fees | 240,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 |
| Total | | 783,000 | 173,000 | 214,500 | 151,000 | 244,500 |

H. Include a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones.

Table 18. Disbursement schedule

| | Upon signature of Agreement | One Year after Project Start a) | Year 2b) | Year 3 | Total |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Scheduled date | June 2026 | June 2027 | June 2028 | June 2029 | |
| Project Funds | 3,553,200 | 2,960,712 | 1,261,562 | 1,441,526 | 9,217,000 |
| Implementing Entity Fees | 173,000 | 214,500 | 151,000 | 244,500 | 783,000 |
| Total | 3,726,200 | 3,175,212 | 1,412,562 | 1,686,026 | 10,000,000 |


a) Use projected start date to approximate first year disbursement

b) Subsequent dates will follow the year anniversary of project start

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government²

Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement. If this is a regional project/programme, list the endorsing officials all the participating countries. The endorsement letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the project/programme proposal. Please attach the endorsement letter(s) with this template; add as many participating governments if a regional project/programme:

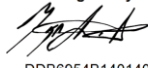
| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Ana Emilia Pimentel Vice-minister of the Vice-Ministry of Climate Change and Sustainability</p> | <p>Date: June 2, 2025</p>  <p>The stamp is circular and contains the text: 'VICEMINISTERIO DE MEDIO AMBIENTE Y CAMBIO CLIMÁTICO', 'MINISTERIO DE MEDIO AMBIENTE Y RECURSOS NATURALES', and 'REPUBLICA DOMINICANA'. It also features a central emblem of a dome.</p> |
|--|---|

B. Implementing Entity certification

Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number, and email address

I certify that the “**Enhancing Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through Adaptation Actions in the Tourism Sector in La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in the Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)**” proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans and Policies of Dominican Republic and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project.

Name & Signature

DocuSigned by:

DDB6954B1401403...

Mr. Ignacio Lorenzo Arana

Technical Advisory on Biodiversity and Climate, Director

Climate Action; Positive Biodiversity

Implementing Entity Coordinator

Date: June 2, 2025

Tel.

Email. ilorenzo@caf.com;

Project Contact Person: Carolina

Cortés

Tel. +1-849-472-9979

Email: acortes@caf.com

⁶ Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

VCCyS-0143-2025

Santo Domingo, DR
2th of June 2025


To: **The Adaptation Fund Board**
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement of the Concept Note "Strengthening Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through Adaptation Actions in the Tourism Sector of La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in the Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)".

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Dominican Republic, I confirm that the above national concept note is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Dominican Republic.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above concept note with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will continue to present the full proposal.

Sincerely,


Ana Emilia Pimentel
Viceminister of Climate Change and Sustainability
Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

AEP/ICB/mgb/sd




VCCyS-0143-2025

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Viceminister of Climate Change and Sustainability
Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

AEP/ICB/mgb/sd




PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government²

“Strengthening Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through Adaptation Actions in the Tourism Sector of La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in the Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)”

Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement. If this is a regional project, list the endorsing officials all the participating countries. The endorsement letter should be attached as an annex to the project proposal.

Please attach the endorsement letter with this template; add as many participating governments if a regional project:

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Ana Emilia Pimentel Vice-minister of the Vice-Ministry of Climate Change and Sustainability</p> | <p>Date: June 2, 2025</p> <p>Signature</p> |
|---|--|

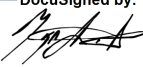


PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

Implementing Entity certification *Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number and email address.*

I certify that the “**Strengthening Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through Adaptation Actions in the Tourism Sector of La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in the Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)**” proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans and Policies of Dominican Republic and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project.

Name & Signature

DocuSigned by:

 DDB6954B1401403...

Mr. Ignacio Lorenzo Arana

*Technical Advisory on Biodiversity and Climate, Director
 Climate Action; Positive Biodiversity
 Implementing Entity Coordinator*

Date: June 2, 2025

Tel.

Email. ilorenzo@caf.com;

Project Contact Person:

Carolina Cortés

Tel. +1-849-472-9979

Email: acortes@caf.com

⁶ Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.



Consultancy for the structuring and formulation of a Concept Note and Full Proposal to be submitted to the Adaptation Fund for the RESILTUR project in the Dominican Republic

STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGEMENT REPORT

ANNEX 2



FINAL REPORT | July 14th 2025

TABLE OF CONTENT

| | | |
|-------|--|----|
| 1. | INTRODUCTION | 2 |
| 2. | DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS AT THE CONCEPT NOTE STAGE | 4 |
| 2.1 | KICK-OFF MEETINGS WITH KEY NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS | 4 |
| 2.4.1 | KICK-OFF MEETING WITH MMARN y MEPYD | 4 |
| 2.4.2 | EXTENDED KICK-OFF MEETING | 4 |
| 2.2 | WEEKLY MEETINGS WITH MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND CAF | 6 |
| 2.3 | INITIAL BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS | 6 |
| 2.4 | ORIGINATION MISSION WITH FIELD TRIP AND WORKSHOP | 6 |
| 2.4.1 | TOUR | 7 |
| 2.5 | ADDITIONAL BILATERAL MEETINGS | 10 |
| 3. | DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS OF THE FULL PROPOSAL PREPARATION PHASE | 10 |
| 3.1 | REGULAR MEETINGS WITH KEY GOVERNMENTAL ACTORS | 11 |
| 3.2 | BILATERAL MEETINGS | 11 |
| 3.1.1 | MEETING WITH AGROFRONTERA NGO | 11 |
| 3.1.2 | MEETING WITH NGO GREEN ACTION | 11 |
| 3.1.3 | MEETING WITH NGO JARAGUA | 11 |
| 4. | 1ST MISSION FOR THE PREPARATION AND VALIDATION OF THE COMPLETE PROPOSAL | 11 |
| 5. | ADDITIONAL BILATERAL MEETINGS | 15 |
| 6. | ADDITIONAL MISSION TO STRENGTHEN THE CONSULTATION PROCESS OF THE FULL PROPOSAL PHASE | 16 |
| 6.1 | RECURRING MEETINGS | 16 |
| 6.2 | BILATERAL MEETINGS | 16 |
| 6.3 | EXPLORATORY TRIP MARCH 28-29, 2025 | 17 |
| 6.4 | THIRD MISSION TO THE TERRITORY AND CLOSING WORKSHOP APRIL 7-11, 2025 | 18 |
| | ANNEXES | 21 |

LIST OF FIGURES

| | | |
|-----------|--|----|
| Figure 1. | Stages of Stakeholder Consultation during the proposal formulation process (NC+ FP). | 3 |
| Figure 2. | Screenshot of the meeting with key national stakeholders | 5 |
| Figure 3. | Photographs of visits to prioritized sites: Estero Hondo Mammal Sanctuary (above) and Hispaniola National Park (below) | 7 |
| Figure 4. | Photograph of exchanges with the women's focus group in Estero Hondo | 9 |
| Figure 5. | Photograph of the workshop meeting held at the MEPyD, Santo Domingo | 10 |
| Figure 6. | Screenshots of the interview with Fundemar | 10 |

Preparation of the Full Proposal took place between September 2024 and April 2025. This section describes the stakeholder engagement activities carried out during this period. Figure 7 : Stages of Stakeholder

| | |
|--|----|
| Consultation at the full proposal preparation stage | 10 |
| Figure 8 : Estero Hondo Authorities Meeting | 12 |
| Figure 9 : Estero Hondo Women's Focus Group | 13 |
| Figure 10 : Estero Hondo marine mammal sanctuary manager and park rangers | 13 |
| Figure 11 : above: representatives of the La Jaiba community, including representatives of neighbors and ranchers/ below: La Jaiba's only female rancher..... | 13 |
| Figure 12 : La Hispaniola National Park | 14 |
| Figure 13 : La Isabela Women's Group | 14 |
| Figure 14 : Groups of fishermen..... | 15 |
| Figure 15 : Meetings on day 1: With fishermen and CODOPESCA (left) and with representatives of the cattlemen's association (right)..... | 17 |
| Figure 16 : Photos of day 2: View of the lower basin towards Isabela as seen from Soliman. Members of associations and JACARAFE leaders participating in the meeting. | 17 |
| Figure 17: Solimán coffee growing and farming community..... | 19 |
| Figure 18: Fishermen's Focal Group..... | 20 |
| Figure 19 : Mission closing workshop..... | 20 |

LIST OF TABLES

| | |
|---|----|
| Table 1. Stakeholders consulted during the preparation stages of the concept note and the full proposal | 3 |
| Table 2. Participantes del taller de inicio ampliada a actores nacionales clave..... | 5 |
| Table 3. . Itinerary of the concept note origination mission. | 6 |
| Table 4. Institutions and organizations present at the tour | 8 |
| Table 5. Workshop agenda. | 9 |
| Table 6 : Mission Timeline..... | 11 |
| Table 7 : Timeline for the second mission..... | 18 |
| Table 8 : Workshop agenda, closing of the third mission. | 21 |

1. INTRODUCTION

CAF, Development Bank of Latin America, in coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic (MMARN), selected the consulting firm Viridia Projects to carry out the structuring process of a proposal for the national project "Enhancing Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through adaptation actions in the Tourism sector in La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in The Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)", to be submitted to the Adaptation Fund as a funding request along with the development of the necessary supporting documents.

As a background to the formulation of this proposal, the study "Climate Change Risk Analysis of the Coastal-Marine Systems of the Dominican Republic" carried out by the consulting firm DAI during the technical assistance funded by the French Development Agency (AFD) within the framework of the Adapt'Action Fund can be mentioned. This study constituted the first stage of the project "Vulnerability of the Coastal Zones of the Dominican Republic" and includes four specific investigations: (1) a characterization of the coastal-marine zones of the DR based on the compilation of existing data, (2) an analysis of climate change trends and projections for the DR, and (3) an estimation of potential environmental and socio-economic impacts of future climate change in the DR. Finally, (4) a climate risk assessment, which is ecosystem-based (Eb-CRA), was conducted. For this, the largest possible number of stakeholders, experts, and decision-makers were consulted regarding the prioritization of climate risks for the Dominican Republic.¹

During the concept note formulation phase, consultations were carried out in five main stages between February and May 2024: 1) Kick-off workshops with key national stakeholders; 2) Weekly meetings with government actors; 3) Originating mission with field visits, which included interviews with local population representatives and a workshop for validation with local governments; 4) Additional virtual bilateral consultations with representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations.

During the full proposal phase, consultations were carried out in five main stages between September 2024 and April 2025: 1) Preliminary bilateral consultations; 2) Full proposal preparation mission; 3) Additional

¹ DAI 2022, "Climate change risk analysis of the coastal-marine systems of the Republic". (Spanish version)

bilateral consultations; 4) Preparation mission; 5) Second full proposal preparation mission. The weekly meetings with government actors continued throughout the entire process.

The process was highly participatory and involved different types of key stakeholders. The objective of this report is to describe this consultation process. Figure 1 shows the different stages of the consultation process carried out to date. Section 2 provides a more detailed description of these stages.

Figure 1. Stages of Stakeholder Consultation during the proposal formulation process (NC+ FP).

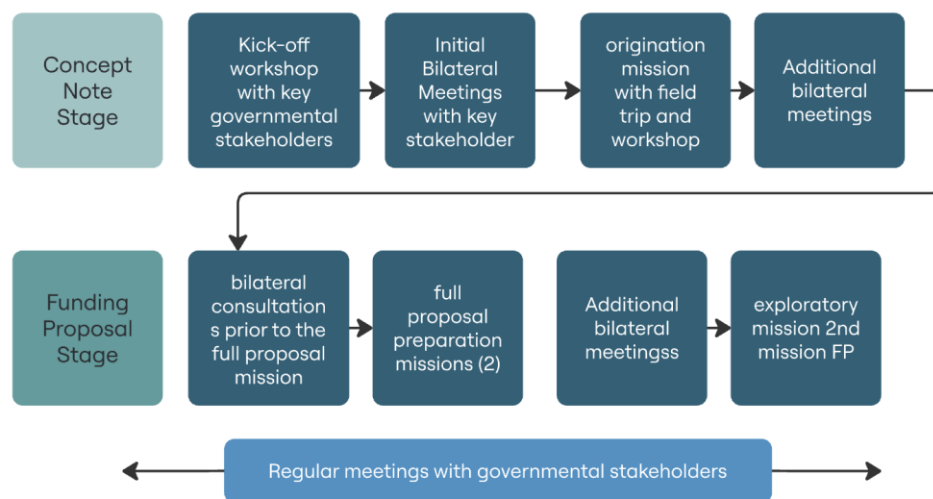


Table 1 lists all the stakeholders that were consulted throughout the stages mentioned. In total, during the concept note stage, 90 people were consulted (51% women), of which 51 were from the national government (ministries, administrations, governmental organizations, and municipal governments) (57% women), and 39 were representatives of associations and the local population (64% women). During the full proposal preparation stage, 2 missions were carried out, and 189 people were consulted (37.1% women), of which 108 (36.1% women) were members of communities in the prioritized areas.

At each stage, the consulting team worked with CAF and MMARN to identify stakeholders in order to ensure broad representation of actors from various sectors involved in the project: governmental institutions, NGOs, academia, target population, among others. **Annex 1** presents the initial stakeholder mapping developed at the beginning of the formulation process.

Table 1. Stakeholders consulted during the preparation stages of the concept note and the full proposal

| Stakeholder | Detail | |
|--|---|---|
| Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources | - Protected Areas Directorate - Directorate of Financial Mechanisms and Portfolio Management - Climate Change Adaptation Department - Vice-Ministry of Protected Areas and Biodiversity - Responsible for Comanagement Ministry of Environment - Responsible for the National Ecotourism Strategy - Vice-Ministry of Forestry Resources | - Directorate of Coastal and Marine Resources - Department of Ecotourism and Public Use - Administration of the Hispaniola National Park protected area. - Administration of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary Protected Area. - Statistics Unit of the Vice-Ministry of Coastal-Marine Resources - Dominican Institute of Meteorology (INDOMET) - Vice-Ministry of Forestry Resources |
| Ministry of Tourism | -Vice-Ministry of Destination Management -Directorate of Provincial Tourism Initiatives | |
| Ministry of Culture | National Office of Underwater Cultural Heritage | National Directorate of Monumental Heritage. |
| Ministry of Agriculture | CODOPESCA | Department of Risk Management and Climate Change. |
| Ministry of the Presidency | Autoridad Nacional de Asuntos Marítimos (ANAMAR) / National Maritime Affairs | Civil Defense - National Directorate of Puerto Plata |

| Stakeholder | Detail | |
|--|--|--|
| | Authority Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidráulicos (INDRHI) / National Institute of Hydraulic Resources | Ministry of Women |
| Municipal Governments | La Isabela Municipal District Estero Hondo Municipal District | Luperón City Hall |
| Non-governmental organization | The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Fundemar Agrofrontera-Proyectos Costeros y marinos. Acción verde NGO Jaragua | |
| Private Sector | Juri, Owner of beach restaurant in La Isabela and promoter of athletics activities with young people in La Isabela | |
| Public-Private Partnership | Ecotourism Project in Mato Grosso (Brazil) Ecotourism Project in Samaná | |
| Representatives of the local population | <u>Estero Hondo</u> : Focal group with women in the community. Cattle ranchers and fishermen of the community. Fishermen from the community of Punta Rucia and La Ensenada | <u>La Isabela</u> : Neighbors. <u>La Jaiba</u> : Community and women's focus group. Interview with woman rancher. La Jaiba Cattlemen's Association. Farmers from Solimán. |

Through engagement with all these stakeholders, it was possible to validate the threats and impacts of hurricanes, changes in sea conditions, coastal erosion, and drought exacerbated by climate change, as well as non-climatic issues present in each of the prioritized areas. Needs for institutional strengthening and monitoring of different variables and impacts of adaptation measures were also identified. All possible adaptation measures were explored, always promoting an ecosystem-based adaptation approach. Some of the topics addressed with local population representatives provided a better understanding of the impacts of heatwaves and drought, beach loss, dependence on tourism as a livelihood and local income source, poor practices related to deforestation, waste and sanitation, and the lack of opportunities for youth. Thanks to these numerous joint analyses between technical teams and local realities, the measures included in this project were defined.

In the full proposal development stage, discussions with the entities and organizations mentioned in the previous paragraph progressed, and other stakeholders were included to delve deeper into the technical and budgetary details of the prioritized measures. In addition, the Environmental and Social Management Plan was developed in line with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy. Specific consultations were also held with the communities of Estero Hondo and La Isabela in order to validate the activities and design the Gender Action Plan, which guides the activities toward the specific needs identified in terms of gender.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS AT THE CONCEPT NOTE STAGE

The following sections describe the different consultations carried out by the consulting team and the main results of each of them.

2.1 KICK-OFF MEETINGS WITH KEY NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

Two kick-off workshops were held: one with the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MMARN) and a second workshop with MMARN extended to other areas and Ministries. CAF was present at both.

2.4.1 KICK-OFF MEETING WITH MMARN Y MEPYD

On January 18, 2024, the first coordination meeting was held between CAF, MMARN, the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPYD), and the consulting team. The project timeline was reviewed, and consultations were planned. The consulting team gave a presentation on the types of adaptation measures typically financed by the Adaptation Fund. There was an exchange on the need to include validation by the local population, and it was agreed that a field visit would take place. A joint analysis of the sites to be prioritized was initiated. This marked the beginning of a prioritization process that would be finalized in March. There was also an exchange on the key stakeholders to be involved, after which the consulting team developed an initial mapping of key actors. This is presented in **Annex 1**.

2.4.2 EXTENDED KICK-OFF MEETING

On March 21, the process was expanded to include key national actors such as the Ministry of Tourism, among others, who would be directly involved throughout the project. Together, the scope, the Adaptation Fund's

prioritization criteria, the current and past tourism situation and projects, and information needs were reviewed.

Table 2. Participantes del taller de inicio ampliada a actores nacionales clave.

| Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources | CAF - Management of Climate Action and Positive Biodiversity |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carolina Alba- director of the Protected Areas Directorate • Iván Cruz - director of Financial Mechanisms and Portfolio Management • Esmeldy García – Climate Change Adaptation Department Manager • Juan Gonzales- Head of the Marine Resources Management Department • Lixandra Novas – Data Analyst MMARN • Melisa Guzman - Financial Mechanisms and Portfolio Management Analyst. • Oskarina Domke - Architect specializing in resilience in the Climate Change Adaptation Department. • Sarah Defrank- CEO - executive director SADEF • Yariela Marte - Head of the Ecotourism and Public Use Department Division PA • Federico Grullón - Responsible for Climate Transparency Department - National Council for Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carolina Cortés - Senior Executive : Sustainable Tourism Directorate, Corporate Vice-Presidency, Strategic Planning • Idalby Acosta - Country Management Executive, Corporate Country Management. • Oscar Guevara – Senior Executive Climate and Environmental Action Directorate • Angélica Pino- Adaptation Fund Support Consultant • Roberto Agostini - Senior Executive of the Vice President of National Programs |
| Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPyD) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erielba Gil – Head of the Multilateral Cooperation Negotiation Department • Catherine Michell Rodríguez - Regional Cooperation Follow-up Officer • Patricia Céspedes - Responsible for Program Follow-up. Sectoral and CAF support to execute this project. | |
| Government Institutions | Academy |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nyna Lysenko – Director of the Directorate of Coastal and Marine Resources. MIMARENA • Diandra Lora - INDRHI | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clara Barriola -PUCMM • Yira Vermenton- MITUR |
| Non-governmental organizations | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • María Urbaneja - Environmental Director - Propagas Foundation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathia Mejía – ECORED |
| Viridia Projects (consulting firm) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Abram Alberdi, Green Financing (Technical Direction) • Soledad Moreiras, Climate project formulation and M&E (Deputy technical director. Specialist) • Elia Martínez – Specialist in Sustainable Tourism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marina García Rivas – Specialist in Risk and Coastal Management with specialization in sustainability. • Sofía Reibel – Specialist in economic analysis. • Julieta D'Amelia Glanc- Civil engineer with specialization in management and sustainability. |

The objective of the meeting was to present the goals and expected deliverables of the consultancy, as well as the proposed timeline, approach, and methodology, along with the activities to be carried out in the following months for the development of the concept note.

In addition, an exchange of information was facilitated with stakeholders on the importance of the tourism sector for the local economy, ongoing or planned investments in the prioritized areas, and lessons learned from similar processes to be considered in the formulation process.

Overall, participants showed interest in the proposal and actively engaged. It was announced that the process of scheduling bilateral meetings would begin and that a mission would be conducted in April.

Annex 2 contains examples of the interview guides used.

Figure 2. Screenshot of the meeting with key national stakeholders



2.2 WEEKLY MEETINGS WITH THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND CAF

Since the beginning of the consultancy formulation, weekly meetings have been held with CAF, the extended MMARN team (Directorate of Protected Areas, Department of Climate Change Adaptation, Department of Marine Resource Planning, and the Directorate of Financial Mechanisms and Portfolio Management), and the consulting team. These meetings have allowed for joint planning, reflection, and steady progress in the structuring of the project.

In addition to these weekly meetings, additional meetings were held as needed to delve into specific topics, e.g., to validate the prioritized areas with the Ministry of Tourism.

2.3 INITIAL BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS

During March and April 2024, initial bilateral meetings were held with the identified stakeholders to delve deeper into the context of the prioritized sectors, as well as the identified issues and threats. These meetings were held virtually via the ZOOM platform.

Throughout these meetings, the focus was placed on identifying threats and impacts due to climate change, as well as ongoing, past, and planned projects. Possible adaptation solutions to the main climate change impacts were discussed. The order of topics is summarized below, although it can be seen in detail in the interview guides for these meetings presented in Annex 2.

- Discussion on site prioritization and alignment with the Adaptation Fund’s eligibility criteria
- Past, current, and planned projects
- Vulnerability of the population and ecosystems
- Lessons learned
- Communication channels with the population
- Spaces for interinstitutional coordination
- Access to financing

2.4 ORIGINATION MISSION WITH FIELD TRIP AND WORKSHOP

The origination mission aimed to work directly with the relevant stakeholders in the project formulation process to obtain the necessary information for the context description, vulnerability analysis, identification of adaptation measures, preliminary identification of environmental and social risks, and an approach to gender issues; it also provided the formulation team with a first-hand view of the territory corresponding to the Concept Note stage.

Below is the schedule for the mission week, which took place from May 6 to 10, 2024. From the formulation team, the following participated throughout the week’s activities: Carolina Cortés (CAF), Iván Cruz (MMARN), Melisa Guzman (MMARN), Oskarina Domke (MMARN), Bienvenido Santana (MMARN), Laura Abram Alberdi, Elia Martinez, and Marina García Rivas (Viridia Projects). Finally, the workshop included participation from national and local governments.

Table 3. . Itinerary of the concept note origination mission.

| | Mon may 6th | Tu may 7th | Wed may 8th | Th may 9th | Fr may 10th |
|--|--------------|--|---|------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Estero Hondo | Visit Site 1: Estero Hondo Mammal Sanctuary | Visit Site 2: La Hispaniola National Park | Luperón | Workshop Day: Santo Domingo |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|---|--|---|---|-------------------------------|
| Morning | Departure of the delegation from Santo Domingo to Estero Hondo 11:00 Meeting with local authorities Estero Hondo | Visit to the caves Trip to La Isabela (visiting the basins) | 11:30 Meeting with authorities of La Hispaniola National Park Tour of La Hispaniola National Park Meeting at Fricolandia (private sector) | Travel to Luperón 10:00 Meeting with local authorities Luperón | 9:00 mission closing workshop |
| Afternoon | 17:00 Meeting with women from the community. | | Visit to the Farallones Interview with young man from the Isabela community. Interview with owner of small food business on the beach Interview with the mayor of Isabela. | 13:00 Departure of the party to Santo Domingo | . |

The activities carried out during the tour (May 6 to 9) and during the workshop (May 10) are described below.

2.4.1 TOUR

On May 6, 7, 8, and 9, visits were made to Estero Hondo, La Isabela, and Luperón. The objective of these visits was to engage with the local population to validate climate-related issues and discuss possible adaptation measures, as well as environmental, social, and gender risks. The aim was to discuss the feasibility of the measures and to learn about other actions being carried out by civil society that had not yet been mapped. It is necessary to demonstrate to the Adaptation Fund that the information gathered from the stakeholders is taken into account in the formulation of the Concept Note.

Figure 3. Photographs of visits to prioritized sites: Estero Hondo Mammal Sanctuary (above) and Hispaniola National Park (below)



In Estero Hondo and La Isabela, the team was able to meet with representatives of the local population and local organizations. The attendance lists are presented in **Annex 3**. The following table lists the institutions and organizations interviewed at each location.

Table 4. Institutions and organizations present at the tour.

| Estero Hondo | La Isabela | Luperón |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| CAF MMARN Fundemar Estero Hondo City Hall Focus group of women from the community | CAF MMARN Ministry of Tourism Ministry of Culture Mayor of La Isabela Representatives of small businesses | CAF Luperón City Hall |

The main points discussed at each location were:

In Estero Hondo:

- Validation with a local women’s focus group regarding drought. There used to be wells that have dried up, and the sale of water by truck during drought periods was discussed. Animals died, and many houses did not receive water daily.
- The women particularly emphasized the discomfort caused by increasingly frequent and intense heat waves. Houses are not prepared to withstand them, and vulnerable groups are especially affected.
- The women expressed interest in training and working as tourism guides.
- Flooding history: In 2018, heavy rains caused floods that led to some deaths, loss of homes, and damaged infrastructure (roads and bridges destroyed).
- The issue of solid waste and flooding was also addressed. Effective solutions have not yet been found.
- Problems with insects and rodents.
- Loss of beach and sea level rise have endangered the huts. It has been proposed to move them further back from the current shoreline. There is also an increase in trash and a decrease in tourist attraction, which many street vendors depend on during the 7 months of high visitor volume.
- Loss of flora. It was mentioned that 15 to 20 years ago La Ensenada had trees. The northern mountain has become arid and treeless, with an increase in landslides.
- Fish species that have disappeared and mortality of others.
- Manatees are also suffering from the lack of fresh water. Fundemar mentioned the need for proper monitoring of ecosystem conditions.

In La Isabela:

- Possible interventions within the national heritage area were discussed.
- Urgent erosion problems that need to be addressed. Within La Hispaniola National Park, one-third of Columbus’s house has been lost due to erosion.
- Proposal to train guides who currently volunteer. Employment opportunities for the community were also discussed.
- The need to strategically plan activities to be developed in the area with proper involvement of key stakeholders and authorities. The goal is to create a profitable tourism product that attracts international tourists visiting the region.
- Possible areas for reforestation on public land. It was mentioned that most surrounding areas are privately owned.
- Discussion about low education levels, literacy difficulties among children and youth, and lack of motivation to study and work.

In Luperón:

- It was confirmed that Luperón has practically no impact on La Hispaniola National Park, because the Municipal District of La Isabela has jurisdiction.

Figure 4. Photograph of exchanges with the women's focus group in Estero Hondo.



Workshop - closing of the concept note origination mission

On May 10, the closing of the mission took place in the form of a workshop for the origination of the TUUVE Project proposal: "Enabling the Competitiveness of the Dominican Republic through Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience in Tourism." The objective of the workshop was to work with national institutional actors on the fundamental foundations of the proposal to the Adaptation Fund, ensuring that all participants reached a good understanding of the funding source requirements, the project's climate rationale, and the feasibility of the measures and possible implementation arrangements. A total of 19 participants attended the workshop (73.7% women)². The represented institutions were: CAF, MMARN, Ministry of Tourism, Underwater Cultural Heritage, CODOPESCA, MMARN Protected Areas, and the Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development (MEPyD).

Annex 4 includes the PowerPoint presentation that guided the meeting.

Table 5. Workshop agenda.

| Time | Activity |
|-------------|---|
| 8:30 | Welcome coffee |
| 09:00-09:20 | Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daniel Cabrales, CAF Representative in the Dominican Republic: CAF in the Dominican Republic and as an implementing entity of the Adaptation Fund. • Iván Cruz, Director of Climate Finance (MMARN). |
| 09:20-10:20 | Update on the progress of the consultancy <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carolina Cortés, CAF Senior Executive: CAF's sustainable tourism strategy and articulation with the RESILTUR-Adaptation Fund Project. 2. Viridia Projects Team: Project objective. Activities carried out to date and planned. Project logic: threat, impact, measures. Description of the activities carried out during the mission and the main findings in the project area. Potential measures identified to date. |
| 10:20-11:40 | Work on adaptation measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working proposal on guiding questions for participants to reflect on - adaptation measures, sustainability, co-benefits. • Exchange on conclusions. |
| 11:40-12:00 | Open comments and inquiries |
| 12:00-12:15 | Conclusion and closing. - MMARN |

The following are some of the key points of the various interventions made during the workshop:

- CAF presented sustainable tourism strategies that could potentially be applied to the prioritized areas. The objective is to support greener, more inclusive, innovative, creative, and well-equipped tourism.
- The types of operations eligible for financing within each of these categories were described, highlighting the alignment of the formulation proposal with this framework.

² The consulting team is not included.

- The consulting team outlined the activities carried out during the mission. They described the climate change impacts validated with local stakeholders and presented potential activities that could be included in the proposal.
- Each set of activities was opened for discussion by the entire group to improve and validate them through the interactive Miro platform. Some of the feedback received included the following:
 - It is necessary to build upon existing initiatives.
 - It was recommended to take the models of the Damajagua and Jamao protected areas as a reference.
 - For cultural tourism activities, it was suggested to develop experiences that allow visitors to relive the era. Additionally, the possibility of developing a single ticket for visiting multiple sites was requested to be evaluated.
 - Clarifications were made regarding current regulations.
 - The feedback highlighted the importance of involving young people and local people in the activities to be developed by the project.
- Discussions were held about the next steps and the timeline for preparing the concept note and its subsequent reviews for submission to the Adaptation Fund.

Figure 5. Photograph of the workshop meeting held at the MEPyD, Santo Domingo.

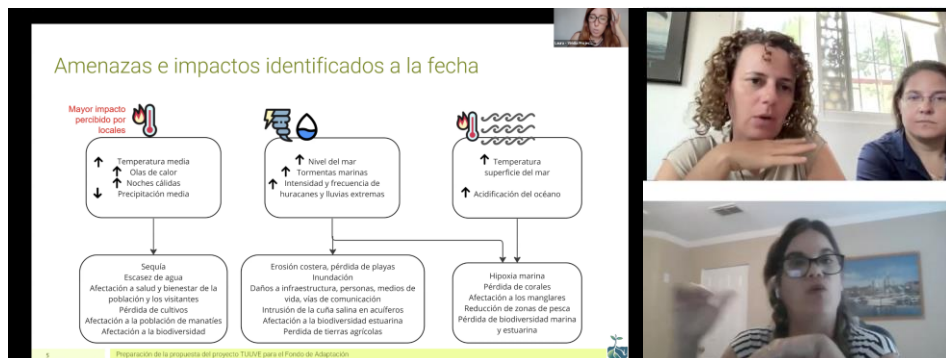


2.5 ADDITIONAL BILATERAL MEETINGS

Following the origination mission, it was necessary to continue with some bilateral consultations virtually during May 2024. The institutions and organizations consulted included:

- **Fundemar:** The progress and results achieved at the close of the mission were shared to validate the issues with them and to gain a deeper understanding of the activities carried out by the organization and the information available.
- **Civil Defense – Provincial Directorate of Puerto Plata:** The scope and progress of the project, the prioritized area, and the identified threats and impacts were discussed to validate them with the Civil Defense team and to understand which measures are currently being implemented.

Figure 6. Screenshots of the interview with Fundemar



3. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS OF THE FULL PROPOSAL PREPARATION PHASE

Preparation of the Full Proposal took place between September 2024 and April 2025. This section describes the stakeholder engagement activities carried out during this period.

Figure 7 : Stages of Stakeholder Consultation at the full proposal preparation stage



A total of 195 new stakeholders (38.97% women) were consulted during the full proposal preparation stage.³

3.1 REGULAR MEETINGS WITH KEY GOVERNMENTAL ACTORS

Regular meetings continued to be held with the Ministry of Environment and CAF to monitor the progress of bilateral consultations and pending interviews, coordinate arrangements for the mission, and align efforts in convening stakeholders. Within this framework, the schedule and planned field visits were also agreed upon.

3.2 BILATERAL MEETINGS

The following is a summary of the thematic meetings held during the month of October 2024 and in a virtual manner: 3 participants (33% female)

3.1.1 MEETING WITH AGROFRONTERA NGO

On October 2nd, a meeting was held with the Director of Agrofrontera–Coastal and Marine Projects to validate the proposed activities related to fisheries and livestock. With 15 years of experience in the area, issues were identified such as poor agricultural practices and tensions among fishers, some of whom are supported by Agrofrontera. Although there is interest in ecotourism, overfishing and inadequate practices require government intervention to protect biodiversity. Local committees with government presence have been established to lead conservation efforts in protected underwater areas.

3.1.2 MEETING WITH NGO GREEN ACTION

On October 3rd, a meeting was held with the NGO Acción Verde to present the project and validate the proposed measures. The need to strengthen governance and regulation in protected areas was emphasized, in light of the conflict between subsistence and conservation. Training for economic sustainability was identified as a key challenge. The successful case of the "27 Charcos de Damajagua" was highlighted, with its comprehensive management approach, trained local guides, and a fund for acquiring land for conservation. The impact of tourism and the ecotourism potential of the area were also validated.

3.1.3 MEETING WITH NGO JARAGUA

On October 8th, a meeting was held with the Jaragua Association to present progress and validate proposals. Based on their experience, the local population is willing to participate in revegetation projects such as mangrove restoration, although strong anthropogenic pressure remains. The need to regulate activities along the coast and in protected areas was noted, as well as the challenges in transforming tourism and improving silvopastoral systems without firm government commitment.

4. 1ST MISSION FOR THE PREPARATION AND VALIDATION OF THE COMPLETE PROPOSAL

As part of the mission for the formulation of the Full Proposal, CAF and the consulting team were hosted by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MMARN) to carry out meetings and workshops with key stakeholders, as well as site assessments and visits to prioritized locations. The mission took place from October 10 to 14, 2024. A total of 90 people participated (53.3% women). Attendance lists are provided in **Annex 5**. The mission schedule is presented below.

Table 6 : Mission Timeline

³ Duplicate persons have been removed from the count and therefore the total differs from the sum of the participants of each mission.

| Time | Mon 14th | Tu 15th | Wed 16th | Th 17th | Fri 18th |
|-----------|---|--|---|--|---|
| Morning | Meeting with local authorities of Estero Hondo | Marine Mammals Sanctuary in Estero Hondo La Jaiba: local authorities and representatives of the community | La Hispaniola National Park: local authorities and representatives of the community | Fisher s Association of Punta Rucia Fisher s Association of La Ensenada | Mission closing workshop in Santo Domingo |
| Afternoon | Livestock and fishing representatives Focal group of women | Interview with a cattle rancher (woman) | Meeting with women from La Isabela community | | |

Day 1 – Monday, October 14, 2023 – Estero Hondo: Meeting with local authorities: 12 participants attended (16.67% women). Main points discussed and conclusions:

- Need to improve government coordination between different levels (Municipalities - National) and governance in the area.
- Need to raise public awareness about environmental issues and the importance of environmental conservation. Requirements were mentioned regarding coordination of reforestation, inclusion of farmers and ranchers, dissemination of educational materials through local media, as well as radio programs. Relevant actors identified include the Ranchers’ Association and women’s groups.
- Progress in creating a co-management scheme for the protected area.
- Proposal for citizen involvement and awareness through surveillance systems / vigilance committees. Need to systematize the registration of collected information. Possible actor: youth organization.
- Restore mangroves through the creation of nurseries, as they have the technical capacity but lack financial resources.

Figure 8 : Estero Hondo Authorities Meeting



Meeting with the Community – Farmers and Fishermen: 6 participants attended (66.67% women). Main points discussed and conclusions:

- The president of the Ranchers’ Association introduced the group, which has 50 members, of whom 10 are women, and totals more than 100 people including their families. Their objective is to improve production, raise awareness, and they have extensive experience in training and coordination with other organizations. Overall, there is more livestock farming than agriculture.
- It was highlighted that surveys need to be conducted and technicians hired for nursery activities.
- The fishermen’s group mentioned how they have addressed the problem of fish decline due to coral deterioration by implementing fishing bans.
- They expressed the need to strengthen the organization through workshops, improve quality of life linked to tourism, and concerns about the ecosystem’s carrying capacity.

Meeting with the Community – Women’s Group: 9 participants attended (100% women). Main points discussed and conclusions:

- They have planted more than a thousand plants and request to participate in nursery and reforestation activities.
- They mentioned the challenge of overlapping responsibilities, as they take care of the household and children, which makes it difficult to engage in other activities.
- They expressed the **need for support to strengthen livelihood diversification, raise awareness, and receive assistance for their development.**

Figure 9 : Estero Hondo Women’s Focus Group



Day 2 – Tuesday, October 15, 2024 – Mammal Sanctuary + La Jaiba: Meeting with local authorities – La Jaiba: 6 participants attended (33.33% women). Main points discussed and conclusions:

- The most significant impacts on agriculture and livestock are drought, with livestock producers categorized by size.
- Both the lack of knowledge and the need for capacity building, as well as data collection and government support, were mentioned.
- Reforestation and watercourse cleaning activities have been carried out.
- Proposal to continue developing agrotourism and ecotourism.

Figure 10 : Estero Hondo marine mammal sanctuary manager and park rangers



Meeting with the community – La Jaiba / Interview with a female livestock farmer: 11 participants attended (44% women). Main points discussed and conclusions:

- Regarding the meeting with a cattle rancher, it was mentioned that women are not involved in cattle ranching in the crab, that there is a problem of lack of land ownership (out of 400 ,250 do not own land) which pushes cattle ranchers to graze in public areas.

Figure 11 : above: representatives of the La Jaiba community, including representatives of neighbors and ranchers/ below: La Jaiba’s only female rancher.





Day
3

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 – La Hispaniola National Park / La Isabela:

Meeting with local authorities and community representatives – La Hispaniola National Park: 20 participants attended (35% women). Main points discussed and conclusions:

- The increasing problem of erosion affecting the main tourist sites in the area was mentioned. This is being amplified by growing deforestation and its impacts on the water cycle.
- For beach restoration, activities such as dune reforestation and possible stone gabions were proposed. Feasibility and effectiveness studies are needed, as the aim is to stabilize the beach as much as possible while avoiding measures that require recurring interventions.
- A proposal was made to create a natural or artificial marine reef, including discussion of its requirements, limitations, and necessary studies. The ongoing UNESCO marine heritage project was mentioned.
- There is a need for awareness-raising, with an emphasis on starting from early childhood. Workshops, nurseries, and urban gardens in schools were proposed.
- The importance of generating a sense of commitment from the population, especially children, to the protection of historical heritage was highlighted. Synergies with schools were identified.
- Activities for children and youth were proposed to engage them in weather data tracking and monitoring.
- A dilemma was mentioned between protecting the area itself and developing sustainable activities that provide livelihoods for local residents and support the maintenance of the protected area. A zoning process is currently underway to determine the permissible activities by zone.
- A proposal was made for a project focused on awareness, training, and education, which would include highlighting the direct anthropological impact on ecosystems.
- The need to increase staff in protected areas was emphasized.

Figure 12: La Hispaniola National Park



Meeting with the community – Women’s group: 14 participants attended (100% women). Main points discussed and conclusions:

- The importance of training, capacity building, and raising awareness among youth and women in areas such as language learning, reforestation, and the cultural heritage of La Isabela was discussed.
- They see a need for greater involvement from the neighborhood association.
- There is a need to increase the dissemination of educational materials and events through social media and WhatsApp.
- They requested technical English courses and livelihood diversification activities such as bakery and pastry-making.

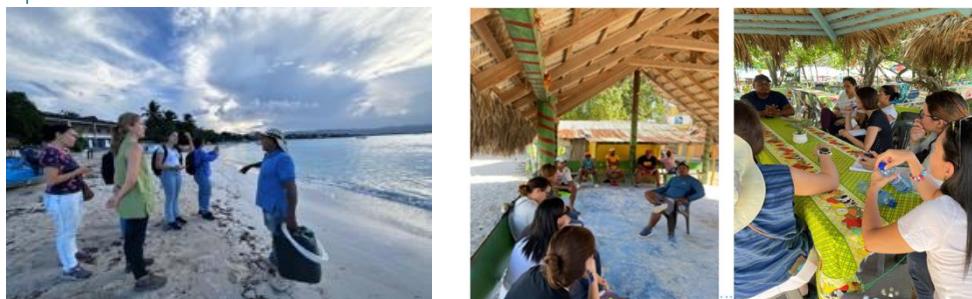
Figure 13: La Isabela Women’s Group



Day 4 – Thursday, October 12, 2023 – Fishers: Meeting with the community – Fishers: 6 participants attended (33.33% women). Main points discussed and conclusions:

- Current situation of fishers and their livelihoods.
- Dangerous issues related to the current fishing method using compressors, which has led to the death of fishers.
- Need for market studies and price-setting for fish sales, as well as coastal and marine characterization studies to identify sensitive, affected areas and critical points.
- Activities were outlined to strengthen Component 1, including support for co-management, restoration, reinforcement of guidelines and coordination with NGOs, diversification of livelihoods, coral plantations, and resource and area management. Improvement in coordination was also proposed through public-private sector roundtables.
- Interest was expressed in learning about and participating in carbon credit initiatives.
- Ecotourism was discussed, including background, models to follow, and visualization platforms

Figure 14 : Groups of fishermen



Day 5 – Friday, October 13, 2023 – End-of-mission workshop in Santo Domingo:

The closing workshop held on Wednesday the 18th in Santo Domingo was attended by 7 participants (57% women). **Annex 6** contains the presentation that guided the meeting.

During the workshop, CAF presented the foundations for the development of sustainable tourism for the project, highlighting its green nature, as well as its innovative, creative, and well-equipped aspects, along with its advantages and opportunities. The consulting team then presented a summary of the mission and a preliminary proposal of activities. Participants worked in groups on each of the four components, identifying the main requirements, potential challenges, and associated costs.

Coordination among entities, organizations, and ministries, along with the involvement of the local population, were highlighted as key factors for the successful implementation and long-term sustainability of the proposed measures.

5. ADDITIONAL BILATERAL MEETINGS

Based on the results of the full proposal formulation mission, the following bilateral interviews were conducted with key stakeholders in order to further explore the topics addressed during the mission.

1. **Interview with the Ministry of Culture / Monumental Heritage – October 23, 2024:** Three people participated (33.3% women). The meeting addressed the issues of erosion and sedimentation in La Isabela Park, which affect the colonial ruins and coastal landscape. Proposals were discussed for reinforcing the cliffside without altering the visual environment and restoring native flora through a nursery to preserve endemic species. Solutions were also considered for reef and coastal edge protection, such as vegetative barriers and reforestation. The meeting highlighted the importance of geological and archaeological studies to assess environmental impact and to seek funding for the projects.
2. **Interview with the Mato Grosso (Brazil) Tourism Project – October 29, 2024:** Three people participated (33.3% women). The objective of the meeting was to learn about and gather information on a successful ecotourism project in Brazil to enhance the activity proposals of the full project. The conclusion was that although the project is highly interesting, its feasibility in the current project area is low, making it an ambitious goal under current conditions. It will be considered as a reference, but more realistic alternatives are still being sought for the project area.
3. **Interview with MMARN/Forestry Directorate – October 30, 2024:** One person participated (female). The conversation was held with the area’s lead. It was confirmed that they have reforestation brigades, and coordination was established for potentially creating one in the project area if it doesn’t already exist. They also have their own nurseries and consider reforestation feasible, even on private land.
4. **Interview with the National Ecotourism Strategy – October 31, 2024:** One person participated (male). The purpose of the meeting was to understand the structure of the national strategy to ensure alignment of this project with it. The first pilot project will be in La Isabela as a connection has already been established for continued collaboration.

5. **Interview with the Co-Management Unit of the Ministry of the Environment – October 31, 2024:** One person participated (female). The meeting aimed to understand how the co-management process is carried out and the support needs of those joining it. Based on lessons learned, it was emphasized that strengthening training and awareness among participants is key. Cost data for activities expected to be included in the proposal was also gathered.
6. **Interview with ANAMAR – November 1, 2024:** One person participated (male). The objective of the meeting was to go deeper into the equipment, tools, and software needs for monitoring. Cost information for each piece of equipment to be purchased was collected for inclusion in the proposal budget.
7. **Interview with INDOMET – November 1, 2024:** Three people participated (66.6% women). The goal of the meeting was to understand needs that could be addressed through the project. They currently have equipment for drought measurement but have requested new instruments to improve data collection and studies in the project area, which features a microclimate.
8. **Interview with CODOPESCA – November 1, 2024:** One person participated (male). This follow-up meeting aimed to request cost estimates for activities proposed in this project (transition to a buoy system and abandonment of compressor-based fishing), based on previous discussions.
9. **Interview with MMARN Technology Unit / Statistics Unit of the Vice Ministry for Coastal-Marine Resources – November 5, 2024:** Two people participated (50% women). The objective of this meeting was to understand the current tracking and monitoring efforts. The need for a centralized coastal monitoring platform to manage dispersed data was discussed. Technical and logistical challenges were raised, including identifying requirements, costs, and responsible parties, with suggestions to host the platform on ministry servers. Participants agreed to assess feasibility and define sub-activities and associated costs to secure funding. Based on the conversation, support was proposed for equipment purchases to improve monitoring in the project area.
10. **Interview with Samaná Ecotourism Project – November 6, 2024:** One person participated (female). The meeting aimed to learn about and gather information from a successful ecotourism project in Samaná, as it aligns more closely with the development opportunities in the current project area and offers potential for replication.
11. **Interview with INFOTEP – November 7, 2024:** Three people participated (66.67% women). The objective of the meeting was to explore a possible partnership with INFOTEP for the design and implementation of tailored training in the community prioritized by the project. This includes the participation of specialists and adaptation of relevant content, with a strong focus on gender inclusion and removing access barriers. Additionally, steps to formalize the collaboration were discussed, including logistics, requirements, and coordination with other institutions to ensure a comprehensive and effective approach to capacity building.

6. ADDITIONAL MISSION TO STRENGTHEN THE CONSULTATION PROCESS OF THE FULL PROPOSAL PHASE

6.1 RECURRING MEETINGS

During the months of March and April 2025, follow-up meetings were held with CAF and the Directorate of Financial Mechanisms and Portfolio Management of MMARN. These meetings have allowed planning, joint reflections and progress in the structuring of the mission to expand consultation with stakeholders in order to capitalize on the mission days.

6.2 BILATERAL MEETINGS

- **Ministry of Women**

On April 3, 2025, a meeting was held with a representative from the Ministry of Women (MM). The objective was to present the project and validate the proposed measures to date by conducting specific consultations on gender-related issues. During the meeting, the need for the Ministry of Women to review and provide feedback on the Gender Analysis and the Gender Action Plan (GAP) was emphasized. The key role of the Ministry in the Gender and Climate Change Roundtable was also highlighted, underlining the importance of not only making women's vulnerability visible but also strengthening their participation in mitigation and adaptation efforts. To this end, the need for strategies that facilitate their involvement in resource management and decision-making processes was identified.

In this regard, the experience of women gatherers in San Cristóbal was mentioned as a relevant case for the project, due to its link with the coffee sector, which could help create synergies and provide valuable lessons for this initiative. Regarding the GAP, emphasis was placed on the importance of measures such as the use of inclusive language and the provision of childcare services during consultation processes to ensure women's participation, noting that the lack of such resources often poses a significant barrier. Furthermore,

opportunities for collaboration with previous initiatives were identified, such as the work of the Puerto Plata MIPYMES Center with women fishers, which could generate valuable synergies for the project. Additionally, the importance of assessing the interests of different stakeholders and designing tailored strategies for their participation was emphasized, considering the challenges of interinstitutional coordination. In this sense, it was noted that scheduling should be adapted to the type of stakeholder to optimize engagement and that spaces such as churches and neighborhood associations could play a key role in fostering social cohesion and facilitating community access. Finally, it was underscored at the close of the meeting that understanding the interests and dynamics of stakeholders will be crucial to ensure effective implementation of the gender approach, making sure that the proposed strategies respond to the real needs of the communities involved.

6.3 EXPLORATORY TRIP MARCH 28-29, 2025

During March 28 and 29, 2025, a trip to the territory was made with the objective of contacting key actors in the consultation process and to ensure the convening of what would later be the mission to the territory.

Day 1: March 28th

Fisherfolk of Estero Hondo: A meeting took place in La Ensenada with 8 fisherfolk attending (7 men and 1 woman). The purpose was to invite them to a follow-up meeting scheduled for April 9, 2025, where more detailed content would be developed based on their knowledge, experiences, and needs aligned with the project's objectives. Key feedback included: 1) There is another semi-organized group of fishers using spearfishing, a practice believed to be damaging the fishing grounds and causing conflicts between the groups. 2) The fisherfolk association operates a coral nursery and runs a community volunteer program that plants corals on the reefs every year. Two women from this group will take part in the April 9 focus group. 3) There is significant concern about the tourist transport boats, as fisherfolk feel displaced from their traditional fishing areas and worry that these boats harm the marine ecosystem by anchoring in sensitive spots. **This issue is critical and must be addressed in the project's development.**

Cattle Ranchers of la Jaiba: In the afternoon, a meeting was held at the cattle ranchers' association premises with 6 men over 35 years old: 5 association members and one CONALECHE technician (participating as an observer and who will assist with organizing the activities in the Solimán district). Participants discussed the challenges faced by the sector, including droughts, lack of technical support for producers, taxes on the dairy sector, and youth disinterest in cattle farming, which threatens generational renewal. They also expressed a strong commitment to environmental issues and shared experiences developed with the Punta Cana group.

Day 2: March 29th

Producers from Solimán and Guatele: The meeting was held to present the project idea and organize the focus group scheduled for the afternoon of April 8. Among the 13 participants (12 men and 1 woman), 4 were young people under 35 years old. Key feedback included: 1) A transition phenomenon is occurring in the area, shifting from mainly coffee farming to diversified activities such as cacao cultivation, breadnut trees, various fruit trees, and ecotourism. This is part of an eco-tourism and productive route that has been designed and operated since 2014. Participants expressed doubts about the sustainability and feasibility of timber tree planting activities for smallholder farmers. 2) Based on the watersheds mentioned by the project, it was suggested to include the communities of Guatele.

Figure 15: Meetings on day 1: With fishermen and CODOPESCA (left) and with representatives of the cattlemen's association (right).



Figure 16: Photos of day 2: View of the lower basin towards Isabela as seen from Solimán. Members of associations and JACARAFE leaders participating in the meeting.



6.4 THIRD MISSION TO THE TERRITORY AND CLOSING WORKSHOP APRIL 7-11, 2025

As part of the third mission for the formulation of the Full Proposal, CAF and the consulting team were hosted by the MMARN to conduct meetings and workshops with the involved parties and convened focus groups. This took place between April 7 and 11, 2025. From the formulation team, Laura Abram Alberdi (VP), Sofía Reibel (VP), and Carolina Cortés (CAF) participated throughout the week's schedule. Focus group meetings included participation from CODOPESCA, MINAGRI, and the Forestry Directorate of MMARN.

The objective was to **work directly with the key stakeholders involved** in the Project formulation process, particularly those related to the work areas of reforestation/agroforestry and fisheries. It also served as a final validation stage through bilateral meetings and a concluding workshop with the other stakeholders involved in the proposal (from MMARN, as well as Culture, Tourism, and Agriculture). This allowed the final definition of the adaptation measures proposed during the Full Proposal phase and the collection of complementary cost information for the detailed budget preparation, as well as obtaining final validation to submit the proposal to the Adaptation Fund. **A total of 80 people participated (17.5% women)**⁴. Attendance lists are presented in **Annex 5**.

Below is the mission schedule, along with a summary of the activities carried out, their participants, and the main conclusions.

Table 7 : Timeline for the second mission

| | Mo April 7th | Tu April 8th | Wed April 9th | Te April 10th | Fr April 11th |
|------------------|---|---|--|--|---|
| | Bilateral meetings in Santo Domingo and travel to the project area | Site visit | Site visit | Bilateral meetings in Santo Domingo | Workshop |
| Morning | Kick-off meeting with CAF | Meeting with the farming and livestock community of La Jaiba | Meeting with the Artisanal Fishing Focal Group. | Meeting with UNDP | Final validation workshop in Santo Domingo (3 hours) |
| Afternoon | Travel to the project area. | Meeting with the coffee-growing and farming community of Solimán | Travel to Santo Domingo | Space available for additional meetings and workshop preparation | |

- **Day 2- Tuesday April 8, 2025 -Visit to the Jaiba and Unijica basins**

1. Meeting with the Agricultural and Livestock Community of La Jaiba:: A total of 29 participants attended (6.89% women), including 23 livestock farmers (0% women).

The La Jaiba Livestock Association has about 60 members, of whom one-third participated in the meeting. Eighty percent of their production is marketed locally, while the rest is destined for large companies or nearby cities. La Jaiba is one of the country's main dairy production areas, where livestock farming is the predominant economic activity, with little presence of agriculture. In the region, there are three livestock associations and around 20 cheese producers, mainly located in La Jaiba (4) and La Isabela (7).

Among the **identified challenges** are the reduction of livestock production due to prolonged droughts, deforestation, and water scarcity. The loss of complementary activities such as beekeeping was also mentioned, as well as the lack of access to land titles which limits institutional support, and the low

⁴ Duplicate persons have been removed from the count.

participation of women and youth in the sector. There is also a negative perception of tree planting, seen as a threat to pasture, and a fear of fruit theft which hinders crop diversification.

Finally, it was recognized that livestock farming generates methane emissions, contributing to climate change, although there is little awareness of ways to mitigate it. As **possible solutions**, the construction of a dam, reforestation processes with technical support, and the implementation of model farms with carbon capture practices were proposed.

The proposal by the Ministry of Agriculture (MINAGRI) to install a dairy processing plant for educational purposes was also highlighted, along with interest in reactivating agrotourism in the area. It was also suggested to include local schools in environmental awareness activities and promote exchanges with livestock farmers from other regions to share sustainable production experiences.

2. Meeting with the coffee-growing and farming community of Solimán: A total of 27 participants attended (14.28% women), of whom 22 were from the focal group (13.63% women), not including representatives from the Ministry of Environment.

The meeting with former coffee growers and farmers from the Solimán and Guatele communities included representatives from neighborhood associations, livestock farmers, agricultural producers, and beekeeping technicians. The area is characterized by having one of the few freshwater lagoon systems in the country, with five lagoons located above 600 meters above sea level and currently dry wetlands. Solimán covers 630 hectares, of which 72 are open areas. The community, living under conditions of extreme poverty, faces severe connectivity limitations due to poor rural road conditions. The population has largely shifted from coffee cultivation to cocoa, due to pests and adverse climatic conditions such as prolonged droughts, which have impacted livelihoods and water access.

The Ministries of Agriculture and Environment have a presence in the area, with past initiatives in reforestation and agroforestry production. Among the **main challenges** highlighted were soil erosion, shifts in rainfall patterns, severe deforestation of the northern mountain range, water scarcity for human and livestock consumption, and soil degradation. On the production side, the abandonment of coffee cultivation due to pests and drought impacts has led many farmers to transition to crops such as cocoa, conuco (traditional mixed cropping), and extensive livestock farming—the latter being one of the causes of tree cutting. Despite awareness of the importance of trees, deforestation persists due to a lack of knowledge on how to manage pasture under shade and subsistence farming practices. Social challenges were also noted, such as mistrust between organizations and low educational levels. Additionally, the lack of land ownership was emphasized, with over 90% of land in Solimán unregistered, limiting access to certain programs.

As proposals, the community expressed interest in strengthening agroforestry systems with fruit trees, cocoa, timber species, and live fences, as well as resuming and scaling up the reforestation brigades promoted by MMARN, which had supported the planting of over 50,000 trees in previous years. The potential of agrotourism as a source of income was discussed, taking advantage of natural resources such as Los Indios cave and the ecotourism corridor of the northern mountain range. The community expressed willingness to receive technical and organizational training, establish links with institutions, and actively participate in ecological restoration processes. The need to ensure the sustainability of the nursery through permanent staff and inter-institutional coordination was stressed, with MMARN committed to leaving a seed bank at the conclusion of the project.

Figure 17: Solimán coffee growing and farming community



- **Day 3 – Wednesday, April 9, 2025 – Meeting with Artisanal Fishing Focus Group:** A total of 18 fishers participated (16.67% women).

The focus group included the president of the Punta Rucia Fishers Association, three members of a new cooperative from La Ensenada, and two spearfishers who had been previously interviewed, among other association members.

The discussion addressed various practices, many of which negatively affect the sustainability of marine ecosystems. First, the use of compressors—a prohibited practice—was highlighted due to the health risks they pose to fishers. Compressors allow for prolonged fishing at the seabed, causing irreversible damage. The use of gillnets ("chinchorros") was also mentioned, as they are sometimes used in closed areas, damaging the seabed and leading to the capture of non-target species.

Another major concern is the condition of coral reefs in the area, which are severely degraded and bleached, largely due to the spread of a green slime infestation. Additionally, fishers noted that tides have become more unpredictable and the sea is murkier, making fishing more difficult. Regarding tourism boats, they emphasized that engine noise scares the fish away, further complicating their work.

To address these issues, fishers suggested several **sustainability-focused solutions** and infrastructure improvements. They proposed continuing the construction of traditional fishing rafts (balsas), a method that attracts fish without harming the environment, and requested support to purchase essential materials like rope, whose high cost limits implementation.

They also highlighted the need for appropriate boats, suggesting the acquisition of a large "mother" boat to serve as a storage hub, supported by smaller boats for actual fishing activities.

Regarding ecosystem restoration, the fishers expressed their willingness to continue participating in marine conservation training and the protection of species such as turtles and corals. Some participants are already engaged in coral replanting efforts.

They also proposed creating no-fishing zones with proper signage and improving the regulation of closed seasons. They requested that restrictions be less strict for certain species, such as parrotfish, while still emphasizing the need to protect marine ecosystems to ensure long-term fishing sustainability.

Figure 18: Fishermen's Focal Group



Day 5 – Friday, April 11, 2025 – Final Validation Workshop

On April 11, the mission concluded with a final workshop aimed at finalizing the proposal for the RESILTUR Project: *“Enhancing Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through adaptation actions in the Tourism sector in La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in The Dominican Republic (RESILTUR) (formerly TUUVE).* The objective of the workshop was to finalize, together with the Working Group involved in the project formulation from CAF and the Government of the Dominican Republic, the core components of the proposal to be submitted to the Adaptation Fund, and to ensure mutual understanding and agreement on the next steps.

A total of 15 participants attended the workshop (53% women)⁵. The represented institutions included: CAF, Ministry of Women, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MMARN), Ministry of Tourism, UNDP, Ministry of Agriculture, CODOPESCA, and the Ministry of Culture.

Figure 19 : Mission closing workshop

⁵ The consulting team is not counted.



The PowerPoint presentation that guided the meeting is shared in **Annex 6**.

Table 8 : Workshop agenda, closing of the third mission.

| Time | Activity |
|--------------|---|
| 09:00-09:20 | Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gianna Gregori, Senior Country Executive (CAF) - Iván Cruz, Director of Climate Finance (MMARN) - Carolina Cortés, Principal Tourism Executive (CAF) |
| 09:20- 10:20 | Consultancy Progress Update Viridia Projects Team: Description of activities carried out and planned. |
| 10:20- 11:30 | Participatory validation of project components and activities |
| 11:30- 11:50 | Open comments and questions |
| 11:50-12:00 | Conclusion and closing |

During this workshop with the working group, the proposed objectives were successfully achieved. **Participants validated the activities** presented and provided valuable contributions to be incorporated into the final proposal. Among the key recommendations was the **inclusion of support for business development for producers in the agricultural sector**, with the aim of strengthening their capacities and improving their offerings related to rural tourism in the area—thus contributing to the diversification of their income sources. Additionally, the **implementation of a pilot aquaculture project** and the establishment of collaborations with universities were proposed. Finally, it is worth noting that the Ministry of Women acknowledged that gender mainstreaming in the project has been successfully addressed.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: INITIAL IDENTIFICATION OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS⁶

Annex 2: INTERVIEW GUIDE TEMPLATES FOR MEETINGS WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND THE COMMUNITY*

Annex 3: ATTENDANCE LISTS DURING THE ORIGINATION MISSION (MAY 6–10, 2024)*

Annex 4: POWERPOINT PRESENTATION USED TO GUIDE THE ORIGINATION MISSION WORKSHOP FOR THE CN*

Annex 5: ATTENDANCE LISTS DURING THE FULL PROPOSAL MISSIONS (OCTOBER 10–14, 2024 AND APRIL 7–11, 2025) (See attached folder.)

Annex 6: POWERPOINT PRESENTATION USED TO GUIDE THE FULL PROPOSAL FORMULATION WORKSHOP

⁶ Available on demand.



Enhancing Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through adaptation actions
in the Tourism sector in La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in The Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)

GENDER ASSESSMENT

ANNEX 3



FINAL REPORT | July 14th 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Introduction | 2 |
| 1. Gender And Climate Change | 2 |
| 2. Institutional Framework On Gender And Climate Change In The Dominican Republic | 3 |
| 3. Socio-Demographic Characterization | 5 |
| 4.1 Employment and Labor Participation | 5 |
| 4.2 Education | 6 |
| 4.3 Participation of Men and Women in the Economic Activities Impacted by the Project | 7 |
| 4. Gender Analysis Based On Stakeholder Consultations | 9 |
| 5. Recommendations For The Gender Action Plan | 9 |

ACRÓNIMOS

| | |
|------------|---|
| CAF | Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (Andean Development Corporation) |
| CEDAW | Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women |
| CNCCMDL | National Council for Climate Change and the Clean Development Mechanism |
| END | National Development Strategy |
| IDH | Human Development Index |
| IVACC | Climate Shock Vulnerability Index |
| MMARN | Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources |
| ONE | National Statistics Office |
| PAGCC-RD | Gender and Climate Change Action Plan for the Dominican Republic |
| PLANEG III | Third National Plan for Gender Equality and Equity |
| RESILTUR | Enhancing Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through Adaptation Actions in the Tourism Sector of La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in the Dominican Republic |
| SIUBEN | Single Beneficiary System |



INTRODUCTION

This document is part of the Annexes attached to the design of the Full Proposal and collects relevant information to analyze the main gender inequalities that the RESILTUR project will address through specific measures and actions, through the implementation of the Gender Action Plan.

This gender analysis is also part of the requirements of the Adaptation Fund, in accordance with its Gender Policy, and may be updated during the implementation of the project if necessary. To ensure that gender considerations are successfully integrated into the Fund's projects and programs, it is required that the available initial information and data on gender dimensions related to the planned adaptation measures be collected during the project or program design phase. This requires the participation of women, men, and people of other gender identities (if applicable), from different ages, socioeconomic contexts or ethnicities, with disabilities, or belonging to Indigenous Peoples, in the initial consultations with stakeholders during the project formulation stage (see more in the Environmental and Social Management Plan and in the Stakeholder Engagement Report).

The gender analysis presented here aims to be a tool to identify the main gender inequalities and roles, in relation to the activities proposed by the project, as well as to address the needs and opportunities that contribute to closing the main gender gaps.

This analysis is understood as a living document, which may be updated and reviewed throughout the project's implementation in response to the monitoring reports and progress presented by the implementing and executing entities.

The Project

The project aims to reduce the vulnerability of coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems in the protected areas of La Hispaniola and the Estero Hondo Mammal Sanctuary (North Cibao Region, Dominican Republic), as well as to enhance the adaptive capacity and livelihoods of local communities facing climate change by promoting activities related to sustainable and climate-resilient tourism in the face of risks caused by heatwaves, droughts, coastal erosion (caused by rising sea levels), the frequency and intensity of extreme events, ocean acidification, and sea surface temperature. The project will seek to strengthen the planning and monitoring of coastal and marine areas (Component 1); strengthen terrestrial and marine ecosystems against the impacts of climate change and improve housing infrastructure to contribute to the well-being and health of the local population in the face of heatwaves (Component 2); strengthen and diversify the livelihoods of the local population (Component 3); and strengthen the capacities of key stakeholders by improving their knowledge of climate change to increase their participation in climate action (Component 4).

Document structure The gender analysis presented here is organized into the following sections and subsections, concluding with an identification of recommendations to be considered in the Gender Action Plan (which is also attached to the Full Proposal that will be submitted to the Adaptation Fund).

The first section includes a brief **analysis of the main aspects related to the gender approach and climate change** for the specific sector that the RESILTUR project will address (vulnerability of coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems). It then briefly presents the current **institutional framework** in the Dominican Republic related to gender equality and climate change. The third section provides a synthesis of **relevant demographic and socioeconomic data** from a gender perspective, both at the national and local/regional levels, as included in the Concept Note, including a subsection on the participation of men and women in the economic activities impacted by the project. It is important to note that the availability of gender-disaggregated data at the local level is very limited, which is why the subsections included in this section are mainly reconstructed based on available national and regional data. The fourth section summarizes the main **gender-related findings from stakeholder** consultations, as well as those gathered by the Viridia Projects team during their visits to the project area (this section will continue to be developed in the coming months as pending bilateral consultations and additional visits to the project's area of influence are carried out).

Finally, in the **Recommendations** section, emerging ideas and actions are identified that should be addressed by the project through its Gender Action Plan, assigning the necessary human and financial resources to ensure their implementation.

1. GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE

In recent decades, the unequal consequences of climate change on the lives of women and men have gained increasing recognition and importance, as it has also become evident how this intersection exacerbates pre-existing structural inequalities such as poverty, access to basic services, housing conditions, among others. In contexts where women's activities—both those related to formal and informal work, as well as those involving personal and household care—are directly tied to natural resources, they are the most affected by climate change and therefore require specific resources and measures to address these challenges. The PAGCC-RD (National Climate Change Gender Action Plan of the Dominican Republic) highlights that women's adaptive capacity to climate change is limited by their reduced access to land ownership, credit, information, training, decision-making spaces, and technology, a situation that is even more pronounced in rural areas.⁷ Similarly, it is recognized that women are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change precisely because they have fewer resources and therefore less adaptive capacity. In the face of extreme climate events, it is women who experience an increased burden of activities and longer working hours, especially in rural and coastal areas.⁸

⁷ [Plan de Acción de Género y Cambio Climático, República Dominicana](#) (PAGCC-RD 2018).

⁸ *Ibidem*



Coastal-marine ecosystems are especially affected by the impacts of climate change, which also have consequences for the lives of all people who rely on the services provided by these ecosystems—whether because they live in these areas, work there, or travel through them. According to the National Adaptation Plan for Climate Change 2015–2030⁹, More than 60% of the population of the Dominican Republic lives in coastal areas or in zones at high risk of being affected by extreme hydro-meteorological events. Mangroves and coral reefs are among the ecosystems most impacted by the effects of climate change, but they are also affected by the lack of information and public awareness about what sustainable coastal management entails. The PAGCC-RD highlights findings from the UNDP Human Development Index 2015 report, which warns that gender inequalities intersect with climate risks and vulnerabilities, concluding that climate change is likely to increase existing gender gaps. Therefore, climate change planning and adaptation measures in coastal-marine ecosystems must also incorporate a gender perspective to more effectively and sustainably address the specific challenges faced by women and men, both young and old, in these areas. Additionally, women’s voices must have space for participation and representation in decision-making mechanisms so that any adaptation strategy can be effective. Effective strategies must take into account the specific contributions of all genders in order to enhance community resilience.

2. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK ON GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

In 1982, the Dominican Republic ratified the **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**, and in 2001 it also ratified the **Optional Protocol to the Convention**. In 1995, the country also expressed its adherence to the **Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará)**.

In the 2010 amendment of the Political Constitution, it was established that the State must promote equal rights between women and men (Article 39), responsible motherhood and fatherhood and the recognition of domestic work (Article 55), as well as penalize domestic and gender-based violence (Article 42)¹⁰.

Currently, the national office with the highest authority and competence on the matter is the **Ministry of Women**, responsible for establishing and coordinating the implementation of policies, plans, and programs at both the inter-institutional and sectoral levels, to achieve gender equality and equity, and the full exercise of women's citizenship. The Ministry has provincial and municipal representations, including an office in Puerto Plata.

Regarding existing policy instruments, the Dominican Republic has a **National Development Strategy (END 2030)**, through which the country expresses its commitment to working for gender equality, with it being one of the key pillars of the strategy. Additionally, the third **National Plan for Gender Equality and Equity 2020-2030 (PLANEG III)** is in force. This plan details various national issues, among which the "Gender and Environment" section is particularly relevant for the RESILTUR project. This section also involves the implementation of the National Sanitation Strategy across the country, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, access to information, participation, and decision-making in environmental matters, and the incorporation of the gender perspective in environmental planning. As for the institutional approach to climate change from a gender perspective, PLANEG III represents progress, as its predecessor (PLANEG II 2007-2017) did not address this specific issue.

On the other hand, currently, there are two relevant National Plans in the country within the institutional framework of gender and climate change:

- The **National Adaptation Plan for Climate Change** of the Dominican Republic (PNACC-RD) 2015-2030¹¹, which includes Cross-cutting Line 7, Integration of the Gender Perspective, recognizing the role of women as agents of change to promote their participation in transforming society towards a low-carbon and resilient development.
- The **Gender and Climate Change Action Plan** for the Dominican Republic (PAGCC-RD) 2018-2024¹², which identifies 9 priority intervention sectors, among which are the coastal-marine and tourism sectors, in line with two of the economic sectors that will be impacted by the activities of this project.

The PAGCC-RD establishes a set of priority actions for both sectors, which are detailed below and may be considered in the actions and activities proposed in the Gender Action Plan for the RESILTUR project.

⁹ Ibidem

¹⁰ Ibidem

¹¹ Carried out under the technical supervision of the National Council for Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism (CNCCMDL), the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) within the project "Third National Communication of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change of the Dominican Republic – TCNCC" by the PLENITUD Foundation. 2016

¹² <https://cambioclimatico.gob.do/phocadownload/Documentos/cop25/Plan%20de%20G%C3%A9nero%20y%20Cambio%20Clim%C3%A1tico%20-%20RD.pdf>



Prioritized Actions in the PAGCC-RD for the Coastal-Marine Sector:

- Strengthen the capacities of women scientists in the coastal-marine area through an educational program on the gender perspective.
- Form a multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary working group of women from the 17 coastal provinces to participate in the processes of reviewing and updating the national legal framework.
- Prepare a diagnosis of the impact of climate change with a gender perspective in the most vulnerable provinces (to gather information on the impact of climate change on men and women in coastal-marine ecosystems).
- Request technical assistance from international cooperation, through inter-institutional coordination of the ONE, to ensure that data registration programs include gender indicators and sex-disaggregated information.
- Develop and strengthen capacities on the gender perspective to understand the construction of masculine identities and the role of men in the context of climate change.
- Coordinate with the Provincial Directorates of the Ministry of Environment in the 17 coastal provinces to prepare information dissemination plans.
- Information dissemination plan on gender, climate change, adaptation, and vulnerability through printed materials, educational campaigns, videos, fairs, exhibitions, educational capsules, film forums, among others.
- Develop projects for the economic empowerment of women: Mangrove and coastal tree nurseries; coral restoration, among others. Processing of fishery waste, scales, fish skin, bones, among others.
- Creation of a revolving fund for women in vulnerable conditions in coastal areas to promote projects and activities aimed at improving their living conditions.
- Develop a program to promote the participation of women in associations working in the marine-coastal area. Create women's organizations in non-traditional areas (diving, fishermen, boat captains, mechanics, security officers, and those responsible for monitoring and follow-up programs, among others). Train women in lifesaving activities.
- Promote the exchange of experiences between women leaders (at the community, national, and international levels), to learn more about processes of association and leadership.

Prioritized Actions in the PAGCC-RD for the Tourism Sector:

- Identify gender gaps in tourism sector policies and highlight the link between gender and climate change.
- Include experts on the relationship between climate change and gender to draft a proposal for a technical standard/regulation for the tourism sector.
- Submit the technical proposal with climate change considerations and a gender perspective to Congress to be annexed to the review of the law that established the Ministry of Tourism.
- Design contracting tools for the tourism sector with a gender and climate change perspective.
- Design software to assist in the recruitment and selection process by measuring the competencies of candidates and displaying sex-disaggregated data.
- Establish a salary scale for the tourism sector that reduces the gap currently favoring men.
- Train women in the most vulnerable tourist areas in disaster risk management: Conduct awareness workshops on the relationship between gender and climate change with the various departments of the Ministry of Tourism.
- Design mitigation and adaptation strategies in tourist areas that incorporate women and strengthen their leadership in facing the impacts of climate change.
- Design a program that encourages the participation of women in ecotourism activities, especially in areas most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.
- Create an easily accessible financial mechanism that includes advisory and support services to promote the participation and leadership of women in activities related to ecotourism.

As part of the institutional arrangements for the implementation of the PAGCC-RD, in 2023 the Ministry of Women, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MMARN), and the National Council for Climate Change and the Clean Development Mechanism (CNCCMDL) established the **Steering Committee of the Interinstitutional Gender and Climate Change** Table. Currently, the Ministry of Women participates as a governing body of the Gender and Climate Change Table. This interinstitutional coordination space aims to accelerate the implementation of the PAGCC-RD, as well as supervise and promote projects and programs that ensure a more just and gender-sensitive climate action. Regularly involved actors from the public sector, civil society, the private sector, international cooperation, and academia work together to integrate gender perspective into actions related to climate change.

The **SUPERATE program** represents the most important social protection tool in the Dominican Republic, reaching 1.4 million people¹³ through various initiatives. The program has a vision regarding the impacts of climate change and how women are more vulnerable: *"Dominican women, often without formal employment and burdened with household responsibilities, have less capacity for response and*

¹³ <https://www.bancomundial.org/es/news/feature/2024/05/28/mujeres-dominicanas-camino-resiliencia-climatica>



recovery in the face of increasingly frequent and intense climate disasters. They suffer greater economic strain, increased caregiving responsibilities due to lack of support from fathers for the proper care of their children, as well as disruptions in family bonds, an increase in domestic violence, migration, and restricted access to services due to disruptions after a disaster (such as basic health services, gender-based violence support services, or childcare)."¹⁴. Based on this diagnosis, an Emergency Bonus program has been launched to provide support to households affected by Hurricane Fiona in 2022: more than 60% of the 35,000 beneficiaries of the Bonus were women-headed households, who received financial support according to the level of impact they experienced.¹⁵.

On the other hand, the World Bank also finances the **Integrated Social Protection, Inclusion, and Resilience Project (INSPIRE)** in the country, which also incorporates in its diagnosis the disproportionate and differential consequences that climate change has on people's lives: "(...) populations such as people with disabilities, women and youth, survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) community, many of whom are in vulnerable situations, will disproportionately suffer the economic consequences, considering that these groups have limited participation in decision-making and are overrepresented in the informal economy and unemployment. Climate disasters also affect women differently from men due to greater economic strain, increased caregiving burdens, the breakdown of family ties, an increase in domestic violence and migration, limited access to and control over resources (property rights, land, financial resources), as well as restricted access to services due to disruptions following a disaster (e.g., basic healthcare, gender-based violence response, childcare services). (...) Ensuring these groups access to training and skill-updating programs will allow them to access better employment opportunities and support them during the transition to more sustainable production methods, thus improving their climate resilience and livelihoods."¹⁶. As part of the components of this project, specific support is foreseen for the cash transfers under the SUPERATE program, including the Emergency Bonus and others related to food security and nutrition.

3. SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERIZATION

According to the data from the latest **National Census of Population and Housing in 2022**, the population of the Dominican Republic is 10,760,028 people, with a female population index of 1.03 in urban areas and 0.86 in rural areas. Households headed by women in the Dominican Republic represent 38.8%, with a higher percentage in urban areas than in rural areas (41.6% and 32.3%, respectively). In 2013, 50.3% of the population living in female-headed households was classified as poor, and 28% were indigent, compared to 35.9% of the total population living in male-headed households.¹⁷.

According to the **Climate Shock Vulnerability Index (IVACC)** of the country, where 1 represents the highest vulnerability value for a household, in 2018, 25.1% of the households registered in SIUBEN had a score equal to or greater than 0.7. Female-headed households had a slightly lower vulnerability score on average compared to male-headed households (0.469 vs. 0.479). The average IVACC value is 0.541 in Luperón and 0.625 in Villa Isabela, although there is no sex-disaggregated data available for these localities.

Following the trends of other countries in the region, women in the Dominican Republic have a **life expectancy** 5 years longer than men (77.89 vs. 72.38, respectively), in contrast to other indicators that place them at a disadvantage, in addition to those mentioned in the previous paragraphs. When measuring **poverty by income**, 21.8% of the poor are men, while 24.1% are women (according to 2023 data from the Continuous National Survey of the Labor Force). The **Quality-of-Life Index**, measured by SIUBEN (which combines housing, household, and member characteristics), reported that in 2018, 6.7% of households were in extreme poverty (ICV I) and 35.4% were in moderate poverty (ICV II), with 39.5% of female-headed households being poor.

4.1 Employment and Labor Participation

On the other hand, according to data published by the World Bank, in 2019, not only was the **labor force participation rate** of women 53% compared to 78% for men, but they also earned lower wages than men (on average, 85% of men's earnings, dropping to 60% in the informal sector).¹⁸. *The same report also highlights that "the economic crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic had disproportionate economic impacts on women, widening some of the most significant gender gaps. Women experienced the greatest job losses during the pandemic, resulting in an increase in the poverty rate gap between women and men. In 2020, for every 100 poor men, there were 118 poor women, compared to 116 in 2019. Women represented 42% of the labor force in 2019 but accounted for 54% of those who stopped working or searching for work in 2020"*¹⁹.

According to the latest available data, the **male employment rate** exceeds that of women by more than 25 percentage points (74.4% vs. 46.5%), while the trend is reversed when looking at the open unemployment rate, where women in the Dominican Republic represent 8.2% and men 3.2%. The same gap is observed in the **inactivity rate**, with the female rate at 49.3% compared to 23.2% for men. When analyzing the distribution of **unemployment** between men and women by sector, it is in the private sector where more women are unemployed than

¹⁴ Ibidem

¹⁵ Ibidem

¹⁶ [Proyecto Integrado de Protección Social, Inclusión y Resiliencia \(INSPIRE\). Documento de Evaluación de Proyecto](#). BIRF, Mayo 2023.

¹⁷ Datos del INTEC (2016) presentados en el PAGCC-RD

¹⁸ Banco Mundial (2023). [Diagnóstico sobre igualdad de género en República Dominicana](#)

¹⁹ Ibidem



men. **The largest gender gap** in unemployment by economic activity is found in the category of **hotels, bars, and restaurants** (20,647 women compared to 9,837 men unemployed).

In the project's area of influence, Cibao Norte, the number of **unemployed women** in 2019 was 19,704, compared to 9,533 men. On the other hand, the data from the Economically Active Population (PEA) for 2022 shows that the office workers' occupational group contains the highest number of women compared to men, followed by the group of service workers and intellectual professionals. The proportion is reversed in favor of men in the groups of operators and artisans, and operators and drivers.

In 2018, women accounted for only 46.76% of the total **employed population of working age (PET)**, in contrast to men, who represented 75.46% of the total PET. When looking at this distribution by macroregions, the Cibao or Northern region of the country had the lowest percentage of employed women relative to the PET, at 44.85%.

Occupancy rate of the population aged 15 and over, disaggregated by sex (at the national level and for the Cibao or Northern macro-region)

| | Men | Women | Total |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Country | 75.46 | 46.79 | 60.58 |
| Cibao o Norte | 78.13 | 44.85 | 61.14 |

Source: Gender Atlas of the Dominican Republic, based on the 2018 National Continuous Labor Force Survey (ENCFT).

Also relevant are the data illustrating **time use**, which complement the figures presented on employment and labor force participation. According to data compiled by ECLAC²⁰, in the Dominican Republic, the amount of time men dedicate to unpaid work is significantly lower than that of women. Men spend an average of 10.9 hours per week, while women spend an average of 25.5 hours per week. These figures are further supported by 2016 data, which show that women spent an average of 16.7 hours per week on unpaid domestic and caregiving tasks, whereas men performed the same tasks for only 3.7 hours per week.

4.2 Education

The most recent data on education levels attained by the population in the Dominican Republic (from the 2022 National Household Survey for Multiple Purposes – ENHOGAR 2022), disaggregated by sex, indicate that 25.3% of female heads of household have a university education, compared to 20.3% of male heads of household. These findings are supported by an analysis from the Gender Studies Center of the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (CEG-INTEC), based on the 2010 Population and Housing Census, which shows women participating more than men in higher education. In 2021, women represented approximately 62.8% of university students, compared to 37.2% men. This reflects a trend of progress in women's educational attainment, although labor market inclusion and access to political decision-making positions remain limited for women, particularly in traditionally male-dominated sectors such as engineering and technology²¹. However, this trend reverses when looking at primary and secondary school attendance, where boys account for 37% and 40%, respectively, compared to 31% and 36% for girls.

This trend of lower access by women to primary and secondary education is further supported by available data on illiteracy rates in the country, particularly in the RESILTUR project intervention area. First, illiteracy is more prevalent in rural areas (11.8%) than in urban areas (5.1%). For the municipalities of Luperón and Villa Isabela, SIUBEN data from 2018 show illiteracy rates of 10.2% and 10.8%, respectively.

The Gender Atlas of the Dominican Republic (2020) collects the following data on illiteracy in the young and adult population, disaggregated by sex, for the Cibao Norte region, where the municipalities of Luperón and Villa Isabela are located. The information shows that adult women in the region have a significantly lower illiteracy rate than men and is nearly identical to the national average. However, it is the men who are at a greater disadvantage, not only regarding literacy compared to women but also relative to the national average, with a 2-point difference.

Adult illiteracy rate (ages 15 and over), disaggregated by sex (at the national level and for the Cibao or Northern macro-region)

| | Total | Men | Women |
|----------------|-------|------|-------|
| Country | 6.39 | 6.62 | 6.37 |
| Cibao Northern | 7.71 | 8.64 | 6.81 |

Source: Gender Atlas of the Dominican Republic, based on the 2018 National Continuous Labor Force Survey (ENCFT).

In the case of the population aged 15 to 24, the national illiteracy rate was 1.37%, with men showing higher values compared to women (1.86% vs. 1.37%, respectively). The North or Cibao region stands out as having the highest illiteracy rates, with 2.42% of its population aged 15 to 24 being illiterate. Women represent only 0.9% of illiteracy in the region, compared to 3.95% of their male counterparts.

Illiteracy rate among the youth population (ages 15–24), disaggregated by sex (at the national level and for the Cibao or Northern macro-region)

²⁰ <https://oig.cepal.org/es/paises/republica-dominicana>

²¹ CIPAF y CEG-INTEC; 2014: https://cipaf.org.do/pdf/EDUCACION%20PARA%20LA%20IGUALDAD_%20CEG_INTEC%208%20de%20marzo-%202014.pdf



| | Total | Men | Women |
|-------------------|-------|------|-------|
| Country | 1.37 | 1.86 | 0.86 |
| Cibao or Northern | 2.42 | 3.95 | 0.9 |

Source: Gender Atlas of the Dominican Republic, based on the 2018 National Continuous Labor Force Survey (ENCFT)

The **Human Development Index (HDI)** is another way to approach data related to the education of the population, but in a more comprehensive manner, as it is complemented with information on access to health and income. The latest HDI report published by the UNDP in March 2024 for the Dominican Republic²² illustrates the HDI values by region, with the Cibao Norte region being one of the areas that presents a low development index compared to other regions of the country (0.598). Specifically, the province of Puerto Plata (where the municipalities of Luperón and Villa Isabela are located) shows an HDI below the national average, reflecting challenges in access to education, health, and income levels. While the country shows progress in human development overall, Puerto Plata remains with relatively lower development, with an index of 0.502 compared to the national average of 0.522.²³

Finally, data on **access to information and communication technologies (ICTs)** also reflects the educational capabilities of the population. In 2022, 91.7% of households used mobile phones, and 47.8% had access to the internet (in Puerto Plata province, this figure rises to 54.4%). However, the population aged 10 and older who used the internet in the three months prior to the survey was 84.4% (in Puerto Plata province, this value decreased to 81.7%). The SIUBEN calculates the digital divide as the distribution of people aged 7 to 65 according to their level of computer literacy. In 2019, in Luperón and Villa Isabela, 72.4% and 74.9% of the population, respectively, had no or basic computer skills.

According to the document published by the IDB "Gender Inequalities in the Dominican Republic 2018 – 2020," the use of ICTs is higher among women at the national level: *"In 2015, 48.1% of women aged 12 and older had used a computer in the previous 12 months, higher than the 45% of men. The highest usage occurs in urban areas (53.4% for women and 52.2% for men). The gender gap is wider in rural areas, where it reaches 5.4 percentage points (31.2% for women and 25.8% for men). A similar dynamic is observed with internet usage. Among women, usage is 3 percentage points higher than among men (55.7% for women and 52.7% for men). Likewise, urban areas show gender parity in usage rates (61% for women and 60% for men). In rural areas, the difference is 5.6 percentage points (38.8% for women and 33.2% for men)."*²⁴.

The same document reveals that women use ICTs more for educational purposes, while men use them for purchasing goods and services, banking operations, and multimedia downloads. Women also use connectivity to access information related to medical services, download academic or educational materials, and make long-distance calls.²⁵

4.3 Participation of Men and Women in the Economic Activities Impacted by the Project

As presented in the Full Proposal, women's participation in the economic activities impacted by the RESILTUR project is variable and determined by well-established gender stereotypes, which often place them in spaces of informal recognition, and therefore economic recognition, affecting their development opportunities.

In the case of the **fishing sector**, women's economic contribution at the national level is related to capture, processing, or sales activities, although these activities are generally neither paid nor socially recognized. An example of this is the "Pescadería de mi barrio" experience at the national level.²⁶ The formal participation of women in fisher organizations is also not recognized, as men are the ones who make up these organizations. As a result, most sector support projects are directed toward male fishermen. In technical assistance initiatives, for example, the tasks performed by women, such as collecting shellfish and oysters (according to surveys in other areas of the country), are often overlooked. As a result, they do not have access to information and resources that could benefit their economic income, despite these activities requiring a great deal of dedication and knowledge.

According to the National Fisheries Census (2020), of the 14,929 people engaged in marine fishing activities in the country, 13,586 are men, which accounts for over 90% of the total, while only 1,343 are women, representing less than 9% of this population. This underrepresentation of women in the sector is also explained by the PAGCC-RD: "Although women have always been present in the fishing industry, their participation has generally not been socially recognized or economically compensated. This is mainly because the stages of work in which they participate are not the most visible (...) women's participation in fishing activities, whether during capture, processing, or sales, does not occur on equal terms."²⁷ Public programs or policies directed at this economic sector also do not incorporate gender equality and equity approaches.

²² https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2024-03/idh_pnud.pdf

²³ <https://www.undp.org/es/dominican-republic/noticias/pnud-actualiza-el-mapa-interactivo-del-desarrollo-humano-para-las-32-provincias-del-pais>

²⁴ Desigualdades de género en República Dominicana 2018 – 2020, División de Género y Diversidad, Sector Social del Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo, Nota Técnica N° IDB-TN-1632, Junio 2019.

²⁵ Ibidem

²⁶ <https://presidencia.gob.do/noticias/programa-pescaderia-de-mi-barrio-impacta-positivamente-la-economia-de-las-mujeres>

²⁷ [Plan de Acción de Género y Cambio Climático. República Dominicana](#) (PAGCC-RD 2018).



As the Viridia Projects team observed during visits to the project RESILTUR intervention areas, women face a main barrier when trying to actively engage in certain economic activities as productive subjects and earning income under equal conditions: the fact that they are responsible for domestic and household tasks, including childcare, is most often cited by women as the reason for not participating in such spaces (not only those related to this economic activity), although it is not seen as a barrier or problem.²⁸ This difference between the involvement of men and women in the organizational spaces of productive activities not only applies to the fishing sector but also to other predominant economic sectors in the area. On the other hand, through consultations with representatives from CODOPESCA (Dominican Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture), it was identified that, in the particular case of eel fishing in the project area, women have an active involvement similar to that of men, although in terms of income, their earnings are lower in comparison.²⁹

Tourism is another activity that will be impacted by the scope of the actions of the RESILTUR project. It is estimated that approximately 54% of the workforce in the country's tourism sector is composed of women, including both formal and informal jobs. According to the diagnosis for the sector included in the PAGCC-RD, although women participate in this economic activity, in terms of income, their salary represents approximately 68% of a man's salary. This is because women generally do not hold leadership or managerial positions in this sector. However, according to 2022 data, the population employed at the national level in the economic activity of Hotels, Bars, and Restaurants had a higher representation of women than men (201,329 women and 159,875 men, respectively).³⁰ In the project's area of influence, it has been observed that women's participation in the tourism activity is significantly low, but it could represent an opportunity for them to find employment and economic income within activities that will promote sustainable and nature-based tourism. It is expected that more relevant information will be available as a result of the survey being carried out in the area for the development of the Ecotourism Strategy led by the Ministry of Tourism.

Specifically, in Villa Isabela, which is in the process of becoming a more prominent tourist destination, efforts are being made to improve infrastructure and promote local culture, which could facilitate the involvement of more women in the sector. These efforts are aligned with initiatives to promote agritourism and the inclusion of women in the tourism supply chain, allowing their products and services to reach tourists. On the other hand, in Luperón, the natural beauty and tourism infrastructure offer opportunities for women to engage in nautical tourism and other related activities, although current participation is still limited.³¹

It is also worth noting that during meetings in Estero Hondo with women from the community, during the design phase of the Concept Note, they expressed interest in accessing training and education to work as tour guides. Similarly, in the locality of La Isabela, community members expressed support for having training options for tour guides who currently work on a volunteer basis but could potentially transition to formal employment opportunities for the community.³²

Finally, the **agricultural sector** is another area that will be impacted by the activities of the RESILTUR project. As noted in the PAGCC-RD, data from the 2015 National Agricultural Pre-Census by the National Statistics Office (ONE) estimated that of the total number of people engaged in this productive activity, 83.7% are men and only 16.3% are women. This underrepresentation of women in agriculture is partly due to the ongoing difficulties in statistics that reflect the sector: *"(...) as women continue to be underrepresented in statistics that capture central aspects such as land ownership, participation in decision-making, the level and characteristics of agricultural and livestock activities they carry out, their involvement in activities, and their access to credit or other financial activities, among other important aspects."*³³

In the municipalities of Luperón and Villa Isabela, women actively participate in various agricultural activities, although they often face significant challenges. Some of the most common activities include crop production, animal husbandry, and the sale of agricultural products. Women are typically involved in growing vegetables, horticulture, and producing agricultural products such as milk and eggs. However, despite their contribution, women in the agricultural sector face disadvantages compared to men. These include limitations in accessing resources such as land and credit, which hinder their ability to expand their ventures. According to data from the National Statistics Office (ONE), approximately 25% of women in the Dominican Republic own land, which allows them to access training and credit programs.³⁴ At the same time, and despite holding formal ownership, many of them are not the main producers (or at least are not recognized as such), even though they actively participate in decision-making and in the work on the farm.

However, during the visits by the Viridia Projects team to the project's areas of influence, it was observed that land ownership remains predominantly male. This is mainly due to intrafamily inheritance practices—specifically, the expressed decision to grant inheritance to male members of the family, despite the existence of a legally 'gender-neutral' framework. This observation aligns with the findings of the study 'Measuring Women's Contribution to Agricultural Activities in the Dominican Republic' (2018): 'The data collection enabled the identification of a considerable number of women landowners with titles. However, upon further inquiry into the documentation that legally formalizes land tenure, it was concerning to learn that many women exercised secure rights over their land despite lacking a formal title. In

²⁸ See more in the Stakeholder Engagement Report

²⁹ See information on the consultation with CODOPESCA in the Stakeholder Engagement Report.

³⁰ 2022, data from ONE based on the National and Continuous Labor Force Surveys.

³¹ <https://adompretur.com/2019/05/05/luis-jose-chavez-villa-de-la-isabela-sera-el-proximo-gran-atractivo-turistico-de-las-americas/>

³² See the Stakeholder Engagement Report attached to the Concept Note

³³ https://oig.cepal.org/sites/default/files/medicion_de_la_aporte_de_las_mujeres_en_las_actividades_agropecuarias_en_r_.pdf

³⁴ Women's Contribution to Agricultural Activities in the Dominican Republic,' ONE 2018



fact, it was found that what was referred to as a title often corresponded to other types of legal documents, mainly deeds of sale or similar, whose legal validity as formal titles was at best questionable.³⁵

In the project's intervention area, it was also identified that women have a majority participation in community forest management brigades, which actively links them to reforestation activities related to agriculture, such as planting native varieties.³⁶

4. GENDER ANALYSIS BASED ON STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS

- At the time of presenting this version of the Gender Analysis for the RESILTUR project, consultations conducted with government representatives, civil society, and other relevant stakeholders have been limited and will be complemented during the next phase of the full proposal formulation. The consultations carried out so far have been developed in two main stages: The first phase, before the presentation of the Concept Note, took place between January and May 2024 (from the initial workshop to the territorial visits in Estero Hondo, La Isabela, and Luperón). During this stage, 90 people were consulted (51% women), of which 51 are from the national government (ministries, administrations, governmental organizations, and municipal governments) (57% women), and 39 are representatives of associations and the local population (64% women).³⁷

The second stage, after the presentation of the Concept Note to the Adaptation Fund, to advance in the structuring of the Full Proposal. The results of this stage can be found in the Stakeholder Engagement Report, which includes a comprehensive description of the interviews, records, and outcomes, as well as supporting documentation from the meetings held. The following summarizes the main gender aspects raised during the consultations and meetings, some of which have already been presented in the development of this Analysis, and which will serve as entry points for the Gender Action Plan. This analysis will be completed during the next stage of the formulation of the Full Proposal, when the final version to be submitted to the Adaptation Fund is reached:

- In terms of **education**, although the data analyzed by the Gender Atlas of the Dominican Republic (2020) for the North Cibao Region (where the municipalities of Luperón and Villa Isabela are located) shows that adult women have a significantly lower illiteracy rate compared to men, during the community consultations, significant difficulties were detected when women tried to express themselves and participate actively. Similarly, some meetings also raised current concerns about the low education levels and the literacy challenges faced by children and youth, as well as the lack of motivation to study and work. Regarding the **involvement of women in the economic activities** covered by the RESILTUR project, observations made by the Viridia Projects team during bilateral consultations and territorial visits show that women's participation is limited and underrepresented. Despite working in fishing, agriculture, and tourism, their formal and economic recognition remains unequal compared to that of men. The RESILTUR project could encourage women's participation in activities that promote, either directly or indirectly, sustainable tourism or that are related to economic activities in the coastal-marine ecosystem and agriculture.
- Regarding **the concrete effects of climate change** in the project intervention area, the women of Estero Hondo expressed their concerns related to the effects of drought and heatwaves, mainly because private homes are not prepared for these increasingly frequent and intense phenomena. These events particularly affect them, as they spend a significant amount of their time carrying out domestic tasks at home.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GENDER ACTION PLAN

The following is a series of recommendations regarding activities and measures necessary to incorporate a gender and inclusion mainstreaming approach in the interventions proposed as part of the RESILTUR project. These will be included and operationalized in the Gender Action Plan document. These recommendations arise from the analysis presented here and from best practices for effectively mainstreaming gender and inclusion in climate change adaptation projects, in line with the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

1. Improve access to tourist sites located in protected areas for people with reduced mobility, the visually impaired, children, and pregnant women, and ensure proper management for their maintenance.
2. Promote women's participation in all training and educational instances, as well as their involvement in the management of co-management plans for protected areas.
3. Inform the population about environmental management measures to educate, raise awareness, and contribute to the protection of ecosystems.
4. Disseminate best practices and lessons learned regarding the integration of a gender perspective.
5. Encourage training for technical teams and decision-makers at the local level on gender equality, the environment, and climate change.
6. Strengthen national and local institutional capacities to understand the mainstreaming of gender in environmental and climate change policies, including the production and use of sex- and age-disaggregated statistical data for evidence-based decision-making.
7. Promote processes to strengthen associations and social organizations from a gender and inclusion perspective.

³⁵ Ibidem

³⁶ See the details of the interview with the Directorate of Forests and Forest Management of the MMARN in the Stakeholder Engagement Report.

³⁷ See the Stakeholder Engagement Report attached to the Full Proposal.



8. Strengthen the knowledge of women engaged in the economic activities targeted by the RESILTUR project in relation to adaptation and resilience practices to climate change (fishing, tourism, agriculture, and livestock).



Enhancing Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through adaptation actions
in the Tourism sector in La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in The Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)

GENDER ACTION PLAN

ANNEX 4



FINAL REPORT | July 14th 2025



The RESILTUR project is based on a comprehensive and participatory approach that takes gender and inclusion aspects into account, within the framework of the current public policy instruments in the Dominican Republic, as detailed in the Gender Analysis. The Gender Action Plan presented here falls within the overall objective of RESILTUR and proposes concrete and specific activities, actions, and measures to integrate the gender and social inclusion approach into each of the project's components and activities.

This Action Plan includes the following criteria and guidelines to be considered in the organization of all program activities and actions, including those related to the participation of women in consultation meetings and training activities, allocating the necessary budget to ensure their implementation:

- Use of inclusive language in all calls, communications, and outreach materials, explicitly addressing both men and women, as well as the use of non-sexist graphics and images.
- Establishment of meeting schedules (or any other participatory instance) that take into account the varying availability of women and men, youth and older adults, based on prior consultation with key stakeholders and community institutions in each area and locality.
- Selection of physical spaces for workshops, training sessions, and consultation meetings that are suitable for people with disabilities and/or reduced mobility, in order to ensure their participation.
- Organization of separate meetings or activities for men and women (when identified as necessary), dividing certain discussion groups to allow women to express themselves more freely, safely, and confidently, or creating specific spaces dedicated to women.
- Organization of care and recreation strategies for girls and boys, so that the caregiving burden does not become a barrier to women's participation in meetings and activities (considering the structure of the sexual division of labor), as well as ensuring the adaptability of meeting spaces and training workshops to be suitable for people with reduced mobility.
- Inclusion of women's associations or organizations, technical experts in gender issues, council departments, units, areas, or specific equality departments in participatory instances.

This Gender Action Plan aims to serve as a guide for initiatives, actions, and activities, with financial and human resources secured in the overall budget, so that all interventions included in the complete proposal ensure equitable access and distribution between men and women, youth and adults, of all the benefits, resources, and knowledge that RESILTUR will establish in its intervention area. Its implementation will accompany the project's rollout and must be coordinated with all involved stakeholders, as detailed in the "Responsibilities and Necessary Resources" column, reporting progress with monitoring indicators specifically included, as well as reporting the objectives achieved. This column may be updated after consultation sessions with representatives from the Ministry of Women.

The implementation of the Gender Action Plan (GAP) is the responsibility of the Project Management Unit (UGP or PMU), which will have resources to hire a Gender Approach Specialist (SSGS), responsible for the execution and supervision of the GAP, in close coordination with the Environmental and Social Evaluation and Monitoring Coordination of CAF and with CAF's Gender Coordination.

Although the activities included in this GAP follow the general project timeline, it is expected that, as the first activity, this document will be presented to the entire UGP/PMU, and that annual updates and briefings will be held with the UGP team to ensure that its implementation is properly integrated into the overall project implementation, identifying achievements and challenges.



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|---|--|---|--------------|
| Component 1. Climate-resilient monitoring plans and systems in the coastal and marine areas of Estero Hondo and La Isabela.. | | | | |
| Output 1.1. Strengthening the planning and monitoring of coastal and marine areas to promote climate-resilient decision-making.. | | | | |
| 1.1.1 Integrating a gender perspective into the design and implementation of the inter-institutional coordination mechanism for the management of coastal-marine and cultural resources in the face of climate change. | | | | |
| <p>Identify a focal point within the Ministry of Women to integrate the coordination mechanism, ensuring active participation through the corresponding institutional agreement (e.g., MoU or similar).</p> <p>Coordinate the regular participation of the Inter-institutional Gender and Climate Change Table in the functioning of the coordination mechanism.</p> <p>Identify and invite gender focal points from other Ministries and/or institutions to participate in the coordination mechanism.</p> <p>Agree on the specific roles related to the functioning of the mechanism for all gender focal points in the institutional agreement and coordination protocols, ensuring that their visions and work proposals are effectively integrated into the inter-institutional mechanism.</p> <p>Hold working meetings and training sessions on gender, inclusion, and climate change for all members of the technical coordination mechanism, based on relevant and emerging topics from the mechanism's work. Other topics, such as positive masculinities and engaged parenting, will be integrated into these training activities and working meetings. These meetings/trainings may be held semi-annually or annually.</p> <p>All communication and/or outreach materials will use non-sexist language.</p> | <p>Focal point of the Ministry of Women designated in the coordination mechanism.</p> <p>1 institutional agreement signed between the Ministry of Women and the body in charge of the coordination mechanism.</p> <p>Participation records in the coordination mechanism signed by gender focal points from other Ministries.</p> <p>1 Institutional agreement signed between the Ministry of Women and the agency in charge of the coordination mechanism.</p> <p>Participation minutes in the coordination mechanism signed by gender focal points from other Ministries.</p> <p>100% of the members of the coordination mechanism receive training on gender approach, inclusion, and climate change (1 workshop or working meeting per year).</p> | <p>Gender Specialist of RESILTUR Project Management Unit Ministry of Women</p> | <p>1 workshop per year, for 4 years</p> | <p>4,848</p> |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|---|--|------------|-------|
| | 100% of the communication and/or dissemination materials are prepared with non-sexist language. | | | |
| Output 1.2. Coastal-marine sector plans developed for the sustainable management of resources, considering the impacts of climate change. | | | | |
| 1.2.1 Integration of the gender and inclusion approach into the co-management plans of the two protected areas (Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and La Hispaniola National Park). | | | | |
| <p>Train key personnel from the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MMARN) involved in this activity on designing co-management plans for protected areas with a gender and inclusion approach, including the presentation of successful cases both nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Prepare specific and appropriate gender analyses for the two protected areas, which will inform the design of the two co-management plans and define criteria for involving women and young women as co-managers or in other relevant roles aligned with their interests and capacities. These analyses will include information on gender roles in each protected area, as well as the relationship of men and women with the resources in each area: access, use, and control of resources, the distribution of costs and benefits, and decision-making regarding the existing resources.</p> <p>Include gender and inclusion topics related to the co-management of protected areas and the participation of associations and cooperatives in the co-management plans in the training activities with local community members.</p> <p>The work of the external consultancy for supporting the communities will be carried out in collaboration and coordination with the Gender Responsible Person of RESILTUR.</p> | <p>100% of the technical team from the MMARN involved in this activity will receive training on the design of co-management plans for protected areas with a gender and inclusion approach (1 training session).</p> <p>2 specific gender analyses on co-management of protected areas for the area covered by the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and the La Hispaniola National Park (to be carried out by the Gender Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>Work programs for each training session will include a specific session on gender and inclusion (led by the Gender Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>100% of the training activities with community members will include topics on gender and inclusion in the co-</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> <p>Coordination with the technical assistance consultancy for community support.</p> | First Year | 3,394 |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|--|--|-------------------|--------------|
| | <p>management of protected areas.</p> <p>47% of trained female co-managers 47% of the total number of people consulted in La Isabela, La Jaiba, and Estero Hondo are women and young women.</p> | | | |
| <p>1.2.2 Development of a Strategy and Action Plan (2026-2030) for resilient ecotourism in Estero Hondo and La Isabela, including the La Hispaniola National Park and the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary, with a gender and inclusion approach.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Prepare a specific gender analysis on ecotourism in Estero Hondo and La Isabela to identify the types of tasks and activities in which women, and young women, can get involved, in order to develop a strategy with a gender and inclusion approach. The results of this analysis will provide inputs for mapping points of interest, as well as designing a plan for the involvement of women and other vulnerable groups in consultation and participation processes within the communities for the design of the strategy and plan. The gender analysis will explore opportunities for collaboration with INFOTEP to incorporate specific training on gender and entrepreneurship into the plan.</p> <p>Integrate the needs, interests, and perspectives of women into the development of the Strategy and Action Plan, through specific meetings and consultations with women's groups, based on the findings of the Gender Analysis.</p> <p>Include a specific section on gender perspective in the Strategy, based on the findings of the gender analysis and the meetings with women.</p> <p>The Action Plan will include and detail specific initiatives aimed at involving women, young women, and young men in the ecotourism development activities outlined in the Plan.</p> <p>All local consultation and participation instances for the development of the Strategy and Action Plan will consider the criteria detailed in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan.</p> | <p>2 specific gender and ecotourism analyses for the area covered by the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and the La Hispaniola National Park (to be carried out by the Gender Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>2 Engagement Plans for women and vulnerable groups designed to be applied in community consultations for the development of the Strategy and Action Plan (to be carried out by the Gender Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>1 Strategy and Action Plan (2026-2030) for resilient ecotourism designed with a gender and inclusion approach, integrating gender analyses and with specific activities targeting women and youth as the intended beneficiaries of the Action Plan.</p> | <p>Gender Specialist of RESILTUR Project Management Unit</p> | <p>First Year</p> | <p>1,500</p> |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|---|--|--|---------------|
| | 47% of the total number of people consulted in La Isabela, La Jaiba, and Estero Hondo are women and young women. | | | |
| Output 1.3. Improved socio-environmental data records for climate-resilient decision-making. | | | | |
| 1.3.1 Information management platform for monitoring key socio-environmental data to support climate-resilient decision-making in Estero Hondo and La Isabela. | | | | |
| <p>Develop a document of guidelines and recommendations for the recording and monitoring of key information on the differentiated impacts of climate change on men and women, youth, adults, and children in the area (drought, coastal erosion, temperature rise, deforestation, etc.).</p> <p>Integrate the recommendations into the information management platform</p> <p>Training workshop for technical teams responsible for the Platform to effectively include and monitor sex- and age-differentiated climate change impact indicators.</p> <p>Training workshops for civil society representatives and local government representatives to understand how the Platform works and how it monitors data related to the impact of climate change on the local population. Resources and information developed by FEDOMU, the Municipal Data League, and ONE will be consulted and used as part of the workshop content.</p> <p>Generation and dissemination of annual reports on the differentiated impact of climate change on children, youth, women, and the elderly population</p> | <p>1 document of guidelines for the recording and monitoring of key information on the differentiated impacts of climate change on men and women, youth, adults, and children.</p> <p>1 socio-environmental data management platform for decision-making, with indicators that monitor the gender-differentiated impact of climate change effects.</p> <p>100% of the technical team responsible for the Platform will be trained to include and monitor specific indicators on the sex- and age-differentiated impacts of climate change (1 training session).</p> <p>47% of the total number of people trained on how the Platform works are women and young women.</p> <p>1 report per year on the differentiated impact of climate change on children, youth,</p> | <p>Gender Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> <p>National technical teams in charge of the Platform.</p> | <p>First year of platform development.</p> <p>1 report per year, for the last 3 years.</p> | <p>14,197</p> |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|--|--|--|---------------|
| (within the RESILTUR project framework), based on the data captured by the Platform. | women, and the elderly population (3 reports in total) (to be carried out by the Gender Specialist of RESILTUR). | | | |
| 1.3.2 Strengthen the monitoring of coastal dynamics with a gender and inclusion perspective. | | | | |
| <p>Training activities aimed at local representatives and community members on coastal dynamics monitoring will consider the criteria detailed in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan.</p> <p>Training workshop on gender and climate change for members of the Directorate of Marine and Coastal Resources of the MMARN involved in this project activity.</p> <p>As part of the collection and monitoring of coastal climate information, special attention will be given to ensuring that the hiring of professionals also includes women</p> | <p>47% of the total number of people trained in coastal dynamics monitoring are women and young women.</p> <p>100% of the technical team from the Directorate of Marine and Coastal Resources of MMARN involved in this activity will receive training on gender and climate change (1 training session).</p> <p>At least 30% of the individuals hired for coastal climate data collection and monitoring are women.</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> <p>Teams from the Marine and Coastal Resources Directorate of MMARN</p> | <p>First year of training 4 years of community monitoring sessions</p> | <p>10,557</p> |
| 1.3.3. Strengthen the drought monitoring system with a gender and inclusion perspective. | | | | |
| <p>. Training workshops on gender, climate change, and population impacts aimed at INDOMET technical teams working in Puerto Plata, involved in the Drought Monitoring System and INDHRI.</p> <p>Include specific indicators to record and monitor sex- and age-disaggregated information on the effects of drought on the population of Puerto Plata.</p> | <p>100% of the technical team from INDOMET involved in this activity will receive training on gender and climate change (1 training session).</p> <p>Drought Monitoring System with installed capacity to record and monitor sex- and age-disaggregated information on the effects of drought on the population of Puerto Plata.</p> <p>1 report per year on the differentiated impact of climate change on children, youth,</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> <p>INDOMET teams linked to the Drought Monitoring System</p> <p>Meteorological Education Department of INDOMET</p> | <p>First year of training. 1 report per year, for the last 3 years</p> | <p>7,777</p> |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|--|--|-------------------|---------------|
| <p>Generate annual reports on the effects of drought on the population and ecosystems, with sex- and age-disaggregated information, in simple language so that the local community can access and make use of the information.</p> <p>Through joint coordination between the Gender Responsible Person of RESILTUR and the Meteorological Education Department of INDOMET, modules on gender and inclusion approach and climate change will be included in training activities carried out in educational centers.</p> <p>The consultation meetings organized with the community will include the participation criteria detailed in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan to ensure the active participation of women and young people specifically affected by the effects of drought.</p> | <p>women, and the elderly population (3 reports in total) (to be carried out by the Gender Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>Programs and work agendas for the training sessions in educational centers will include specific sessions on gender and inclusion (led by the Gender Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>47% of the total number of people consulted are women and young women.</p> | | | |
| <p>1.3.4 Create coastal erosion risk maps with climate change considerations, a gender and inclusion approach, and the participation of women from the community.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Organize training and consultation meetings with women and youth from civil society to introduce the concept of climate risk and to specifically inform them about the effects of coastal erosion as a result of climate change affecting the area where they live, so they can contribute their knowledge and insights in the process of creating the risk maps.</p> <p>Prepare a systematization report that compiles the knowledge and needs of women regarding the information that should be included in the maps, based on the findings from the training and consultation meetings.</p> <p>Design the coastal erosion risk maps considering inclusion criteria, such as simple icons, graphics, and images that do not reproduce gender stereotypes.</p> | <p>2 training and consultation sessions with women and youth for the construction of coastal erosion risk maps (to be carried out by the Gender Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>1 systematization report on women's knowledge of coastal erosion and its impacts (to be carried out by the Gender Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>100% of the risk maps designed with inclusion criteria and a gender perspective.</p> | <p>Gender Specialist of RESILTUR Project Management Unit</p> | <p>First Year</p> | <p>6,400</p> |
| <p>1.3.5 Support community and women's participation in the monitoring of manatee, coral, and mangrove populations.</p> | | | | |
| <p><i>As part of the collection and monitoring of coastal climate information, special attention will be given to ensuring that the hiring of professionals also includes women (activity included in 1.3.2).</i></p> | <p>At least 40% of the individuals hired for coastal climate data collection and monitoring are women.</p> | <p>Gender Specialist of RESILTUR Project Management Unit</p> | <p>First Year</p> | <p>12,439</p> |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|---|---|---|---------------|
| <p>The consultation meetings organized with the community will include the participation criteria detailed in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan to ensure the active participation of women and young people interested in monitoring marine populations and/or connected to this ecosystem.</p> | <p>47% of the total number of people consulted are women and young women.</p> | | | |
| 1.3.6 the registration and monitoring of deforestation from a gender and inclusion perspective.. | | | | |
| <p>The training activities on the use of drones and other deforestation monitoring devices will take into account the participation criteria detailed in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan, to ensure that women working in environmental conservation strengthen their knowledge in this area.</p> <p>Conduct a mapping of training and capacity-building needs on gender and inclusion, and climate change (including environmental safeguards), aimed at environmental administrations and conservation units, to understand the current state of these issues and propose an appropriate training plan to address those needs.</p> <p>Generate annual reports on the effects of deforestation on the population, with information disaggregated by sex and age, using simple language so that the local community can access and make use of the information..</p> | <p>At least 30% of the people trained are women.</p> <p>1 mapping of training and capacity-building needs of environmental administrations and custodians regarding gender and inclusion approaches (led by the Gender Approach Specialist of RESILTUR)..</p> <p>report per year on the effects of deforestation on children, youth, women, and the elderly population (3 reports in total), led by the Gender Approach Specialist of RESILTUR.</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> | <p>First year. 1 report per year, for the last 3 years."</p> | <p>3,600</p> |
| 1.3.7. Integrated Watershed Planning and Monitoring for the Protection of Coastal Ecosystems. | | | | |
| <p>Community consultations for the development of the watershed plan, as well as training activities on environmental data collection and the use of monitoring equipment, will be organized taking into account the participation criteria outlined in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan, in order to involve and ensure the participation of women and young women, especially those engaged in agriculture and livestock farming.</p> <p>Generate annual reports based on the collected information, using simple and accessible language so that women and young women can access these reports on the effects of deforestation on the population. The information should be disaggregated by sex and age and presented in a clear manner to</p> | <p>47% of the total number of people consulted and trained are women and young women.</p> <p>1 report per year on the effects of deforestation on children, youth, women, and the elderly</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> | <p>First year</p> <p>1 report per year, for the last 3 years.</p> | <p>43,731</p> |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|--|--|---|---------|
| ensure that the local community can understand and make use of it (<i>activity included in 1.3.6</i>). | (3 reports in total), prepared by the Gender Approach Specialist of RESILTUR. | | | |
| Component 2. Reforestation of degraded lands and restoration of marine ecosystems. | | | | |
| Output 2.1 Increase in coral reefs, mangroves, and sand-stabilizing plants in the Project area. | | | | |
| 2.1.1 Involvement of women in the installation and maintenance of nurseries. | | | | |
| Involve women and young women in the installation and maintenance of nurseries through specific training workshops on this activity (nursery management, plant cultivation, and the importance of selected species for beach conservation). The organization of the workshops will take into account the participation criteria outlined in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan. | 47% of the total individuals involved in the installation and maintenance of nurseries are women and young women. | Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR Project Management Unit | First year of installation, 4 years of maintenance and training. | 13,650 |
| 2.1.2 Restoration of coastal ecosystems (activity 2.1.2 RESILTUR), marine ecosystems (activity 2.1.3 RESILTUR) with a gender and inclusion approach. | | | | |
| When promoting the incorporation of native plant species (2.1.2 and 2.1.3 RESILTUR), it will be evaluated whether the height of the vegetation could contribute to the creation of unsafe spaces for the movement of women, adults, and young people. This will be consulted with the local population, in coordination with the Gender Responsible Person of the RESILTUR project. Involve women and young women in awareness-raising and monitoring activities related to ecosystem restoration, organizing meetings and events based on the participation criteria outlined in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan. Train the technical teams of the Directorate of Coastal and Marine Resources (MMARN) involved in these activities of the RESILTUR project on gender and inclusion perspectives. | Environmental and Social Assessments for each project and site developed with social inclusion criteria. 47% of the total number of people consulted and trained are women and young women. 100% of the technical team of the Directorate of Coastal and Marine Resources (MMARN) involved in this activity receives training on gender and climate change (1 training session). | Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR Project Management Unit Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist of RESILTUR Technical Teams of the Reforestation Directorate | First and second year of training sessions 4 years of community monitoring days. | 158,700 |
| Output 2.2. Increase in forest cover in the Project area. | | | | |
| 2.2.1. Inclusion of the gender perspective in upstream reforestation activities. | | | | |
| Conduct a mapping of women's participation in local agriculture and livestock farming, in order to create a registry of female farmers who can be invited to | One mapping of women's participation in local agriculture and livestock farming | Gender Specialist of RESILTUR Project Management Unit | | 169,636 |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|---|--|---|-------------------|--------------|
| <p>training sessions on sustainable agricultural practices and environmental education and awareness activities.</p> <p>Based on the mapping, involve women farmers and livestock keepers in the training and environmental education workshops, organizing the training activities according to the participation criteria outlined in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan (as part of activity 2.1.4 of the RESILTUR project).</p> <p>Relevant topics on gender equality will be included in the specific modules or workshops implemented as part of the environmental education activities.</p> | <p>At least 30% of the individuals participating in the training and environmental education workshops are women farmers and/or livestock keepers</p> <p>for environmental education days include specific sessions on gender and inclusion (led by the Gender Approach Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> | <p>Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | | |
| <p>Component 3. Support for the livelihoods of vulnerable communities exposed to the impacts of climate change (we need to change the name).</p> | | | | |
| <p>Output 3.1 Community-based Climate-Resilient Ecotourism Plan implemented.</p> | | | | |
| <p>3.1.1 Protection and strengthening of Cultural Heritage against coastal erosion, with a gender and inclusion perspective</p> | | | | |
| <p>Include specific criteria for gender equality and inclusion in the terms of reference for contracting public works companies responsible for the reinforcement and adaptation of the park's tourist sites. This includes the use of inclusive language in signage, both during the construction phases and in the final installed signage (including signage adapted for blind individuals, and signage with non-sexist images and icons)</p> <p>The works aimed at the revitalization of tourist sites will also include the installation of access for individuals with disabilities and reduced mobility, as well as safety devices and installations for the movement of children, women, and pregnant women, and signage adapted for blind individuals.</p> <p>The community consultation activities to be carried out as part of the feasibility study for the project will be based on the participation criteria outlined in the introduction of this Action Plan.</p> | <p>Tender documents published with requirements for gender equality and social inclusion (environmental and social requirements, and gender equality requirements).</p> <p>47% of the total individuals consulted are women and young women.</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> <p>Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | <p>First Year</p> | <p>5,000</p> |
| <p>3.1.2 Strengthening of tourism infrastructure and raising awareness about climate change and resilience in protected areas with a gender and inclusion perspective</p> | | | | |
| <p>Include specific criteria for gender equality and inclusion in the terms of reference for contracting companies responsible for adapting the infrastructure in Estero Hondo and La Hispaniola, such as the use of inclusive language in the project signage, both during the construction phases and in the informational signage that will be installed at each site (including signage adapted for blind individuals, and signage with non-sexist images and icons). This signage will also include specific information about</p> | <p>Tender documents published with requirements for gender equality and social inclusion (environmental and social requirements, and gender equality requirements).</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> <p>Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist of RESILTUR</p> | <p>First Year</p> | <p>2,000</p> |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|---|---|---|----------|---------------|
| <p>primary healthcare services in the area (emergency services, gender-based violence support, etc.).</p> <p>The improvement and access works for trails will be carried out based on inclusion criteria, making the necessary adaptations to ensure that individuals with reduced mobility or blindness can move around and access the area. This will also be included in the terms of reference for contracting.</p> <p>Develop content with a gender and inclusion approach for the installation of interactive exhibits, including videos, printed materials, and augmented reality devices: use inclusive language, include non-sexist icons and graphics, represent children, individuals with reduced mobility, young women, etc., with images.</p> <p>The community consultation activities to be carried out as part of the implementation of the works or general consultations conducted by RESILTUR will be based on the participation criteria outlined in the introduction of this Action Plan.</p> <p>Review and update the Community Ecotourism and Cultural Action Plan from a gender and inclusion perspective.</p> <p>Include modules on gender and inclusion in the training sessions for staff involved in the maintenance of these sites, focusing on climate change interpretation techniques and resilience</p> <p>Develop a specific module on gender and inclusion for the promotional campaign that will highlight the educational and conservation value of these protected areas.</p> | <p>100% of the content for interactive exhibits designed with a gender and inclusion perspective.</p> <p>47% of the total individuals consulted are women and young women.</p> <p>1 Ecotourism and Cultural Action Plan revised and updated with a gender and inclusion approach (led by the Gender Approach Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>"1 promotional campaign on the educational value of protected areas designed with a gender and inclusion approach.</p> | | | |
| <p>3.1.3. Support platform for community-based and climate-resilient tourism management designed with a gender approach</p> | | | | |
| <p>Priority will be given to tourism businesses led by women and/or with high female participation in middle management within the service promotion space of the platform, as well as those that demonstrate good hiring practices.</p> | <p>At least 30% of the businesses promoting their services on the platform are led by women and/or have high female participation in middle management positions.</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> | | <p>49,800</p> |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|--|---|-------------------|---------------|
| <p>Develop gender and inclusion modules for the continuous training program.</p> <p>Promote the participation of women who are actively involved in the sector in the continuous training program, applying the participation criteria outlined in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan.</p> <p>Develop advisory content with a gender and inclusion approach to train participating businesses on these topics.</p> <p>Include materials on sustainable tourism and gender perspective on the Platform.</p> | <p>Programs and work agendas for the continuous training program include specific sessions on gender and inclusion.</p> <p>At least 30% of the participants in the continuous training program are women.</p> <p>Work programs and advisory content prepared with a gender and inclusion approach.</p> <p>% of materials on sustainable tourism and gender perspective included on the Platform.</p> | | | |
| Output 3.2 Improved sustainable fishing practices | | | | |
| 3.2.1 Technical assistance for the fishing sector with a gender and inclusion approach. | | | | |
| <p>. Train the technical teams of CODOPESCA involved in these activities of the RESILTUR project on gender and inclusion perspectives.</p> <p>Conduct a mapping/diagnostic on women's participation in fishing and all its production and marketing stages at the local level, in order to create a registry of female fishers and fish vendors who can be invited to community organization training sessions. This mapping will also include the participation and representation of women in fishing cooperatives.</p> <p>Based on the mapping, involve female fishers and fish vendors in the training workshops, organizing the activities according to the participation criteria outlined in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan (as part of activity 3.2.1 of the RESILTUR project).</p> | <p>100% of the technical team of CODOPESCA involved in this activity receives training on gender and climate change (1 training session).</p> <p>1 diagnostic document on women's participation in local fishing.</p> <p>At least 20% of the participants in the training workshops are women involved in fishing.</p> <p>% of fishing cooperatives have an action plan to increase and</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> <p>Technical Teams of CODOPESCA</p> | <p>First year</p> | <p>14,375</p> |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|--|---|--|---------------|
| <p>Based on the mapping, propose specific action plans for cooperatives to modify their internal practices to increase and strengthen women's participation and representation. These action plans may include initiatives such as modifying statutes, providing specific training for members, etc.</p> <p>Develop a document systematizing good practices and lessons learned on women's participation in fishing, based on examples from other regions of the country or the region, and disseminate it among the fishing cooperatives in the area.</p> <p>Organize specific training sessions for women working in fish sales to strengthen their marketing skills. (It is suggested to explore similar previous experiences from the MIPYMES Center of Puerto Plata, which worked with female fishers).</p> | <p>strengthen the participation and representation of women.</p> <p>1 document on good practices and lessons learned on women's participation in fishing.</p> <p>4 training workshops on marketing strategies specifically for women.</p> | | | |
| <p>3.2.2 Promote resilient fishing practices with a gender and inclusion approach.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Develop a specific module on gender and inclusion as part of the environmental awareness and climate change program targeted at fishers and women involved in fish marketing.</p> <p>The training activities that are part of the environmental awareness and climate change program will be organized based on the participation criteria outlined in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan.</p> <p>Based on the mapping/diagnostic included in the previous activity, ensure that rafts and/or boats purchased are delivered to the women engaged in that activity.</p> <p>Based on the mapping/diagnostic included in the previous activity, design the aquaculture pilot project, considering the necessary specifications and measures to ensure the effective participation and involvement of female fishers and/or women involved in marketing.</p> | <p>Programs and work agendas for the environmental awareness program include specific sessions on gender and inclusion.</p> <p>At least 20% of the participants in the training workshops are women involved in fishing.</p> <p>% of the boats received by women involved in fishing.</p> <p>1 aquaculture pilot project designed with a gender and inclusion approach..</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> <p>Technical Teams of CODOPESCA</p> | <p>First year of training, second and fourth year of follow-up</p> | <p>11,700</p> |
| <p>Output 3.3 Inclusive integration of rural producers into the resilient tourism value chain.</p> | | | | |
| <p>3.3.1. Promotion of sustainable agrotourism and agro-based MSEs (micro, small, and medium enterprises) as a climate adaptation strategy, with a gender and social inclusion perspective.</p> | | | | |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|--|---|--|----------------|
| <p>Identify, disaggregated by gender, women and young women who lead agrotourism enterprises and MSEs, as part of the initial census and diagnostic. As part of this activity, specifically analyze those MSEs that employ or include women in their business model.</p> <p>Organize group training activities in administrative and financial management, marketing and sales, customer service quality, process improvement, among others, in a way that ensures the equitable participation of men and women (following the recommendations detailed in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan). The women invited to participate will be identified based on the initial census and diagnostic.</p> <p>Based also on the initial diagnostic, plan the personalized technical assistance activities aimed at female entrepreneurs and leaders of sustainable agrotourism and agro-based MSEs (including improving commercial image, supporting basic equipment, and developing medium- and long-term improvement plans).</p> | <p>1 census and diagnostic prepared to survey and identify women and young women leading enterprises and MSEs, and MSEs with female participation.</p> <p>% women and young women receiving training.</p> <p># of enterprises and MSEs led by women and young women that receive personalized technical assistance.</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> | | <p>156,670</p> |
| <p>Component 4: the capacities of key stakeholders and knowledge management on climate change.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Output 4.1. Government entities trained in managing climate impacts such as erosion, heatwaves, and drought.</p> | | | | |
| <p>4.1.1 Training on mainstreaming climate change and risk management of coastal and marine resources, tourism, and cultural heritage with a gender and inclusion approach.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Design specific training modules on gender and inclusion, climate change and risk management in coastal and marine areas, and sustainable tourism and cultural heritage management to include in the training directed at local and national government entities.</p> | <p>Programs and work agendas include specific sessions on gender and inclusion (led by the Gender Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>% of local, regional, and national government officials trained in gender and inclusion, climate change, and risk management in marine areas.</p> <p>100% of local, regional, and national government officials trained in gender and inclusion, and sustainable tourism management.</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> | <p>2 workshops per year for 4 years.</p> | <p>7,649</p> |
| <p>4.1.2. Strengthen interinstitutional coordination and training for climate risk management with a gender and inclusion approach.</p> | | | | |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|---|--|---|--|---------------|
| <p>Include modules on gender and inclusion, and climate change in the training program for Civil Defense personnel.</p> <p>Organize workshops or working meetings on gender and climate change for mayors and governors, based on the monitoring reports generated from the improvement of records with the support of RESILTUR, to promote local planning of mitigation and adaptation measures with a gender perspective.</p> <p>Organize training workshops on gender, climate change, and impacts on the population, aimed at the technical teams of INDOMET working on the Integrated National Information System (<i>activity linked with 1.3.3</i>).</p> <p>Include specific indicators that can record and monitor sex- and age-disaggregated information in the SINI</p> | <p>Programs and work agendas include specific sessions on gender and inclusion (led by the Gender Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>100% of the mayors and governors involved in this activity receive training on gender and climate change (1 training session).</p> <p>100% of the technical team of INDOMET involved in this activity receives training on gender and climate change (1 training session).</p> <p>SINI with the capacity to record and monitor sex- and age-disaggregated information.</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> <p>Technical Teams of Civil Defense</p> <p>Local Governments</p> <p>Technical Teams of INDOMET-SINI</p> | <p>Here's the translation to English: 2 training sessions every year1 training session for INDOMET in the first year</p> | <p>3,400</p> |
| <p>4.1.3 Strengthening of environmental and social risk management systems, including gender issues.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Develop a specific methodology for risk analysis and management to collect sex- and age-disaggregated information on needs and contributions to risk management. This methodology will be incorporated into the tools and protocols for the assessment and mitigation of climate and social risks.</p> <p>Promote the participation of women and young women from local communities in training activities on vulnerability identification, based on the participation criteria detailed in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan.</p> | <p>1 methodology document on risk analysis and management with sex- and age-disaggregated information.</p> <p>47% of the total people trained are women and young women.</p> | <p>Gender Approach Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> | <p>First Year</p> | <p>3,122</p> |
| <p>Output 4.2 Local population sensitized about climate change and trained in adaptation options for resilient livelihoods</p> | | | | |
| <p>4.2.1 Promote access for women and young women to training programs in Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality Services.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Identify educational institutions that offer professional training and courses aimed at women in the tourism sector and/or that promote their participation, to establish specific partnerships and agreements.</p> | <p>1 mapping of educational and training institutions offering programs aimed at women in the tourism sector (led by the</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> | <p>Second year</p> | <p>60,000</p> |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|--|--|--|---------------|
| <p>Record, disaggregated by sex and age, the specific training needs of the population, as well as their specific interests in professional training related to the tourism sector.</p> <p>Based on the previous mapping, direct training scholarships specifically to women and young women, as well as ensure their participation in training activities by providing financial support for transportation.</p> | <p>Gender Specialist of RESILTUR).</p> <p>Professional training and capacity building needs of the local tourism sector, disaggregated by sex and age.</p> <p>At least 60% of the scholarships are received by women</p> | | | |
| <p>4.2.2. Communication and awareness campaign for the local population on climate change, protected areas, and cultural heritage with a gender and inclusion perspective</p> | | | | |
| <p>Develop a specific chapter or section within the communication and awareness campaign to address how to communicate with a gender and inclusion perspective</p> <p>Identify as part of the target audience of the campaign young and adult women, as well as young people and adolescents, to tailor the communication materials accordingly.</p> <p>As part of the campaign implementation, the communication materials will be developed with inclusive language, ensuring that the images and illustrations used are free of gender bias and represent all genders equitably, reflecting the diversity of the population, including women, men, and individuals of different ages and abilities.</p> <p>The strategies identified for the implementation of the campaign will include specific indicators disaggregated by sex and age, in order to measure the differentiated reach to different population groups.</p> | <p>1 communication and awareness campaign on climate change, protected areas, and cultural heritage with information, recommendations, and materials to communicate with a gender perspective.</p> | <p>Gender Focus Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> | <p>First year</p> | <p>10,600</p> |
| <p>Output 4.3: Knowledge about climate change adaptation disseminated among key stakeholders.</p> | | | | |
| <p>4.3.1 Promote the systematization of learnings on the gender approach and inclusion of the Project and its dissemination.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Identify specific case studies and experiences to be systematized regarding the participation of women in the activities of the RESILTUR project.</p> | <p>At least one case study on the participation of women in the activities of the RESILTUR project identified and developed.</p> | <p>Gender Approach Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> | <p>1 annual workshop starting from the second year</p> | <p>13,000</p> |



| Activities | Indicators and goals | Responsibilities and necessary resources | Schedule | Costs |
|--|---|--|--|-------|
| <p>Consider specific gender and inclusion aspects in the selection and analysis of all case studies and experience systematization.</p> <p>Include working sessions on the gender approach in exchange and reflection forums, as well as in knowledge-sharing workshops with stakeholders (government actors, international organizations, NGOs, and the local population).</p> <p>Ensure the participation of women from civil society, based on the participation criteria outlined in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan.</p> <p>All documents produced for the dissemination of the knowledge products generated will include data disaggregated by sex and age, and will highlight the experiences of women as key actors. Additionally, they will be developed using inclusive language and will feature infographics free from gender bias, as well as images that equitably represent men and women, as well as youth and adults.</p> | <p>3 case studies developed with a gender and social inclusion perspective.</p> <p>Programs and work agendas of the exchange and reflection forums include specific sessions on gender and inclusion (led by RESILTUR's Gender Approach Specialist).</p> <p>47% of the total number of people trained are women and young women.</p> <p>Knowledge products include data disaggregated by sex and age (such as videos, learning briefs, infographics, and audiovisual materials for the public).</p> | | Case studies in the fourth year | |
| Activity 4.3.2: Exchange of Experiences with a Gender and Inclusion Approach | | | | |
| <p>Identify specific experiences to visit that illustrate how the project is being implemented with a gender and inclusion perspective, in order to promote this learning as well.</p> <p>Invite and involve local women in these exchange visits, including both those who are the protagonists of the experiences and other women from the community. To this end, the visits will be organized based on the participation criteria outlined in the introduction of this Gender Action Plan.</p> | <p>At least 2 experiences visited related to the implementation of the gender and inclusion approach in the RESILTUR project.</p> <p>47% of the local population participating in the exchange visits are women.</p> | <p>Gender Approach Specialist of RESILTUR</p> <p>Project Management Unit</p> | 1 annual workshop starting from the second year. | 4,760 |



Enhancing Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through adaptation actions
in the Tourism sector in La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in The Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)

EVIDENCE-BASED RISK IDENTIFICATION (EBRI)

ANNEX 5



FINAL REPORT | July 14th 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. INTRODUCTION | 2 |
| 2. PROJECT SUMMARY | 3 |
| 3. RISK IDENTIFICATION AND CATEGORIZATION | 3 |



1. INTRODUCTION

The Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Adaptation Fund (AF) requires that all projects be reviewed according to the 15 principles and across all planned components and activities. This policy ensures that projects supported by the Fund promote positive environmental and social benefits and mitigate or avoid adverse environmental and social risks and impacts.

This document presents the Evidence-Based Risk Identification (EBRI) for the project **"Enhancing Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through Adaptation Actions in the Tourism Sector of La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in the Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)"**, developed in collaboration with the Government of the Dominican Republic with technical assistance from the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF).

The project is located in the coastal province of Puerto Plata in the Northern Cibao region, specifically in the municipalities of Luperón and Villa Isabela, within the Municipal Districts (D.M.) of La Isabela, Estero Hondo, and La Jaiba. It spans the Protected Areas of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary and the La Hispaniola National Park, as well as the watersheds of the Unijica River and La Jaiba River. The project area covers 16,500.767 hectares of land and 34.795 km of coastline.

The project is composed of 4 components, whose activities have mostly been clearly identified, except for activity 3.1.1, which is considered an unidentified activity or subproject (USP). This EBRI includes the specific considerations for the risk analysis of the USP activity. Execution provisions have been determined for the activities of each component, along with the roles and responsibilities of the verifiers. The ESMP was developed after extensive consultations with stakeholders, including bilateral and group meetings and visits to the six sites.

The selection and preliminary analysis found that certain project activities could generate minor and limited adverse social and environmental impacts. The assessment resulted in an overall social and environmental risk categorization of "Category B." The ESMP is designed to avoid these potential impacts where possible, and where not, to mitigate and manage them effectively.

The document is organized to present the following sections: 1. General summary of the project and its activities, 2. Risk identification and categorization, 3. General characterization.



2. PROJECT SUMMARY

The project aims to reduce the vulnerability of coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems in the protected areas of La Hispaniola and the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary, as well as to enhance the adaptive capacity of local communities to climate change risks such as heat waves, droughts, and coastal erosion caused by sea level rise, and an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, ocean acidification, and rising sea surface temperatures. The project seeks to: i) Strengthen planning and monitoring of coastal and marine areas by integrating climate change risk considerations; ii) Reinforce resilient terrestrial and marine ecosystems to climate change impacts by improving coastal-marine habitats and soil health; iii) Strengthen and diversify local livelihoods to enhance resilience against climate change impacts; and iv) Disseminate knowledge and build the capacities of key stakeholders on climate change adaptation measures.

2.1 Expected Project Results

The proposed project is expected to achieve the following outputs and outcomes:

Table 1. Expected Outputs and Outcomes

| Components | Expected Concrete Outputs | Expected Outcomes |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Climate-resilient plans and monitoring systems in the coastal and marine areas of Estero Hondo and La Isabela. | <p>Outcome 1: Strengthened planning and monitoring of coastal and marine areas that promote climate-resilient decision-making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 1.1. Enhanced inter-institutional technical coordination. Output 1.2. Coastal-marine sector plans developed for the sustainable resource management considering climate change. Output 1.3. Improved socio-environmental data registries and processing for climate-resilient decision-making | Improved policies and regulations that promote and enforce resilience measures |
| 2. Reforestation of degraded land and restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems. | <p>Outcome 2: Improved coastal-marine habitats and enhanced soil health to better withstand the impacts of erosion, drought and extreme events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 2.1. Increase coverage of coral reefs, mangrove and sand-stabilizing plants in the project area. Output 2.2. Increase upstream forest cover in the project area. | Increased ecosystem resilience in response to climate change and variability-induced stress |
| 3. Strengthening sustainable livelihoods to reduce pressure on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 3.1. Climate-resilient Community-Based Ecotourism Plan implemented Output 3.2. Improved and environmentally sustainable resilient fishing practices Output 3.3. Inclusive integration of rural producers into the climate-resilient tourism value chain | Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas |
| 4. Strengthening the capacities and enhanced knowledge among governmental agencies, local communities and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas. | <p>Outcome 4: Strengthened capacities and enhanced knowledge among government agencies, local communities, and public stakeholders to implement adaptation measures in coastal and marine areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 4.1. Government entities trained to manage climate impacts. Output 4.2. Local population are sensitized on climate change and trained in adaptation options for resilient livelihoods. Output 4.3. Climate change adaptation knowledge disseminated among key stakeholders. | Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level |

3. RISK IDENTIFICATION AND CATEGORIZATION



Based on the guidance document for Implementing Entities regarding compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund, the Social and Environmental Risk Detection Checklist and the Preliminary Identification and Management of Social and Environmental Risks were developed.

The risk analysis process for the project's activities was developed following the 15 principles of the AF Environmental and Social Policy (ESP), including Principles 1 (Compliance with laws), 4 (Human rights), and 6 (Fundamental labor rights), which are always applicable. The other 12 principles were selected based on the project's outcomes, outputs, and activities. Establishing the relevance between these principles and the project's elements was one of the results of the risk identification process.

3.1 Identification of ESP Risks

Based on the Adaptation Fund's procedure checklist, environmental and social risks were identified using the following checklist (Table 2).

The identification of risks is developed taking into account the guidance document for Implementing Entities of the AF on compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund, as well as the steps presented in the Procedures and Functions Manual of the Basic Environmental and Social Management System in National Implementing Entities for compliance with each principle.

Table 2 "Risk Identification Evidence Base" will assess the three components of the project. The table has three columns: Column 1 refers to the Social and Environmental Principles Checklist, and Column 2 refers to the Questions, which will guide the determination of whether the different types of actions or documentation show the risk of non-compliance with the principle. Column 3 refers to the response provided. The answers "Yes" or "No" indicate whether the action, activity, analysis, documentation, etc., were carried out for risk identification. Column 4 describes what evidence from the Full Proposal document supports the "Yes" or "No" responses in Column 3, along with any additional information.



Table 2. Evidence-Based Risk Identification (EBRI)

| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|--|
| 1. Compliance with the law | 1.1. Has the project identified all the laws, regulations, standards, procedures, and permits, both national and international, applicable to any of its activities? | YES | In the section on national laws, regulations, and technical standards of the Full Proposal (FP), the different laws, regulations, standards, procedures, and permits applicable to the project are identified. Additionally, the project takes into account the international agreements on environmental and social matters ratified by the government of the Dominican Republic and promotes and integrates sectoral best practice guidelines in environmental and social matters. |
| | 1.2. Does the project demonstrate any non-compliance with the applicable national legislation? | NO | project is aligned with the applicable national and international laws and regulations. |
| | 1.3. Has the project identified any activities that may require prior permits (such as planning permits, environmental permits, construction permits, water extraction permits, emissions permits, or permits for the use, production, or storage of hazardous substances)? | YES | Some activities may require prior authorization or permits. These have been detailed in the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) – refer to Annex 06 of the Full Proposal. Among these permits/authorizations, the following can be mentioned: permit for research studies related to protected areas and biodiversity; authorization for the installation and management of coral nurseries; authorization for research in the coastal-marine area. |
| | 1.4. Has the project identified any environmental and social safeguard requirements other than those of the AF (e.g., national requirements or those of co-financing entities)? | NO | Based on its standards, CAF has not identified any additional safeguard requirements. |
| 2. Access and Equity | 2.1. Has the project identified the beneficiaries and its geographical area of effect? | YES | As part of the consultation processes and vulnerability analyses, the project has identified the beneficiaries and the geographical intervention areas (detailed in the FP and in Annex 02 - Stakeholder Consultation Report). The main beneficiaries were identified during the project's stakeholder mapping and the various workshops held in the Puerto Plata Province (Cibao Norte region), specifically in the municipalities of Luperón and Villa Isabela, in the Municipal Districts (D.M.) of La Isabela, Estero Hondo, and La Jaiba. This project includes a partially undefined USP (Activity 3.1.1): while the location of the intervention area is known (the archaeological site 'La Hispaniola National Park'), the specific adaptation measures to protect the site from coastal erosion have not yet been defined. |
| | 2.2. Has the project identified any marginalized or vulnerable group among the potential beneficiaries of the project? | YES | During the preparation of the Proposal, a socioeconomic Vulnerability Analysis was conducted. Additionally, vulnerable and marginalized groups were identified during the project's Stakeholder Mapping and the various workshops held in the localities of La Isabela, Estero Hondo, and La Jaiba. The project will ensure tangible economic benefits for the vulnerable population in the project area, such as stable income, job preservation, and the creation of new jobs and more resilient livelihoods. It will also protect natural and historical heritage that serves as tourist attractions, generating savings for the population and local |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------|---|
| | | | <p>government. Furthermore, through awareness campaigns and training programs, the capacities of local communities will be strengthened to implement adaptation projects, make informed decisions, be better prepared for extreme events, and participate in monitoring processes while diversifying their livelihoods. See Annex 02 - Stakeholder Consultation and the FP.</p> |
| | <p>2.3. Has the project identified the existing risk to access to essential services and rights?</p> | <p>NO</p> | <p>The project's activities do not pose an existing risk to access to essential services and rights for the communities in the area of influence. Under Component 2, improvements in access, trails, and signage will not interfere with access to essential benefits or rights of the population. On the contrary, the project will help strengthen these services, making them more resilient to erosion and extreme events (such as drought). The plans and strategies (Component 1) and training programs (Component 4) developed will include guidelines that ensure consultation processes and community participation, promoting greater awareness, involvement, and empowerment of the communities in the project's activities. Through Component 2, it is expected that ecosystem services will be improved: provisioning services (e.g., fishing), supporting services (e.g., maintenance of the life cycle of fauna and local communities), regulatory services (e.g., erosion prevention, climate change moderation, etc.), and improved connectivity, among others.</p> <p>Activity 3.1.1. "Protection and reinforcement of cultural heritage from coastal erosion " is a USP where specific activities to counteract the erosion phenomena at the La Hispaniola Archaeological Site have not yet been defined. These activities must incorporate a consultation process with the communities, an environmental and social risk analysis that aligns with the activities to be financed. Additionally, the tender documents will include requirements for the contractor to ensure no disruption of access to essential services and rights for the population, and compliance with the measures outlined in the environmental and social management plan or the environmental management and adjustment program.</p> |
| | <p>2.4. Has the project described the mechanism for the allocation and distribution of project benefits, and how this process ensures fair and impartial access to those benefits?</p> | <p>NO</p> | <p>The works carried out for the installation of access points and trails (Activities 3.1.1 and 3.1.2) will take into account safety criteria and inclusive infrastructure, which can be used equitably by all individuals in a safe and autonomous manner, regardless of age, gender, or functional limitations. This requirement will be included in the bidding documents. This will ensure that access to tourist points of interest is adapted to the specific needs of women, pregnant individuals, children, persons with reduced mobility, the elderly, the visually impaired, and others.</p> <p>The signage will be adapted to inform and raise awareness among the population about key aspects of the project, such as the grievance and complaints mechanism, gender equity, the rights of older persons, among others. Additionally, the criteria set by the Ministries (Environment, Agriculture/CODOPESCA, Tourism) will be followed to ensure fair and impartial access. Through the inclusion of diverse stakeholders in the planning, implementation, and monitoring processes, the project aims to promote a more equitable distribution of net benefits and increase the potential for long-term success. Requirements for participating as co-managers in the co-management plans for protected areas have also been described. The project will ensure that this participation takes place in a transparent and equitable manner.</p> <p>Activity 3.3.1, "Support for sustainable agrotourism and agricultural MSMEs and startups as a strategy for climate change adaptation" establishes a clear mechanism for the identification, selection, and support of beneficiaries based on an initial census and diagnostic. From this, a personalized action plan is designed for each microenterprise or productive venture. This process ensures the inclusion of local actors in vulnerable conditions due to climate change, particularly in the areas of Estero Hondo, La Jaiba, and La Isabela. Additionally, priority is given to businesses led by women and/or with high female participation, contributing to a more equitable distribution of benefits. Technical assistance, equipment support, and improvement plans are allocated based on identified needs and potential, ensuring fair and impartial access.</p> |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
|--|--|------------|---|
| | | | <p>The training activities (Component 4) also take into account criteria to promote the participation of women, children, youth, and other groups of people who are generally excluded, ensuring they can benefit from these training and awareness-raising processes. Therefore, it is not necessary to design a separate mechanism for access to the project's benefits.</p> |
| | <p>2.5. Has the project conducted consultations with stakeholders and local authorities?</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>Yes, consultation processes were carried out with various stakeholders: MMARN, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Agriculture (through CODOPESCA), Ministry of the Presidency, municipal governments (La Isabela and Estero Hondo), NGOs, the private sector, and representatives of the local population— including women's focus groups in both localities, livestock farmers and fishers, and neighborhood organizations. Refer to Annex 02 – Stakeholder Report</p> |
| | <p>2.6. Has the project presented a mechanism to ensure the participation of communities, marginalized and vulnerable groups, stakeholders, and local authorities?</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>The participation of beneficiaries throughout the process has been ensured through various consultation and outreach processes (both virtual and in-person) that have been conducted, where communities, non-governmental organizations, and regional and national stakeholders participated in the design of this proposal. Refer to the Stakeholder Consultation Report – Annex 02.</p> <p>Additionally, the project will establish enabling conditions for inclusive participation in decision-making and in training and awareness-raising activities. The project promotes community monitoring so that local communities actively engage in the activities, take ownership of the project, follow up on the implementation of actions, promote collective action, and improve access to information, among other goals. As part of the project's Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), a section on "Guidelines for Outreach and Participation Strategy" is included to ensure that, prior to starting activities, inclusive participation of vulnerable and marginalized groups, other stakeholders, and local authorities is promoted in each community. Refer to ANNEX 06. Activity 3.1.1 (USP) must also include community participation mechanisms, particularly involving vulnerable and marginalized groups, during both the design and implementation phases.</p> |
| <p>3. Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups</p> | <p>3.1 In the project's area of influence, has the presence of marginalized or vulnerable groups been identified, including, among others, children, women and girls, the elderly, indigenous peoples, tribal groups, displaced persons, refugees, people with disabilities, and individuals living with HIV/AIDS?</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>The vulnerability analysis reveals a challenging situation for the population of Estero Hondo and La Isabela due to poverty levels, low education levels, and the fact that their livelihoods are threatened by prolonged droughts, rising temperatures, sea level rise, deforestation, and overexploitation of resources (fisheries and marine resources). Refer to the Vulnerability Analysis, the summary of which is presented in the context section of the FP. The activities described in the FP incorporate specific mechanisms to ensure that restoration works and training activities are designed and implemented with social inclusion criteria to guarantee active participation.</p> <p>In general, the project will ensure the equitable participation of women and men, youth and adults of all ages, in all training and environmental awareness activities (appropriate calls and invitations, specific schedules, care spaces, etc.). Additionally, gender equality topics will be included in the modules or workshops, as well as training methodologies tailored to encourage women's participation (schedules, spaces, materials, etc.). Adult literacy campaigns, including digital literacy, will be implemented, especially in rural areas where there is a lack of teaching staff and resources. The training program will promote the equal employment integration of both women and men.</p> |
| | <p>3.2 Has the project described the characteristics of any marginalized or vulnerable groups, identifying their particular vulnerabilities that would</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>The project identified vulnerable and marginalized groups (women, the elderly, children, and people with disabilities) and promotes their participation in the different activities. In Component 1, the participation and consultation of women and other vulnerable groups will be ensured in the design of plans and strategies so that their needs, interests, and perspectives are integrated, as well as strengthening their capacities to participate in monitoring processes. In Components 2 and 3, training</p> |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|---|
| | make or could make them disproportionately vulnerable to negative environmental or social impacts caused by the implementation of project activities? | | <p>processes and livelihood diversification activities will consider the interests and knowledge of women and other vulnerable groups to encourage their participation and ensure they are consulted on the activities to be developed. In Component 4, through the beneficiary stakeholder mapping, the project will gather information on the specific training needs of the vulnerable population, including skills in association-building, entrepreneurship, and adaptation to climate change effects. For Activity 3.1.1, which corresponds to a USP, these aspects must be addressed when defining the eligibility of adaptation measures and their characteristics.</p> <p>During the consultation processes, it was noted that one of the vulnerable groups (fishermen) may experience conflicts among local fishermen due to unsustainable and illegal fishing practices, such as the use of air compressors and fixed and trawl nets. These practices cause the death of many organisms that are not utilized, as well as the drowning of manatees and sea turtles, in addition to damaging coral reefs. The fishermen mentioned that they usually resolve their differences through discussions in community meetings. The Ministry of Agriculture, CODEPESCA, indicated that they have experience in this matter and possess conflict management mechanisms. It was emphasized at the community level that there is a need to improve surveillance and monitoring activities to ensure the implementation of good fishing practices.</p> |
| 4. Human Rights | 4.1 Has the host country been cited in any special procedure by the Human Rights Council, appearing in the list of thematic or country mandates? | YES | <p>The thematic mandates and country mandates have been reviewed. The findings are presented below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Human Rights Council Special Procedures country mandates. There are no mandates for the Dominican Republic. The Dominican Republic is covered by the OHCHR Regional Office for Central America and the Dominican Republic (OR-CADR). Established in 2007, the office promotes and protects human rights through monitoring human rights situations and providing technical assistance and advisory services to the state, national institutions, and civil society. <p>Human Rights Council Special Procedures thematic mandates.</p> <p>The Dominican Republic has a "Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, the use of children in pornography, and other material showing sexual abuse of children" from 2018. The report covers the scope of child sexual exploitation and sale in the country, as well as the measures adopted to prevent and combat the issue and provide assistance and protection to victims. The report includes recommendations to strengthen efforts to prevent and combat child sexual exploitation and sale in the country, and to ensure the right to care, recovery, and reintegration of victims, based on international human rights norms and standards. Additionally, the Dominican Republic has received recommendations from the Special Rapporteur on the human rights obligations of older persons (2023). The document assessed, to the extent possible, the implementation of international instruments, laws, and existing policies related to the enjoyment of all human rights by older people and includes recommendations on how to advance the promotion and protection of the rights of older people in the country.</p> <p>The executing and implementing entities of this project have committed to transparent communication about their activities and to promoting consultation processes and inclusive participation of the communities. The project's grievance and complaint mechanism is also being made available in the ESMP during the execution of the project.</p> |
| | 4.2 Is there a risk that rights-holders may lack the capacity to claim their rights? | NO | <p>During the consultations, it was confirmed that there are open communication channels between the local authorities and municipalities, and the communities. Additionally, the ESMP includes a grievance and complaint mechanism that should be disclosed (see ANNEX 6).</p> |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
|--|--|----------|---|
| | 4.3 Has the project addressed human rights issues during stakeholder consultations in the project formulation phase? | YES | In general, the project's activities have been well accepted by community members, and there is interest and commitment from various stakeholders to participate in the project. Human rights issues were addressed during the consultation meetings with local populations during the design process. The consulted individuals stated that the projects will improve their quality of life and that they do not perceive the proposed activities as exacerbating conflicts or risks in the communities. |
| | 4.4 Has the project included the conclusions of consultations on human rights issues in the project document?? | YES | The findings on human rights issues during the consultations contributed to designing a project based on human rights. Information about the consultations conducted is presented in ANNEX 2. The main principles inherent in the Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are included, with respect to impartiality without distinction of race, color, sex, language, national or social origin, property, social status, and the universal right of every human being to life, liberty, and personal security. |
| 5. Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment | 5.1 Has the project identified activities that are known to exclude or hinder a gender group for legal, regulatory, or customary reasons? | NO | None of the project's activities could harm any group on gender-related issues in a discriminatory manner based on legal, regulatory, or customary grounds. The legislation related to gender issues is presented in the Gender Diagnosis and Gender Action Plan (Annex 03 and 04) for the Project. |
| | 5.2 Has the project conducted or consulted a gender analysis of the subsidized area, describing the current situation of the allocation of roles and responsibilities in the area? | NO | A gender analysis has been conducted that describes the current situation. In addition to a diagnosis using secondary sources, gender issues were addressed during consultations with stakeholders, including both authorities and beneficiaries. Beyond addressing gender mainstreaming, this project responds to genuine demands that have emerged from the women themselves in meetings and working interviews conducted within this framework. Please refer to the analysis included in the Gender Diagnosis and Action Plan document (ANNEX 3 and 4) |
| | 5.3 Has the project identified elements that maintain or exacerbate gender inequality or the consequences of gender inequality? | YES | <p>Gender-based vulnerability considerations have been included in the Gender Analysis. See ANNEX 3. The Gender Action Plan outlines specific gender actions associated with each activity of the project. See ANNEX 4. Among the particular considerations: Component 1 "Design of a strategy and plan for resilient and sustainable ecotourism development Plans (Activity 1.2.2)" will ensure the participation and consultation of women by incorporating their needs, interests, and perspectives. It will also contemplate how women can be involved in the subsequent management and administration of those areas, promoting their economic activity. Additionally, diagnostic information will be gathered and analyzed to better understand how women have been involved in ecotourism development in the area. Furthermore, the GAP will include specific activities so that the development of the map reflects the knowledge and expertise of women and youth, as well as relevant information on how these threats specifically affect them. In general, the project will ensure equitable participation of women and men, young and adult people, in all environmental training and awareness activities (appropriate invitations and calls, specific schedules, childcare spaces, etc.). Additionally, gender equality topics will be included in specific modules or workshops implemented.</p> <p>Regarding activities related to the fishing and agricultural sectors, it is recognized that there are structural barriers that disproportionately affect women in accessing productive livelihoods, markets, and technical assistance. Therefore, in Activity 3.3.1, a gender and inclusion approach has been incorporated into all stages of implementation: from the census and diagnosis to training and personalized counseling. Ventures led by women and/or with high female participation are explicitly prioritized, and the contents and methodologies of the program are adapted to ensure their relevance and accessibility.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that the activity "3.1.1 Protection and reinforcement of Cultural Heritage from Coastal Erosion" will exacerbate gender inequality, as it involves specific investments for the protection of heritage against erosion. Similarly, the</p> |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
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| | | | employment of women in the activities will be considered to ensure their access and participation. All interventions in public spaces such as beach walkways, floodable parks, and ecotourism will incorporate design solutions that promote space usage by women. |
| | 5.4 The project has identified specific vulnerabilities for both men and women that could make them disproportionately vulnerable to negative environmental or social impacts caused by the project's activities or outcomes. | Yes | Gender stereotypes (man/woman) influence the type of work performed, with women typically taking on unpaid domestic duties (house cleaning, food preparation) and caregiving roles for children and elderly relatives (parents, in-laws), which often limits women's participation in other activities and increases their vulnerability to environmental and socio-economic impacts. To achieve the goal of increased resilience and improved quality of life, both from an environmental and social perspective, it will be essential to ensure the participation of all stakeholders to make necessary adjustments and implement the measures outlined for each activity in the ESMP (ANNEX 6) and the Gender Action Plan (ANNEX 4). |
| 6. Fundamental Labour Rights | 6.1 Has the project determined if the host country has ratified the eight fundamental ILO conventions? | YES | The Dominican Republic has ratified the conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO). The Dominican Republic has been a member of the ILO from 1919 to 1938 and since January 1, 1955, to the present. It has ratified 26 conventions, nine out of the 10 fundamental conventions, three of the four governance conventions, as well as 29 technical conventions. |
| | 6.2¿Ha examinado el proyecto las últimas evaluaciones de la OIT sobre la aplicación de las normas en el país? | YES | The Dominican Republic has ratified the conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO)Ratifications: https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:14000:0::NO:14000:P14000_COUNTRY_ID:102930 Labour Standards: https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/es/f?p=1000:11200:0::NO:11200:P11200_COUNTRY_ID:102930 |
| | 6.3 Has the project identified how the fundamental labor standards of the ILO are incorporated into the design and execution of the project's outputs/activities? | YES | The project integrates basic labor rights in all actions and at various levels The Dominican Republic has mechanisms and laws related to labor rights and has ratified several of the fundamental labor conventions. The country faces challenges such as child labor, discrimination in employment and occupation based on gender, high levels of labor informality, and issues related to equal opportunities and labor rights for people with physical, mental, or sensory disabilities. These aspects will be reviewed and monitored in the contracting processes carried out for the execution of the project. The FP includes a summary of the laws and regulations regarding labor rights, health, and safety for workers, as well as non-discrimination on the basis of age, gender, or other factors. |
| | 6.4 Has the project described the customary labor agreements in the sector or sectors in which it will operate, with particular attention to all forms of child labor and forced labor? | YES | As a management measure to ensure that all project activities align with compliance with basic labor rights, the project's executing entity adheres to ILO labor standards and national labor laws. Awareness-raising and dissemination activities will be included to promote understanding of the concepts and definitions of decent work as applied to fisheries and aquaculture. |
| 7. Indigenous People | 7.1 Has the project identified whether there are Indigenous Peoples in the area of influence? | NO | The presence of Indigenous Peoples has not been identified in the project area. |
| | 7.2 Has the project quantified the identified Indigenous Peoples groups? | NO | Not applicable to the project activities. |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
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| | 7.3 Has the project determined whether there are provisions for a realistic and effective Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) process that grants a community the right to give or withhold consent to proposed projects that may affect lands they traditionally own, occupy, or use? | NO | Not applicable to the project activities. |
| | 7.4 Has the project provided a summary of all reports, specific cases, or complaints made by the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples that are relevant to the project? | NO | No reports related to the Special Rapporteur have been found in the country. |
| <i>8. Involuntary Resettlement</i> | 8.1 The project has determined whether it is a voluntary or involuntary resettlement. | NO | The project does not involve any displacement, resettlement, or relocation of people or their livelihoods. |
| | 8.2 Has the project identified the stakeholders whose livelihoods may be affected, directly or indirectly? | NO | <p>The project does not foresee any negative impact on livelihoods. During consultations with stakeholders (ANNEX 2), it has been confirmed that both the marine-coastal ecosystem restoration actions and the reforestation activities in the upper watershed do not affect the livelihoods of the communities. The restoration activities (Activity 3.1) are intended to improve people's health and well-being, help mitigate and adapt to climate change, improve water quality and flow, reduce soil erosion and flooding, restore soil fertility, and protect cultural heritage.</p> <p>The activities related to "3.2 Promote resilient fishing practices" aim to strengthen the capacities of artisanal fishermen in the face of climate change impacts, training them for the transition to more sustainable fishing techniques, and through training and awareness programs on community organization to increase climate resilience, ecosystem protection, and the impacts of climate change.</p> |
| | 8.3 The project has not identified any stakeholders whose assets or access to them could be affected, directly or indirectly, or who might face resettlement and its consequences, including compensation or indemnities. | NO | Not applicable in any case. Please refer to previous responses. |
| <i>9. Protection of Natural Habitats</i> | 9.1 Has the project identified all the critical natural habitats in the region that may be affected? | YES | The project has identified all the critical natural habitats that may be affected, and based on this analysis, it proposes concrete activities to increase the resilience of ecosystems to climate change and environmental degradation. The project covers two important protected areas. The first is the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary, located in the municipality of Villa Isabela, Estero Hondo district, with a total area of 32.55 km ² (68.88% land area and 31.12% marine area). Its main objective is the |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
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| | <p>The area considered should be broad enough to be credible and selected based on the impact-generating agent (for example, noise) and the assessment of its potential for propagation. The habitats to be considered include all those recognized as critical in any form, whether legal (through protection), scientific, or socially.</p> | | <p>protection of marine mammals and the ecosystems on which they depend for survival. The second protected area is the Hispaniola National Park, which covers a total area of 54.77 km² (50.08% land area and 49.92% marine portion). Its primary objective is the protection of the cultural and archaeological heritage found in the area, as well as the highly sensitive ecosystems it houses. During the formulation of this project, an Ecosystem Vulnerability Analysis was conducted. The Context section of the Full Proposal provides a summary of this analysis. In the prioritized sites, a set of protection and restoration measures for the ecosystems is proposed.</p> <p>This principle applies to Components 2 and 3, where specific activities are proposed to strengthen the resilience of marine-coastal systems and the upper watershed. In Component 1, considerations related to climate change are integrated into the development of a climate-resilient ecotourism action plan and co-management plans. It does not apply to Components 1 and 4, as these are planning activities and capacity-building efforts. Additionally, the project's activities include organizational strengthening at the community and intergovernmental levels, training and awareness programs on various topics, and concrete investment activities to reduce the risk of erosion, as detailed below.</p> <p>Activity 3.1.1. "Protection and Reinforcement of Cultural Heritage " is a USP (Unidentified Sub-project) where specific activities to counteract the erosion phenomena, along with rising sea levels that threaten the La Hispaniola Archaeological Site, have not yet been defined. A feasibility analysis will be conducted to determine the investments needed for site protection and to design the selected protective infrastructure and establish protection structures. These studies must incorporate a consultation process with the communities, environmental and social risk analysis, and a management plan or environmental adaptation program. The proposed activities will be aligned with the Management Plan of the protected area, and the relevant permits and authorizations must be processed with the Ministry of Environment.</p> |
| | <p>9.2 Has the project identified, for each critical natural habitat, the mechanism by which it is particularly vulnerable?</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>. For the design of the project, an ecosystem vulnerability analysis was carried out, which includes a description of the protected areas, their main ecosystems, and the species that inhabit them. Vulnerability encompasses two factors: the sensitivity of natural elements to the threats of climate change and the adaptive capacity of these elements to these threats. Please refer to the answer to question 9.1.</p> <p>The project's activities mostly contribute to the conservation and restoration of natural habitats (marine-coastal and upper basin). Specifically, the activities under Components 2 and 3 must obtain the necessary permits, authorizations, and studies to avoid or minimize environmental and social risks to these natural habitats. Before any works or interventions, Environmental Impact Assessments, Carrying Capacity Studies, and Environmental and Social Management Plans will be carried out, among others.</p> |
| | <p>9.3 Has the project considered all activities to identify the actual risks for each of the identified natural habitats, taking into account the specific characteristics of the activity (location, scale, duration, etc.) and the vulnerability mechanisms of each identified habitat?</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>Most of the project's activities contribute to the preservation of natural habitats. Necessary precautions will be taken to minimize the project's impact. The ESMP includes the necessary measures for the protection of ecosystems during implementation. It is confirmed that the review of plans and strategies also considers environmental and social aspects and criteria. For Component 2 and 3, which involve physical interventions, the following measures will be taken: To avoid any negative impact on these areas, environmental impact studies and/or assessments, environmental and social management plans will be carried out prior to works or interventions, detailing how to carry out specific actions in critical natural habitats.</p> <p>The activities included are small-scale infrastructure works, which are of low impact and specific to a particular site, such as: the improvement and rehabilitation of access roads and trails within protected areas; signage (installation of mooring buoys or marine buoys, signage for navigation channels for vessels); reforestation of riparian forests located on public land in the Río</p> |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
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| | | | <p>Unijica sub-basin and the Río de la Jaiba basin; planting and repopulating seagrass areas; and the conservation and restoration of reefs in the area based on assisted coral reproduction. Additionally, authorizations and permits from the Ministry of Environment will be required for the implementation of these activities.</p> <p>The introduction, propagation, planting, and reforestation with non-native, invasive, or exotic species is prohibited. The species to be used for ecosystem restoration activities should be diverse but must be native and/or endemic to the area, and, where possible, prioritize species that are listed on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.</p> |
| <p>10. Biodiversity Conservation"</p> | <p>10.1 Has the project identified all the elements of regional biodiversity that may be affected?</p> <p>The area considered should be large enough to be credible and selected based on the impact-generating agent and an understanding of its propagation capacity. In identifying elements of interest for biodiversity, it is important not to limit the focus to species alone, but to include all biodiversity elements, including landscapes, ecosystem processes, habitats, hydrological cycles, erosion and sedimentation processes, and interactions between taxa. It should include all elements that are protected at the local or international level.</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>The project has identified the most sensitive biodiversity elements and described their vulnerability. Please see the ecosystem vulnerability analysis in the FP. The ESMP includes the necessary prevention and mitigation measures. See ANNEX 6.</p> <p>The activities of Component 2, focused on ecosystem-based adaptation solutions, such as coastal and marine ecosystem restoration and reforestation of upstream watersheds, will holistically improve ecosystem services: provisioning (e.g., fishing), supporting (e.g., maintenance of the life cycle of wildlife and local communities), regulatory services (e.g., erosion prevention, climate change moderation), and enhance connectivity between ecosystems. Through reforestation of degraded lands and marine ecosystem restoration, the aim is to increase forest cover along riverbanks, reduce erosion and sedimentation in rivers, improve biodiversity by promoting the use of native species, and enhance soil quality. Additionally, activities to restore coral reefs, seagrasses, and mangroves will generate various benefits: coastal protection (restoring the natural barrier against strong waves), reducing coastal erosion, conserving fishery resources, increasing biodiversity, and boosting marine and coastal species biomass, among others.</p> <p>The introduction, spread, planting, and reforestation with non-native, invasive, or exotic species is prohibited. The project will work closely with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MMARN) to identify endemic, native, and/or naturalized species that are best suited to the project area and will provide training and technical support at the community and school levels for the proper management of nurseries and good agricultural practices. This will include training on the identification and management of invasive species, efficient irrigation systems (e.g., drip irrigation, micro-sprinkling), integrated pest management, among others.</p> |
| | <p>10.2 For each identified biodiversity element, has the project identified the mechanism by which it is especially vulnerable? (Changes in flow regime or water quality of a seasonal wetland, or disruption of migratory routes).</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>A vulnerability analysis of the ecosystems was carried out in the "Background and Context" section of the FP. It is not expected that the project's activities will have negative impacts on biodiversity. Please refer to the response to question 10.1.</p> |
| | <p>10.3 Has the project identified the potential for the intentional or accidental introduction of known invasive species?</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>The introduction, propagation, planting, and reforestation with non-native, invasive, or exotic species are prohibited. The project will work closely with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MMARN) to identify endemic, native, and/or naturalized species that are best adapted to the project's area of influence. It will also provide training and technical support at the community and school levels for the proper management of nurseries and good agricultural practices, including training on the identification and management of invasive species, efficient irrigation systems (e.g., drip, micro-sprinklers), integrated pest</p> |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
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| | | | <p>management, among others. The project takes into account the guidelines established in the National Strategy for Invasive Alien Species. Appropriate measures will be implemented to ensure that only local or native species adapted to the areas are</p> <p>project will strengthen local/community and school nurseries for the production of native and local species, as well as promote good agricultural practices for the efficient use of resources (water and soil), integrated pest management, and nutritional management plans. Please refer to the ESMP, ANNEX 6, for further details.</p> |
| | 10.4 Has the project identified the use of living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology? | NO | This question does not apply to the project because it does not intend to use living modified organisms as a result of modern biotechnology. |
| 11. Climate Change | 11.1 Has the project determined if it belongs to a sector mentioned in the guidance document that requires a calculation of greenhouse gas emissions? | NO | The project does not belong to any of the sectors mentioned in the guidance document. The only greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that will occur due to the project will be during small-scale access and trail works, transportation of materials, or mobilization for consultation and monitoring processes. These emissions are considered negligible. It is confirmed that the project does not generate new sources of greenhouse gas emissions. |
| | 11.2 Energy, transportation, heavy industry, construction materials, large-scale agriculture, large-scale forestry products, and waste management.. | NO | Taking into account the aforementioned, no emissions calculations have been provided for this project. |
| | Has the project carried out a qualitative identification of the risk of any impact on the capacity for carbon capture and sequestration? | NO | No qualitative identification of impacts on carbon capture and sequestration capacity has been presented. It is worth noting that some of the proposed activities or measures (e.g., reforestation) are considered beneficial for these services. |
| 12. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency | 12.1 ¿ Has the project identified any activities involving avoidable waste generation or pollution?? | YES | <p>It does not apply to Components 1 and 4 as these involve planning activities and capacity building. It is applicable for some activities under Components 2 and 3. The potential sources of waste generation may correspond to the execution of works for improving and enabling access and trails in the protected areas and their signage, which could lead to noise pollution (elevated or excessive noise), contamination of water sources, air, and soil (generation of waste and debris, use of paints and solvents, particulate matter from soil removal and equipment, among others). Additionally, during the operational phase, due to the increase in tourists/visitors, the amount of solid and liquid waste generated may rise. The project's activities must be framed within the Co-management Plans, and a carrying capacity study for the protected areas should be conducted, along with the relevant environmental diagnostics or studies to ensure the proper management and disposal of waste. Furthermore, for reforestation and ecosystem restoration activities, good practices will be considered to promote the efficient use of natural resources (e.g., water and soil).. Additionally, there is a risk associated with soil contamination due to improper disposal of rechargeable batteries or alkaline batteries that could be used for the operation of equipment to be acquired for monitoring activities (e.g., drones, camera traps, and security cameras). There could also be an increase in energy and water consumption due to the rise in tourists, as well as from the installation and operation of monitoring equipment and data charging and analysis platforms. It is considered that the impact will be minor, and these impacts are preventable. The measures to be applied will be those detailed in the ESMP, ANNEX 6.</p> |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
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| | 12.2 Has the project determined the nature and quantity of the waste, as well as the potential pollutants that may be generated? | YES | The project has identified that waste may be generated during infrastructure works, the establishment and management of nurseries, and due to the increase in tourists or visitors to protected areas. Mitigation measures are included in the ESMP. See ANNEX 6. |
| | 12.3 Has the project determined whether the concept of minimizing waste and pollutant generation has been applied during the design phase, and whether it will be effective during implementation? | YES | The project has a low impact on waste generation. Nevertheless, the ESMP will include specific measures to prevent and minimize waste generation, as well as to ensure proper separation for recycling or proper disposal. No toxic waste is expected to be generated; however, some of the equipment used for monitoring processes may use alkaline batteries. Recommendations for the proper use, storage, and disposal of batteries will be included, along with awareness campaigns for the proper classification and disposal of different types of waste. |
| 13. <i>Public Health</i> | 13.1 Has the project, through an appropriate health impact screening tool (e.g., checklist), identified any potentially significant negative impacts on public health? | NO | Not applicable. The project will not generate negative impacts on public health. On the contrary, it will improve the quality of life for the population. The ESMP includes measures, for example, to prevent contamination of canals and storm drains by the population. |
| 14. <i>Physical and Cultural Heritage</i> | 14.1 Has the project determined whether the host country has ratified the UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972? | YES | Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. Additionally, the country adheres to the Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage. https://www.unesco.org/en/countries/do |
| | 14.2 Has the project determined the national and local legal and regulatory framework for the recognition and protection of physical and cultural heritage? | YES | In Section E of the Project, the "National Laws that must be complied with in all project activities" and the "National Regulatory and Technical Standards by Type of Intervention" are presented. Additionally, the project will work in coordination with the Ministry of Culture to ensure compliance with the regulatory framework concerning the protection of cultural heritage and the obtaining of permits or no-objection for the use of monuments and public spaces of a monumental nature; as well as with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MMARN) to obtain the necessary authorizations and permits. |
| | 14.3 Has the project described all cultural heritage elements in the area of influence, including their location and vulnerabilities? The considered area should be wide enough to be credible and chosen based on the impact-generating agent (e.g., vibrations, landscape elements) and the assessment of its propagation potential. It should include all elements that are subject to local or international protection. | YES | The project's area of influence covers the protected area of the La Hispaniola National Park, which includes the Archaeological Site of the Villa de La Isabela and the underwater heritage. The historical and archaeological site of La Isabela is a culturally relevant and significant location in the history of Latin America and the Caribbean, as it was the first Spanish settlement in the New World, founded by Christopher Columbus during his second voyage in 1494. Through the Ministry of Culture, formal efforts have begun for the nomination of the Archaeological Site of La Isabela as a World Heritage Site with UNESCO. Currently, the ruins of La Isabela are under evaluation. The planned activities will be limited and will be carried out in consultation with the relevant local and national authorities (e.g., the Ministry of Culture) and with the involvement of local stakeholders. Activity 3.1.1, a partially undefined USP, has the location of the interventions defined, but the specific adaptation measures to protect the archaeological site have not yet been determined. These measures will be established through a feasibility study that will include environmental and social considerations with the aim of minimizing associated impacts. |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
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| | 14.4 as the project determined whether any of the heritage elements included in the List of World Heritage in Danger are located within the area of influence? | YES | There are no elements from the 'List of World Heritage in Danger' within the project's area of influence. https://whc.unesco.org/en/danger/ |
| | 14.5 Has the project considered all activities to identify the actual risks to each of the identified heritage elements, taking into account the specific characteristics of the activity (location, scale, duration, etc.) and the vulnerability mechanism(s) of each identified heritage element? | YES | The project will not generate interventions that could adversely affect sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional, or religious values, or intangible forms of culture. On the contrary, the project aims to protect these sites from the impacts of climate change. If, during activities involving excavation and movement of soil and sandy sediments, materials, tools, or items of archaeological, paleontological, or historical origin are found, the person identifying the artifact must immediately stop the work and notify their supervisor, who will then inform the MMARN and the Ministry of Culture. The area of the discovery must be marked to prevent unauthorized access to the site. |
| 15. Land and Soil Conservation | 15.1 Has the project identified the presence of fragile soils in the area of influence? | YES | The areas where the project will be implemented include the coastal zone and upper watershed, which is a fragile area with soils susceptible to erosion. The project's objective is to protect the soil from coastal erosion and rehabilitate coastal ecosystems, strengthening them and thus increasing the resilience of both the ecosystem and the surrounding communities. The activities under Component 2, focused on ecosystem-based adaptation solutions, such as the restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems and the strengthening of upstream watersheds, will holistically improve ecosystem services. The project promotes activities that foster the sustainable and integrated management of the upper watershed to maintain or improve water provisioning and regulation services; increase riparian forest cover; reduce erosion and sedimentation in rivers; improve biodiversity by promoting the use of native species; and enhance soil quality. Additionally, activities to restore coral reefs, seagrasses, and mangroves will generate several benefits, including coastal protection (restoring the natural barrier against strong waves), reducing coastal erosion, conserving fishery resources, increasing biodiversity and biomass of marine and coastal species, among others. For more details on activities and ecosystem vulnerability maps, refer to the FP. |
| | 15.2 Has the project identified activities that could lead to soil loss that would not otherwise be fragile? | NO | The project's activities were designed to reduce the vulnerability of coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems, primarily to beach and soil erosion, as well as drought. The proposed measures are based on ecosystem-based adaptation solutions, protecting the soil from coastal erosion and rehabilitating coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems (e.g., upper watershed) to enhance resilience and the adaptive potential of these ecosystems in the face of climate change and an expanding drought. |
| | 15.3 Has the project identified productive lands and/or lands that provide valuable ecosystem services within the area of influence?? | YES | The project's intervention area encompasses sites that provide valuable ecosystem services. These areas include: the watersheds of the Unijica and La Jaiba rivers, the protected areas of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary, and the La Hispaniola National Park. By restoring these vital ecosystems, the project aims to increase biodiversity, stabilize coastlines, and create natural barriers against storm surges and erosion. Healthy coral reefs and mangroves provide essential habitats for marine life, contribute to carbon sequestration, and improve water quality, collectively enhancing the resilience of coastal areas to extreme weather events and changing climatic conditions. Reforestation upstream addresses soil health and watershed management. By planting trees upstream, the project aims to reduce soil erosion, increase water retention, and improve rainwater infiltration. |



| Checklist of E&S Principles | Questions | Yes / No | Evidence-Based Risk Identification |
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| | 15.4 Has the project identified activities that may lead to land degradation? | NO | The project is designed and will be implemented with an Ecosystem-Based Adaptation approach, protecting the soil from coastal erosion and rehabilitating coastal ecosystems, reinforcing them, and thereby increasing the resilience of both the ecosystem and the surrounding communities. |

Following the information and analysis presented in Table 2, Table 3 presents the identification of risks by A&S Principle and describes whether there is an associated risk. **Table 2. Identification of Risks According to E&S Principles**

| Risks Identification per E&S Principles | | |
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| Checklist of E&S Principles | Associated Risks | Associated Risks |
| 1. Compliance with the law | No | There is no risk of violating any national or international law during the design and implementation of the project. The authorities and organizations responsible for enforcing regulations have been involved in this project and in validating the activities from the outset. It has been identified that some activities of the project (components 2 and 3) may require authorizations and/or licenses, mainly from the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, as well as approvals from other government agencies involved, such as MINTUR, MINC, CODEPESCA, local municipalities, among others. The EE (executing entity) will be required to comply with all regulations and legislation applicable to the project. Continuous monitoring will be carried out to ensure that the necessary permits or licenses are obtained and that the activities comply with national regulations and international best practices during the implementation phase. |
| 2. Access and Equity | Yes | It was determined that most of the components had implications related to access and equity issues, such as the risk of not including or limiting equitable access to the benefits of the project. The ESMP includes the "Guidelines for Dissemination and Participatory Strategy," which will serve as a guide to work with and validate the community's "Dissemination and Participatory Strategy Plan" to ensure the participation of marginalized and vulnerable groups, stakeholders, and local authorities. In activities related to the fishing and agricultural sectors, clear and transparent access mechanisms will be established. |
| 3. Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups | Yes | There is a risk that vulnerable and marginalized people may not be able to access the activities and benefits of the project; people with disabilities may not be able to participate adequately, and the works may affect the elderly, children, and women. It is expected that the implementation of activities under component 2 (marine ecosystem restoration, coral reef conservation and restoration program, reforestation upstream) and monitoring activities will be led by community groups with the support of the relevant authorities (MMARN through its various directorates and the Ministry of Agriculture). To address this, the project establishes inclusive training processes so that marginalized groups or vulnerable populations can integrate into the different activities; the materials used will be adapted to the specific needs of the population. |
| 4. Human Rights | No | . All activities will respect and comply with national legislation and international human rights conventions. |
| 5. Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment | Yes | In accordance with the Gender Assessment and Gender Action Plan (Annex 03 and 04), there is a risk that women may not participate actively on equal terms with men in the Project activities. The Gender Plan includes considerations to reduce gender gaps, prevent exacerbating existing inequalities between men and women, and promote the active participation of women in project activities. A Social and Gender Safeguard Specialist will be assigned to oversee the implementation of the GAP and address any adverse effects on women, youth, and girls during the execution of the project. |



| Risks Identification per E&S Principles | | |
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| Checklist of E&S Principles | Associated Risks | Associated Risks |
| 6. Fundamental Labour Rights | Yes | The project adheres to compliance with national labor laws and the regulations of the International Labour Organization (ILO). The Dominican Republic has ratified fundamental conventions: forced labor, freedom of association, collective bargaining, equal remuneration, abolition of forced labor, non-discrimination (employment and occupation), minimum age, and the worst forms of child labor. Employment relationships will be based on the principles of equal opportunity, fair treatment, and non-discrimination. The implementing entity (IE) must apply all fundamental labor standards defined by the International Labour Organization (ILO). Considering that some project activities will require the support of contractors and/or subcontractors, this safeguard is activated, even though they will also be governed by labor laws and ILO standards. |
| 7. Indigenous people | No | There is no risk associated with indigenous peoples having unequal access to opportunities. |
| 8. Involuntary Resettlement | No | There is no risk associated with involuntary resettlements, as there are no interventions related to this. |
| 9. Protection of Natural Habitats | Yes | The project has identified all the critical natural habitats that may be affected (two protected areas) and, based on this analysis, proposes concrete activities to increase the resilience of ecosystems to climate change and environmental degradation. In Component 1, integrate climate change considerations into the development of a resilient ecotourism action plan and co-management plans. This does not apply to Components 1 and 4 as they are planning and capacity-building activities. Risk of works on coastal ecosystems, wetlands. The EIAs will provide a baseline to guide the best types of interventions needed, tailored to the reality of each site. |
| 10. Biodiversity Conservation | Yes | The activities of Component 2, focused on ecosystem-based adaptation solutions, such as the restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems and reforestation of upstream watersheds, will holistically improve ecosystem services: provisioning (e.g., fishing), supporting (e.g., maintaining the life cycle of fauna and local communities), regulating (e.g., preventing erosion, moderating climate change, etc.), and enhancing connectivity between ecosystems. Through the reforestation of degraded lands and marine ecosystem restoration, the goal is to increase forest cover along the shoreline; reduce erosion and sedimentation in rivers; improve biodiversity by promoting the use of native species; and improve soil quality. Additionally, activities to restore coral reefs, seagrasses, and mangroves will generate several benefits: coastal protection (re-establishing the natural barrier against strong waves), reducing coastal erosion, conserving fishery resources, increasing biodiversity and biomass of marine and coastal species, among others. Before starting the implementation of these activities, environmental studies (EIAs) and the necessary authorizations/permits in accordance with the country's environmental legislation must be obtained. |
| 11. Climate Change | No | The project has an adaptation approach (increasing the resilience of ecosystems and the livelihoods of the population). Additionally, some activities have direct benefits in carbon capture (e.g., reforestation, forestry activities, etc.). In this regard, it is not expected that the project activities will significantly increase GHG emissions; when civil works are necessary, it is recognized that vehicle movement may increase emissions, but this impact is considered to be not significant. |
| 12. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency | Yes | This principle applies to Components 2 and 3. The risks are related to the lack of environmental education and awareness, poor agricultural practices (excessive use of pesticides and fertilizers), and unsustainable fishing methods, as well as overexploitation of natural resources leading to inadequate management of solid waste and wastewater. Activities that could increase the amount of waste are associated with the improvement and rehabilitation of access roads and trails, signage, and with reforestation and restoration activities. For these activities, it was determined that the impacts would be temporary, of moderate importance, and limited to pollution prevention and water management. The ESMP recommends that interventions be carried out following the relevant studies and that good environmental and agricultural practices be incorporated. The project will comply with national and international practices related to minimizing adverse impacts on human health and the environment and will promote the sustainable use of resources. Training activities will include education and awareness campaigns for the local population regarding issues of environmental degradation, pollution, and climate change. |



| Risks Identification per E&S Principles | | |
|---|------------------|---|
| Checklist of E&S Principles | Associated Risks | Associated Risks |
| 13. Public Health | No | No public health risks are anticipated. Best practices related to the sectors in which the project operates will be implemented to address and manage risks related to the health and safety of the community. It is expected that through the project's activities, the priority services provided by ecosystems will be improved, and the livelihoods of the community will be diversified and strengthened (becoming more resilient). |
| 14. Physical and Cultural Heritage | Yes | Principle 14 "Physical and Cultural Heritage," Activity 3.1.1 "Protection and Reinforcement of Cultural Heritage" has been designed to protect the Hispaniola National Park from coastal erosion and sea-level rise. This cultural site is currently being evaluated by UNESCO to be declared a World Heritage Site, a process led by the Ministry of Culture. Activity 3.1.1 is a partially undefined USP; the location of the activities is known, but specific adaptation measures to protect the archaeological site have not yet been defined, which will be determined through a feasibility study. An environmental and social impact study will also be conducted, in line with the scale or magnitude of the activities to be proposed. The corresponding permits or authorizations from the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Culture must be obtained, and consultations with authorities and local communities will be carried out. The proposed activities will be framed within the Co-management Plan for this area. The ESMP will be updated based on the results and recommendations of these studies. |
| 15. Land and Soil Conservation | Yes | The project activities were designed to reduce the vulnerability of coastal-marine and terrestrial ecosystems, primarily against erosion. The proposed measures are based on ecosystem-based adaptation solutions to improve coastal-marine habitats and increase the adaptive potential of these ecosystems to climate change, coastal erosion, drought, and other extreme events. |

. Considering Table 1. Expected Results and Activities, Table 2. Identification of Risks by Evidence Base, and Table 3. Identification of Risks by A&S Principles, the environmental and social impacts related to the proposed activities were analyzed. A more detailed identification of risks and impacts by activity has been developed. See Table 4.

Table 4. Identified risks according to the Environmental and Social Policies (E&SP) of the Adaptation Fund and potential environmental and social impacts (E&S).

| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize |
|--|--|---|
| COMPONENT 1 | | |
| Activity 1.1.1 Design and implementation of an inter-institutional coordination mechanism for the management of coastal-marine and cultural resources in the face of climate change. | E&SP3 E&SP 5. The materials developed as part of the coordination and communication protocols should be adapted to the realities of women, youth, and vulnerable groups. | Non-inclusive Information Materials and Processes. |
| Activity 1.2.1 Support for the development of protected area co-management plans climate change considerations. | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, E&SP 5. There is a risk that strategic documents and plans may not align with the interests of the different users or beneficiaries of natural resources (e.g., livestock farmers in the upper watershed and coastal area populations) and may not consider the interests and needs of vulnerable groups. There is also a risk of conflicts of interest among stakeholders regarding co-management, which could affect governance processes and the implementation of the project. | Increase in gaps, exclusion of vulnerable populations and different sectors (livestock farmers, fishers) from planning and decision-making processes, decision-making processes that do not take into account the needs of different sectors. Lack of consensus in the design, approval, and implementation of co-management plans due to the failure to reach agreements among different stakeholders. |
| Activity 1.2.2 Design of strategy and plan for resilient and sustainable eco-tourism development | | |



| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize |
|---|--|---|
| Activity 1.3.1 Information management platform for monitoring key socio-environmental data to support climate-resilient decision-making in Estero Hondo and La Isabela. | E&SP 3, E&SP 5. There is a risk of not including vulnerable populations, people with disabilities, as well as young women and elderly individuals. | Increase in inequality gaps and exclusion of women and vulnerable populations, with informational materials not taking into account the specific needs of these groups. |
| Activity 1.3.2 Improve monitoring of coastal dynamics. | E&SP 3, E&SP 5. Training processes that are not inclusive, failing to use formats and language that are easy to understand and adapted to the needs of vulnerable groups. | Increase in inequality gaps and exclusion of women and vulnerable populations, with no sense of ownership or empowerment among the communities. |
| Activity 1.3.3 Strengthen the drought monitoring system in the project area. | E&SP 3, E&SP 5. Training processes that are not inclusive failing to consider formats and language that are easy to understand and adapted to the needs of vulnerable groups. | Increase in inequality gaps and exclusion of women and vulnerable populations, with no community ownership or empowerment. |
| Activity 1.3.4 Prepares coastal erosion risk maps with climate change considerations | E&SP 3, E&SP 5. There is a risk of not including vulnerable populations, people with disabilities, and young and adult women. Risk maps do not incorporate the knowledge of these groups. | Planning tools and decision-making processes that do not incorporate the needs, interests, or knowledge of women, older adults, and other vulnerable groups. |
| Activity 1.3.5 Improve monitoring of manatee, coral, mangrove, and seagrass populations | E&SP 3, E&SP 9, and E&SP 10. Limited participation of women and temporary impact on fauna due to monitoring activities and boat transportation. | Increased traffic of people or boats in protected/study areas (disturbances or changes in the behavior of certain species). |
| Activity 1.3.6 Improve the recording and monitoring of deforestation | E&SP 9, E&SP 10, and E&SP 12. Risk of pollution from the use of equipment and its components (alkaline batteries), spread of exotic species, and inconsistent data recording on measured parameters. | Accidental spread of exotic species, disturbances or changes in the behavior of certain species, soil and water contamination. |
| Activity 1.3.7 Integrated Basin Planning and Monitoring for the Protection of Coastal Ecosystems. | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, E&SP 5. There is a risk that the development of strategic documents and plans may not align with the interests of different users or beneficiaries of natural resources (e.g., livestock farmers in the upper watershed and coastal area populations), and that they may not include guidelines for integrating vulnerable populations and people with disabilities, resulting in non-inclusive guidelines. There is also a lack of commitment from local communities and authorities to implement activities. | Disagreements among the different watershed users, continued overexploitation of resources, and worsening of the drought problem downstream in the watershed. |
| COMPONENT 2 | | |
| Activity 2.1.1 Establishment and strengthening of plant nurseries | E&SP 9, E&SP 10, and E&SP 15. Spread of invasive species due to lack of knowledge, implementation of bad practices, and use of agrochemicals, improper use of inputs, and natural resources (water, mass collection of native species). | Impact on marine-coastal and terrestrial ecosystems, soil degradation, and loss of biodiversity. Overexploitation of resources (soil and water). |
| | E&SP 3 and E&SP 06. Lack of ownership or limited community participation in activities. E&SP 06. Risks for workers involved, related to occupational health and safety (accidents, repetitive movements, falling objects, heatstroke, sunstroke, cuts, injuries from handling loads or applying force). | Worker illnesses and injuries (fractures, trauma, burns, muscle strains). |



| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize |
|--|--|---|
| Activity 2.1.2 Restoration of Coastal Ecosystem | E&SP 1, E&SP 6, E&SP 9, E&SP 10, and E&SP 12. Introduction of invasive species, exotic species, and the spread of coral diseases. | Impact on marine-coastal and terrestrial ecosystems, soil degradation, and loss of biodiversity. |
| Activity 2.1.3 Restoration of Marine Ecosystem | Risk of contamination from the use of equipment and its components (alkaline batteries). Risks of accidents and injuries. Failure to comply with environmental assessment standards. E&SP 3. Limited involvement of the community and vulnerable groups. Resistance to the transition to better practices. | Tourism overexploitation, exploitation of marine and coastal resources, ecosystem degradation, and environmental pollution. |
| Activity 2.2.1 Upstream Reforestation | E&SP 9, E&SP 10, E&SP 12, and E&SP 15. Spread of invasive species due to lack of knowledge, implementation of bad practices, and use of agrochemicals, improper use of inputs, and natural resources (water, mass collection of native species). | Impact on terrestrial ecosystems, soil degradation, and loss of biodiversity. Overexploitation of resources (soil and water). |
| COMPONENT 3 | | |
| Activity 3.1.1 Protection and reinforcement of Cultural Heritage Against Coastal Erosion | E&SP 3, E&SP 5, and E&SP 06. Lack of participation from stakeholders, especially women and vulnerable groups. Risk of exclusion of local labor, and occupational health and safety risks (accidents, repetitive movements, falling objects, drowning hazards, heatstroke, sunstroke, cuts), etc. E&SP 9, E&SP 10, and E&SP 14. Generation of waste and effluents, exploitation of natural resources and biodiversity, spread of diseases and invasive species. Impact on cultural heritage due to excavation activities, soil movement, or related activities (e.g., paint spills, etc.). | Lack of ownership of the measures by the population, technicians, and authorities. Injuries to workers participating in protection activities. Environmental impacts due to visitor overcrowding, tourist access to reserved conservation areas, and generation of waste and effluents. This activity is a USP, and special attention will be given to identifying and managing potential environmental and social risks associated with the activities to be developed, as well as the implementation of the Environmental Management Plan to avoid and mitigate any environmental and social risks. |
| Activity 3.1.2 Strengthening tourism infrastructure and awareness on climate change and resilience in protected areas. | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, E&SP 5, and E&SP 12. Failure to include gender-based approach and social issues in awareness-raising efforts. Increase in excessive consumption of energy and water. | Increase in inequality gaps and exclusion of women and vulnerable populations. Depletion of local energy sources and release of combustion waste, increasing pressure on water resources. |
| Activity 3.1.3 Support platform for community-based and climate-resilient tourism management. | E&SP 3, E&SP 5. There is a risk of not including vulnerable populations, people with disabilities, and young and elderly women | Increase in inequality gaps and exclusion of women and vulnerable populations, with informational materials not taking into account the specific needs of these groups.. |
| Activity 3.2.1 Technical assistance to strengthen fisheries cooperativism and associations as an adaptation strategy. | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, and E&SP 5. Lack of participation from stakeholders, especially women and vulnerable groups. | Lack of project ownership by the communities. |



| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize |
|---|--|---|
| | | |
| Activity 3.2.2 Promote Resilient Fishing Practices | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, E&SP 5, E&SP 9, E&SP 10. Lack of participation from stakeholders, especially women and vulnerable groups. Failure to include aspects of social inclusion and environmental awareness in the awareness-raising efforts. Conflicts among fishermen, risk of reverting to unsustainable practices. Not considering socioeconomic factors/limitations to achieve changes in cultural practices and migration to other production alternatives. | Lack of project ownership by fishermen, limited involvement of women and other vulnerable groups. Unsustainable fishing practices continue to be used, degrading marine ecosystems and affecting the health and livelihoods of fishermen. |
| Activity 3.3.1 Support for Sustainable Agrotourism and Agricultural MSMEs and startups as a strategy for climate change adaptation | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, E&SP 5, E&SP 12, E&SP 15. Possible exclusion of vulnerable stakeholders if an inclusive approach is not applied in the beneficiary selection process. Risk of limited participation of women if the content and conditions are not adapted to their needs. Additionally, environmental impacts could arise if equipment integration does not consider sustainable criteria, or if productive activities are not adequately aligned with landscape restoration objectives. | Social impacts could arise, such as the exacerbation of pre-existing inequalities, exclusion of vulnerable groups from access to productive opportunities, and limited economic empowerment of women, which would undermine equity and social cohesion within communities. On an environmental level, implementation without sustainable criteria could lead to inefficient resource use, waste generation, or productive practices that degrade soils and hinder ecological restoration processes, thereby reducing the long-term sustainability of the interventions. |
| Activity 4.1.1 Training on climate change mainstreaming and risk management for coastal and marine resources, tourism, and cultural heritage. | Considering that the activities of this component are related to training, communication, or information dissemination processes, no specific or significant environmental risks are identified. Social risks are mainly associated with E&SP 2, E&SP 3, and E&SP 5 due to the lack of participation from stakeholders, especially women and vulnerable groups. Communication processes do not take into account the sociocultural aspects of women and vulnerable groups, and the information is not provided in an appropriate format or in easy-to-understand language. Additionally, the most suitable channels to reach the audience are not considered (e.g., older people with limited access to technology, visually impaired individuals, children, etc.), and there is the use of language that reinforces negative stereotypes and stigmas about vulnerable groups. Lack of participation from stakeholders, especially women and vulnerable groups, is a significant concern. | Lack of dissemination or insufficient dissemination of project activities and the grievance and complaint mechanism. Materials and information processes are not inclusive. Women and vulnerable groups do not have equal access to the benefits of the project, increasing inequality gaps. These groups do not participate in training/information processes because they are not adapted to their needs. Valuable experiences for the population would be made invisible, and there would be a lack of participation from women and vulnerable groups. |
| Activity 4.1.2 Strengthening of interinstitutional coordination and training for climate risk management. | | |
| Activity 4.1.3 Strengthening environmental and social risk management systems, including gender-related issues. | | |
| Activity 4.2.1 Promote access to training programs in Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality Services. | | |
| Activity 4.2.2 Communication and sensitization campaign for the local population on climate change, protected areas, and cultural heritage. | | |
| Activity 4.3.1 Promote the systematization of the project's lessons learned and their dissemination. | | |
| Activity 4.3.2 Exchange of experiences. | | |



General Categorization

Considering the risks identified in Table 4. Activity Identified Risks according to the E&S of the AF and Potential E&S Impacts, Table 5 presents the general categorization of the project:

Table 3. Definition of Categorization

| Questions | Component Answer YES / NO | | |
|--|---------------------------|----------|----------|
| | 1 | 2 y 3 | 4 |
| the project's outputs/activities have diverse significant adverse environmental or social impacts? | No | No | No |
| Do the project's outputs/activities have widespread significant adverse environmental or social impacts? | No | No | No |
| Do the project's outputs/activities have irreversible significant adverse environmental or social impacts? | No | No | No |
| Do the project's outputs/activities have few adverse environmental or social impacts? | No | Yes | No |
| Do the project's products/activities have adverse environmental or social impacts that are of small scale or limited extent? | No | Yes | No |
| Do the project's products/activities have adverse environmental or social impacts that are reversible or easy to mitigate? | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Do the project's products/activities have no adverse environmental or social impacts? | No | No | No |
| Categorization | C | B | C |

All proposed projects/programs were classified according to the scale, nature, and severity of their potential environmental and social impacts. Category A projects/programs are those that are likely to have significant adverse environmental or social impacts that are diverse, widespread, or irreversible. Category B projects/programs are those with potential adverse impacts that are less severe than those in Category A, because they are fewer, smaller in scale, less widespread, reversible, or easy to mitigate. Category C projects/programs are those that have no adverse environmental or social impacts.

Based on the results of the Component Categorization, there are no components that are expected to have significant and irreversible impacts. Components 1 and 4 are classified as low risk (Category C) due to the nature of their activities, which are related to the creation of plans and strategies, awareness-raising and sensitization activities, capacity building, training, and experience exchanges that are not expected to generate any significant environmental or social impacts.

Components 2 and 3 are classified as medium risk (Category B) because they include minor infrastructure activities, which have low and site-specific impacts, such as: the improvement and rehabilitation of access roads and trails within protected areas; signaling (installation of mooring buoys or marine buoys, navigation channel marking for boats); and watershed reforestation and restoration of coral reefs and seagrasses with native species. It is worth noting that Activity 3.1.1 "Protection and Reinforcement of Cultural Heritage" is designed to protect this archaeological site from coastal erosion and rising sea levels. This is a partially undefined USP, and specific adaptation measures to protect the archaeological site have not yet been defined. The measures to be implemented will be determined through a feasibility study that takes into account various factors, including the management of environmental and social risks. This will require consultation processes with local communities and obtaining the necessary studies, permits, and authorizations from the relevant authorities (e.g., Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources). The Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) will be updated based on the results and recommendations of these studies.

Figure 1. Significance of the risk

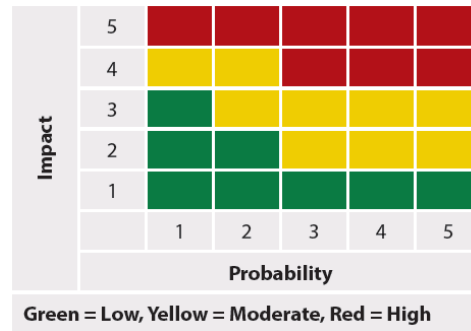


Table 4. Significance of the Risk

| Significance of the Risk | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Checklist of E&S Principles | Risks Identified per E&S Principles | Impact and Probability (1-5) | Significance Low, Moderate, High |
| 1. <i>Compliance with the Law</i> | There is a risk that the activities will be carried out without prior environmental and social assessment. Components 2 and 3. | 3 - 1 | Low |
| 2. <i>Access and Equity</i> | Risk of not including or limiting equitable access to the benefits of the project. Components 1, 2, 3, and 4. | 3 - 2 | Moderate |
| 3. <i>Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups</i> | There is a risk that vulnerable and marginalized people may not be able to participate in or access the activities and benefits of the project. Components 1, 2, 3, and 4. | 3 - 2 | Moderate |
| 5. <i>Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment</i> | There is a risk that women may not be able to fully access the benefits of the project or participate in its activities. The Gender Action Plan includes measures for each activity. Components 1, 2, 3, and 4. | 3 - 2 | Moderate |
| 6. <i>Fundamental Labour Rights</i> | Yes, there are occupational risks for the workers of the contracting companies involved in the construction works. Components 2 and 3. | 3 - 1 | Low |
| 9. <i>Protection of Natural Habitats</i> | Risk of construction works affecting marine-coastal ecosystems and the upper watershed. Components 2 and 3. | 3 - 2 | Moderate |
| 10. <i>Biodiversity Conservation</i> | There is a risk associated with biodiversity conservation, mainly related to tourism promotion interventions and the accidental introduction of invasive species. Components 2 and 3. | 3 - 2 | Moderate |
| 12. <i>Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</i> | The risk in this case is related to activities that may generate waste production and environmental pollution due to improper waste management. Components 2 and 3. | 2 - 2 | Low |
| 13. <i>Public Health</i> | No applicable | 1 - 2 | Low |



Significance of the Risk

| Checklist of E&S Principles | Risks Identified per E&S Principles | Impact and Probability (1-5) | Significance Low, Moderate, High |
|---|---|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 14. <i>Physical and Cultural Heritage</i> | The project will protect cultural sites that are at risk due to erosion. At the same time, special care will be taken in interventions within areas of interest for cultural heritage conservation. Component 3, USP activity. | 1 - 2 | Moderate |
| 15. <i>Land and Soil Conservation</i> | The project has been designed to strengthen ecosystems and improve drainage to prevent the progression of erosion. Therefore, the very nature of the project itself contributes positively to land and soil conservation. Components 2 and 3. | 1 - 1 | Low |

With the identification of the risks according to the A&S Principles, the **proposed project is categorized as B** according to the categories established in the A&S Policies of the Adaptation Fund (AF). Category B corresponds to projects with potential adverse impacts that have few risks, are small-scale, less widespread, reversible, or easily mitigable. Annex 6 (ESMP) presents an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), Communication Guidelines and Participatory Strategy, and a Monitoring, Evaluation, and Supervision Program.



Enhancing Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through adaptation actions
in the Tourism sector in La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in The Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)

ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (ESMP)

ANNEX 6



FINAL REPORT | July 14th 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| 1. INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| 2. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (ESMP) | 1 |
| 3. GRIEVANCE AND COMPLAINT MECHANISM | 10 |
| 4. GUIDELINES FOR DISSEMINATION AND PARTICIPATORY STRATEGY | 14 |
| 5. FOLLOW-UP, EVALUATION, AND MONITORING | 15 |

4. INTRODUCTION

The Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund requires that all projects, after being analyzed under the 15 principles and having identified the risks and impacts of each activity, propose mitigation measures and designate the individuals responsible for implementing them.

This document presents the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the project "Enhancing Climate Resilience of Ecosystems and Livelihoods through Adaptation Actions in the Tourism Sector of La Isabela and Estero Hondo, in the Dominican Republic (RESILTUR)," developed in collaboration with the Government of the Dominican Republic and with technical assistance from the Latin American Development Bank (CAF).

The document is composed of the following sections: Environmental and Social Management Plan, Grievance and Complaint Mechanism, Guidelines for Dissemination and Participation Strategy and Monitoring, Evaluation, and Follow up.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (ESMP)

The comprehensive environmental and social management plan developed for the project includes specific measures to prevent and mitigate the identified environmental and social risks and adverse impacts for all its activities and designates the individuals responsible for their implementation. Additionally, it outlines the grievance and complaint mechanism, the monitoring, evaluation, and follow up of the mechanism, as well as the guidelines for dissemination and the participatory strategy, which are fundamental components of this Plan.

As stated in the E&S policy of the AF, the results of the E&S evaluation of the Project, including this management plan, will be made available to the communities directly affected by the proposed project. The AF Secretariat will publicly disclose the final E&S evaluation through the Fund's website as soon as it is received. The implementing entity (CAF) is responsible for disclosing the final E&S evaluation to the people affected by the Project and other stakeholders, as well as the Project execution reports, including the status of the implementation of environmental and social measures. Any significant changes proposed to the Project during its execution will be made available for effective and timely validation with the communities directly affected.

2.1 Environmental and Social Mitigation Measures

An exhaustive Environmental and Social Management Plan has been developed for the entire project, which includes specific environmental and social mitigation measures to prevent and mitigate the adverse environmental and social risks identified for all project activities (see Table 1). Activity 3.1.1 "Protection and reinforcement of cultural heritage from coastal erosion" has been designed to protect La Isabela's archaeological site from coastal erosion and sea-level rise. This activity is a "Partially Undefined" USP, the location of the activities is known, but specific adaptation measures to protect the archaeological site have not yet been defined. These measures will be determined through a feasibility study that takes into account various environmental and social aspects to minimize adverse environmental and social impacts. This USP will undergo the same risk identification process and safeguard steps as the fully formulated activities included in the proposal, including validation with stakeholders. Considering the characteristics and small scale of the investments, the assigned classification is "Type B."

The Project Management Unit (PMU) of the executing entity will have an Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist (ESS) and Gender Specialist (GS), who will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of this ESMP and other associated environmental and social management plans.

For the implementation of this Plan, an amount of USD 237,689 has been allocated within the project budget.



Table 5. Mitigation Measures for Managing Environmental and Social Impacts and Risks.

(*) activities in which civil society should participate.

| Risks, potential impacts, and mitigation measures by activity | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Parties for Verification |
| COMPONENT 1 | | | | |
| Activity 1.1.1 Design and implementation of an inter-institutional coordination mechanism for the management of coastal-marine and cultural resources in the face of climate change | E&SP 3 E&SP 5: The materials developed as part of the coordination and communication protocols should be adapted to the realities of women, youth, and vulnerable groups. | Non-inclusive information materials and processes. | Develop informational materials in a format and language that is easy to understand and tailored to the needs of vulnerable groups, and ensure appropriate communication channels are in place to disseminate relevant project information. Communication materials must consider guidelines and best practices for inclusive communication regarding disabilities. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist |
| Activity 1.2.1 Support the development of protected area Co-Management Plans with climate change considerations (*) | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, E&SP 5: There is a risk that strategic documents and plans may not align with the interests of the different users or beneficiaries of natural resources (e.g., livestock farmers in the upper watershed and coastal zone populations), and may fail to consider the interests and needs of vulnerable groups. There is also a risk of Conflicts of Interest among stakeholders regarding the co-management approach, which could affect governance processes and project implementation. | Widening of gaps, exclusion of vulnerable populations and various sectors (livestock farmers, fishers) from planning and decision-making processes, and decision-making that does not consider the needs of different groups. Lack of consensus in the design, approval, and implementation of co-management plans/strategies due to the failure to reach agreements among stakeholders. | Develop and socialize a Dissemination Plan and Participatory Strategy that outlines the communication and coordination procedures for activities with civil society, local communities, high schools, neighborhood organizations, and especially youth, to promote the participation and empowerment of these groups in the project activities. Socialize plans, strategies, and guidelines or instruments with the community and civil society organizations (CSOs) prior to their approval. The dissemination of these documents will take place during the meetings outlined in the "Communication and Participatory Strategy Plan." Develop materials based on the guidelines and best practices for inclusive communication of disability. Value the work of women in nurseries, conservation and reforestation activities, monitoring, and co-management efforts. Agree with the Ministries and communities on a protocol for conflict resolution at the local level, based on best practices. Widely disseminate the Project Grievance Mechanism. Refer to the Gender Action Plan for specific measures by type of activity. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist, MMARN, CODEPESCA |
| Activity 1.2.2 Design of a strategy and plan for Resilient and Sustainable Ecotourism development (*) | | | | |



| Risks, potential impacts, and mitigation measures by activity | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Parties for Verification |
| Activity 1.3.1 Information Management Platform for monitoring key Socio-Environmental data to support climate resilient decision making in EH and La Isabela | E&SP 3, E&SP 5: There is a risk of not including vulnerable populations, people with disabilities, and young women and elderly individuals. There is also a risk that communication activities may not be accessible and inclusive for people with disabilities. | Widening of inequality gaps and exclusion of women and vulnerable populations, with informational materials not taking into account the specific needs and characteristics of these groups. | Develop materials considering the guidelines and best practices for inclusive communication regarding disabilities, in a format and language that is easy to understand and adapted to the needs of vulnerable groups and women. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist |
| Activity 1.3.2 Improve monitoring of Coastal Dynamics (*) | E&SP 3, E&SP 5: Training processes do not consider formats and language that are easy to understand and adapted to the needs of vulnerable groups. | Widening of inequality gaps and exclusion of women and vulnerable populations, with a lack of ownership and empowerment within the communities. | Promote professional training and hiring processes for women to participate in monitoring activities. Develop informational materials in an easy-to-understand format and language, adapted to the needs of vulnerable groups, and ensure appropriate communication channels to disseminate relevant project information. The communication materials must take into account guidelines and best practices for inclusive communication regarding disabilities. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist. |
| Activity 1.3.3 Strengthen the Drought Monitoring System in the Project Area (*) | E&SP 3, E&SP 5: Training processes are not inclusive, as they do not consider formats and language that are easy to understand and adapted to the needs of vulnerable groups. | | | |
| Activity 1.3.4 Prepare Coastal Erosion Risk Maps with Climate Change Considerations (*) | E&SP 3, E&SP 5: There is a risk of not including vulnerable populations, people with disabilities, and young and adult women. Risk maps do not incorporate the knowledge of these groups. | Planning tools and decision-making processes that do not incorporate the needs, interests, or knowledge of women, older adults, and other vulnerable groups. | Involve relevant stakeholder in decision making process and share plans, strategies, and guidelines or tools with the community and civil society organizations (CSOs) prior to their approval. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist |
| Activity 1.3.5 Improve the monitoring of manatee populations, corals, mangroves, and seagrass populations. (*) | E&SP 3, E&SP 9, and E&SP 10. Low participation of women and temporary impact on wildlife due to monitoring activities and boat transfers. | Increased traffic of people or boats in protected/study areas (disturbances or changes in the behavior of some species). | Include signage indicating the restrictions applicable to certain areas of the parks and conduct awareness campaigns about the importance of conservation and restoration of the ecosystems they provide. Strengthen community monitoring processes to record and report illegal activities (hunting, fishing exploitation, etc.) in these areas. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist. |



| Risks, potential impacts, and mitigation measures by activity | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Parties for Verification |
| Activity 1.3.6 Improve the recording and monitoring of deforestation. (*) | E&SP 9, E&SP 10, and E&SP 12. Risk of contamination due to the use of equipment and its accessories (alkaline batteries), spread of exotic species, inconsistent data records on the measured parameters. | Accidental spread of exotic species, disturbances or changes in the behavior of some species, soil and water contamination. | Empower local communities to lead restoration movements through inclusive training processes. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist. |
| Activity 1.3.7 Integrated Basin Planning and Monitoring for the protection of Coastal Ecosystems. (*) | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, E&SP 5. There is a risk that the development of strategic documents and plans may not align with the interests of different users or beneficiaries of natural resources (e.g., livestock farmers in the upper watershed and coastal zone population), and that they may not include guidelines to integrate vulnerable populations and people with disabilities, or use non-inclusive guidelines. Lack of commitment from communities and local authorities to implement activities. | Disagreements among the different users of the watershed, continuing overexploitation of resources, and exacerbating the downstream drought problem. | Share plans, strategies, and guidelines or tools with the community and civil society organizations (CSOs) prior to their approval. Disseminate information about the Project's Grievance Mechanism, indicating how and where complaints and claims can be submitted. Keep a record of the complaints analyzed, responded to, and managed. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist. |
| COMPONENT 2 | | | | |
| Activity 2.1.1 Establishment and strengthening of plant nurseries (*) | E&SP 9, E&SP 10, and E&SP 15. Spread of invasive species due to lack of knowledge, implementation of poor practices, and use of agrochemicals, improper use of inputs and natural resources (water, mass collection of native species). | Impact on marine-coastal and terrestrial ecosystems, soil degradation, and loss of biodiversity. Overexploitation of resources (soil and water). | The introduction, spread, planting, and reforestation with non-native, invasive, or exotic species is prohibited. The project will work closely with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MMARN) to identify endemic, native, and/or naturalized species that are best adapted to the project's area of influence and provide training and technical support at the community and school levels for the proper management of nurseries and good agricultural practices. This will include training in the identification and management of invasive species, efficient irrigation systems (e.g., drip irrigation, micro-sprinklers), integrated pest management, among others. The project takes into account the guidelines established in the National Strategy for Invasive Alien Species. Adequate measures will be taken to ensure that only local or native species adapted to the areas are used for reforestation. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist. |



| Risks, potential impacts, and mitigation measures by activity | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Parties for Verification |
| | E&SP 3 and E&SP 06: Lack of ownership or limited community participation in activities. E&SP 06: Risks for workers involved, related to health and occupational safety (accidents, repetitive movements, falling objects, heat stroke, sunstroke, cuts, injuries from handling loads or applying force). | Workers' diseases and injuries (fractures, trauma, burns, muscle strains) | Establish training or capacity-building campaigns for the use of good practices in occupational health and safety. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist . |
| Activity 2.1.2 Restoration of Coastal Ecosystem. (*) | E&SP 1, E&SP 6, E&SP 9, E&SP 10, and E&SP 12. Introduction of invasive, exotic species, spread of coral diseases. Risk of contamination due to the use of equipment and its accessories (alkaline batteries). Risk of accidents, injuries. Failure to comply with environmental assessment standards. | Impact on marine-coastal and terrestrial ecosystems, soil degradation, and loss of biodiversity. Tourism overexploitation, exploitation of marine and coastal resources, ecosystem degradation, environmental pollution. | Training and awareness processes should take into account the needs and interests of vulnerable populations, women, and youth to promote their active participation, and provide recognition (e.g., diploma or certifications) that supports these stakeholders knowledge, capacities and experience. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist . |
| Activity 2.1.3 Restoration of Marine Ecosystem. (*) | E&SP 3. Limited involvement by the community and vulnerable groups. Rejection of the transition to better practices. | | Incorporate into the training and awareness processes information on best practices for waste management, sustainable tourism, ecosystem services, use of technology promoted by the project, along with gender sensitization campaigns, among others. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist . |
| Activity 2.2.1 Upstream Reforestation. (*) | E&SP 9, E&SP 10, E&SP 12, and E&SP 15. Spread of invasive species due to lack of knowledge, implementation of poor practices, and use of agrochemicals, improper use of inputs and natural resources (water, mass collection of native species). | Impact on terrestrial ecosystems, soil degradation, and loss of biodiversity. Overexploitation of resources (soil and water). | Train women, youth, and children on best agricultural practices and occupational health and safety, including biosecurity protocols. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist . |
| COMPONENT 3 | | | | |



| Risks, potential impacts, and mitigation measures by activity | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Parties for Verification |
| Activity 3.1.1 Protection and reinforcement of Cultural Heritage from coastal erosion. | <p>E&SP 3, E&SP 5, and E&SP 06. Lack of participation from stakeholders, especially women and vulnerable groups. Risk of exclusion of local labor, and health and occupational safety risks (accidents, repetitive movements, falling objects, drowning risks, heat stroke, sunstroke, cuts), etc. Risk that the access roads and trails will not be adapted for people with mobility issues.</p> <p>E&SP 9, E&SP 10, and E&SP 14. Generation of waste and effluents, exploitation of natural resources and biodiversity, spread of diseases and invasive species. Impact on cultural heritage due to excavation activities and soil movement or related activities (paint spills, etc.).</p> | <p>Lack of ownership of measures by the population, technicians, and authorities. Injuries to workers participating in protection activities.</p> <p>Environmental impacts due to visitor overload, tourists' access to reserved conservation areas, generation of waste and effluents.</p> <p>Vulnerable groups (people with disabilities, mobility difficulties, the visually impaired, and others) do not benefit from the project.</p> <p>This activity is a USP; special attention will be given to the identification and management of potential environmental and social risks associated with the activities to be carried out, and the implementation of the Environmental Management Plan, to avoid and mitigate any environmental and social risks.</p> | <p>If during the work involving excavation and movement of soil and sandy sediments in the Project, materials, utensils, or pieces are found that suggest an archaeological, paleontological, or historical origin, the person who identifies the artifact must immediately order the suspension of the work and notify their supervisor, who will in turn notify MMARN and the Ministry of Culture. The discovery area must be marked to prevent unauthorized personnel from accessing the site.</p> <p>Include in the bidding documents that the design of access roads, trails, and other works must be based on inclusive infrastructure (considering the diverse needs of all, especially the most marginalized, and empowering all people to have a good quality of life).</p> <p>Promote good practices aimed at strengthening occupational health and safety and ensuring compliance with labor rights.</p> <p>Before executing this activity, the specialists from the executing entity must conduct an environmental and social risk assessment, adjust the corresponding mitigation measures, and share the results with the community. The evaluation must align with the classification of low or medium risk.</p> | Project Management Unit |
| Activity 3.1.2 Strengthening tourism infrastructure and raising awareness on | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, E&SP 5, and E&SP 12. Not including gender-focused aspects and social issues in the awareness-raising activities. | Increase in inequality gaps and exclusion of women and vulnerable populations. Depletion of local energy | Include in the bidding documents that the design of access roads, trails, and other works must be based on inclusive infrastructure (considering the diverse needs of all, especially the most marginalized, and empowering all people to have a good quality of life). | Project Management Unit (PMU), |



| Risks, potential impacts, and mitigation measures by activity | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Parties for Verification |
| climate change and resilience in protected areas | Increase in excessive consumption of energy and water. | sources and release of combustion waste, increased pressure on water resources. | Promote good practices aimed at strengthening occupational health and safety and ensuring compliance with labor rights. | Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist . |
| Activity 3.1.3 Support platform for community-based and climate-resilient tourism management. | E&SP 3, E&SP 5. There is a risk of not including vulnerable populations, people with disabilities, and young women and older adults. | Increase in inequality gaps and exclusion of women and vulnerable populations, informational materials do not take into account the particularities of these groups. | The project emphasizes creating job opportunities for women as environmental promoters, nature guides, and in monitoring activities. Refer to the Gender Action Plan for specific measures to promote the participation of vulnerable populations and women in the project. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist . |
| Activity 3.2.1 Technical assistance to strengthen fisheries cooperativism and association as an adaptation strategy. | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, and E&SP 5. Lack of participation from stakeholders, especially women and vulnerable groups. | Lack of ownership of the project by the communities. | Train women and youth in leadership and management, as well as in value-added topics within the fishing chain. Prioritize the development of awareness and sensitization programs for key stakeholders on environmental management, sustainable resource management, climate change, and community monitoring activities. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist . |
| Activity 3.2.2 Promote resilient fishing practices. | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, E&SP 5, E&SP 9, E&SP 10. Lack of participation from stakeholders, especially women and vulnerable groups. Not including aspects of social inclusion and environmental awareness in the sensitization efforts. Conflicts among fishermen, risk of reversal of unsustainable practices. Failure to consider socio-economic factors/limitations in achieving changes in cultural practices and migration to alternative production methods. | Lack of ownership of the project by the fishermen, limited involvement of women and other vulnerable groups. Unsustainable fishing methods continue to be used, degrading marine ecosystems and impacting the health and livelihood of fishermen. | Collaborate with women and men fishermen, fishery workers, fishing cooperatives, and government authorities in the development of inclusive communication products. Training processes should take into account socio-economic factors/limitations that allow fishermen to transition to more sustainable fishing methods. Disseminate information about the Project's Grievance Mechanism, indicating how and where complaints and claims can be submitted. Keep a record of the complaints analyzed, responded to, and managed. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist . |
| Activity 3.3.1 Support for sustainable agro-tourism and agriculture MSMEs (Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises) | E&SP 2, E&SP 3, E&SP 5, E&SP 12, E&SP 15. Possible exclusion of vulnerable actors if an inclusive approach is not applied in the selection of beneficiaries. Risk of limited participation of women if the | Social impacts could arise, such as the exacerbation of pre-existing inequalities, the exclusion of vulnerable groups from access to productive opportunities, | Design clear and transparent beneficiary selection criteria, with verification mechanisms to ensure the inclusion of vulnerable groups. Incorporate affirmative actions for women in the call for applications, training, and technical assistance, including adapted schedules, topics, and methodologies. | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist . |



| Risks, potential impacts, and mitigation measures by activity | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Parties for Verification |
| and startups as a strategy for climate change adaptation. | content and conditions are not adapted to their needs. Additionally, environmental impacts may arise if the incorporation of equipment does not meet sustainable criteria, or if the productive activities are not properly aligned with landscape restoration objectives. | and the limitation of women's economic empowerment, which would undermine equity and social cohesion in the communities. At the environmental level, implementation without sustainable criteria could lead to inefficient resource use, waste generation, or productive practices that degrade soils and affect ecological restoration processes, thus reducing the long-term sustainability of the interventions. | Train beneficiaries in good environmental practices, waste management, and efficient resource use, especially in relation to new equipment. Ensure that productive activities align with landscape restoration objectives through technical guidance and sustainability criteria. | |
| Activity 4.1.1 Training on climate change mainstreaming and risk management for coastal and marine resources, tourism and cultural heritage | Considering that the activities of this component are associated with training, communication, or dissemination of information processes, no specific or significant environmental risks are identified. Regarding social risks, they are mainly associated with E&SP 2, E&SP 3, and E&SP 5 due to the lack of participation from stakeholders, especially women and vulnerable groups. Communication processes do not take into account the sociocultural aspects of women and vulnerable groups, information is not provided in an appropriate format or in language that is easy to understand, and the most suitable channels to reach the audience are not considered (such as older adults | If environmental and social experiences are not shared, mistakes related to these aspects could be repeated. Lack of dissemination or insufficient dissemination of project activities and the grievance and complaint mechanism. Materials and information processes are not inclusive. Women and vulnerable groups do not access the benefits of the project on equal terms, increasing the gaps of inequality. These groups do not participate in training/information | Develop materials taking into account the guidelines and best practices of inclusive communication for disabilities, in a format and language that is easily understandable and adapted to the needs of vulnerable groups and women. A communication and awareness plan will be designed and implemented with a social and gender perspective, differentiating target audiences to tailor messages, media, and actions accordingly. Train women and young people in leadership and management, conservation, and reforestation, considering transportation costs for women and support for caregiving responsibilities, if applicable. Prioritize the development of awareness and sensitization programs for key stakeholders on environmental management and sustainable resource use, climate change, and community monitoring activities. Recognize and value all types of knowledge, acknowledging and giving credit to women and men for sharing and using their information and knowledge. Carry out awareness campaigns on child sexual abuse and exploitation crimes committed within families, the tourism sector, and through information and communication technologies, aimed at children, families, communities, schools, and institutions. These | Project Management Unit (PMU), Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist . |
| Activity 4.1.2 Strengthening inter-institutional coordination and training for climate risk management. | | | | |
| Activity 4.1.3 Strengthening environmental and social risk management systems, including gender-related issues. | | | | |



| Risks, potential impacts, and mitigation measures by activity | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Activity | Identified Risks According to the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund | Environmental and Social Impacts if the Risks Were to Materialize | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Parties for Verification |
| Activity 4.2.1 Promote access to training programs in Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality Services. | with limited access to technology, people with visual impairments or blindness, children, etc.). Additionally, language that reinforces negative stereotypes and stigmas of vulnerable groups is used. There is a lack of participation from stakeholders, especially women and vulnerable groups. | processes because they are not adapted to their needs. It would make valuable experiences for the population invisible and result in a lack of participation from women and vulnerable groups. | campaigns should be based on promoting social norms that protect children's rights and gender equality. Disseminate information of the grievance mechanism inclusively and in a culturally appropriate manner. | |
| Activity 4.2.2 Communication and sensitization campaign for the local population on climate change, protected areas, and cultural heritage. | | | | |
| Activity 4.3.1 Promote the systematization of project's lessons learned and their dissemination. | | | | |
| Activity 4.3.2 Exchange of experiences. | | | | |



6. GRIEVANCE AND COMPLAINT MECHANISM

The present mechanism will be applied to all activities of the project without exception and will be disseminated through all communication and relationship instances with stakeholders. Likewise, during the preparatory activities and dissemination of the Rotating Fund, it will be shared and made available to each of the beneficiaries or potential beneficiaries as parties involved in the USP, so that they can know and understand the operation of this grievance and complaint mechanism.

3.1 Communication to the public

On the CAF website, the relevant information is available to the public to file a complaint or claim regarding any project that CAF implements under the Adaptation Fund: Link: <https://www.caf.com/en/action-areas/environment-and-climate-change/projects/>

In line with the principles of accountability and the handling of complaints and claims, a complaint and claim management system will be implemented to address those that may arise during the project cycle with the Green Funds (GEF, Adaptation Fund, or Green Climate Fund).

To this end, an Ad-hoc Complaints and Claims Management Committee will be established, composed of CAF executives, and an ombudsman will be appointed.

The following communication channels have been established for the receipt of complaints and claims:

- Email: proyectos_GEF_GCF_AF@caf.com
- Address: CAF Representation Office in the country where the project is being implemented (send a sealed envelope addressed to the CAF Grievances and Complaints Management Committee).

Protection of Whistleblowers: In accordance with the Policy Guidelines for Accountability and the Management of Complaints and Claims, the President of the Complaints and Claims Management Committee ensures the confidentiality of the information provided and the source.

3.2 Who can file a complaint?

The following individuals or entities may file a complaint or claim related to a violation or non-compliance with the Environmental and Social Principles and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund for any project funded with AF resources: (a) Any group of two or more people with a common interest, in the country or countries where the CAF-AF project is located, who have suffered or may suffer direct harm due to a CAF-AF project that is likely to be approved or is already in execution. (b) A duly authorized representative of a group may file grievance or complaints. (c) A person who is not part of the affected group and is not locally based may act as the group's representative only if the person provides evidence that there is no adequate or appropriate capacity within the local community to file a claim. In such cases, the person must be fluent in the native language of the group members and be able to communicate effectively with the affected group. (d) The CAF Board of Directors.

3.3 Administrative bodies to process a grievance or complaint.

The administrative bodies for receiving, responding to, and processing grievances or complaints are as follows:

- a) The Ombudsman (OP) will report to the Executive President.
- b) The Grievance Processing Committee.

This Committee is composed of:

- Representative of the CAF Country Office;
 - Vice Presidency of Administration (Talent Management Department or personnel and payroll services unit);
 - Legal Advisory;
 - Development Cooperation Funds Department;
 - Risk Management Department.
- a) Conflict Resolution Facilitator: an external consultant with expertise in conflict resolution appointed by the Grievance and Complaints Committee.
 - b) Expert in Environmental and Social Policy Compliance – Safeguards: an external consultant with expertise in safeguards appointed by the Grievance and Complaints Management Committee.
 - c) CAF - AF Technical Focal Point and Financial Focal Point CAF – AF.
 - d) AF Project Implementer.

Annual external audits will be conducted to assess CAF's compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy for CAF / Adaptation Fund projects.



3.4 Roles and Responsibilities.

Ombudsman (OP)

- Has overall responsibility for the functioning of the CAF-AF Project Complaints and Claims Management System.
- Registers the grievance or complaint.
- Ensures compliance with deadlines or the approval of extensions for the grievances and complaints system.
- Activates the Grievance Management Committee.
- Contacts the Project Implementer.
- Contacts the CAF Adaptation Fund Focal Points (Technical Focal Point and Financial Focal Point).
- Receives the eligibility of the complaint from the Grievance Processing Committee to proceed to the Dispute Resolution Phase.
- Coordinates and provides information and responses to all relevant parties at each phase and process of the CAF-FA Project Complaints and Claims System.

Conflict Resolution Facilitator:

- Reviews the Project Performance Report (PPR).
- Assists the Expert in Environmental and Social Policy Compliance Verification to review non-compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund by the CAF-AF Project.
- Prepares the Compliance Verification Report for the Grievances and Complaints Management Committee.
- Prepares the Dispute Resolution Report and includes a Monitoring and Follow-up Plan to be executed by the facilitator.
- Prepares a Final Closing Report.

Expert in Environmental and Social Policy Compliance Verification:

- Reviews the Project Performance Report (PPR) concerning Risk Assessment and Environmental and Social Indicators.
- Reviews the Environmental and Social Management Plan approved by the Adaptation Fund and its compliance.
- Conducts the compliance review
- If any non-compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund by the CAF-AF Project is detected, formulates recommendations for corrective actions.
- Prepares the Compliance Verification Report related to the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund for the Conflict Resolution Facilitator.

The Grievance Management Committee:

- Reviews the Project Performance Report (PPR) in relation to Risk Assessment and Indicators.
- Conducts an initial assessment of the complaint received or claim and confirms whether it is appropriate to proceed to the Conflict Resolution Phase.
- Decides whether or not to proceed to the Conflict Resolution Phase.
- Decides whether or not to accept the conclusions and recommendations presented in the Compliance Verification Report.
- Reviews and approves the Compliance Verification Report presented by the Conflict Resolution Facilitator.
- Communicates the Compliance Verification Report and decision on the conclusions and recommendations to the PO.
- Approves the Dispute Resolution Report and the Monitoring and Supervision Plan presented by the Conflict Resolution Facilitator.
- Approves the Implementation Plan presented by the Implementer.
- Reviews the reports from the Monitoring and Supervision Plan.
- Approves the final closing report.

CAF - AF Technical Focal Point:

- Carries out all communication between CAF and the Adaptation Fund regarding technical matters related to the projects/programs..
- Reviews the Project Performance Report (PPR) related to Risk Assessment and Indicators.
- Reviews the Compliance Verification Report related to the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.
- Receives, through the OP, the reports and decisions of the Grievance Management Committee, the Conflict Resolution Facilitator, and the Compliance Verification Expert on the Environmental and Social Policy.
- Advises the Grievance Management Committee on all matters related to the Adaptation Fund.

CAF - AF Financial Focal Point:

- Handles all communications between CAF and the Adaptation Fund regarding financial matters of the projects/programs.
- Reviews the Project Performance Report (PPR) in relation to Risk Assessment and Indicators.
- Reviews the Compliance Verification Report related to the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy.



- Receives, through the OP, the reports and decisions issued by the Grievance Management Committee, the Conflict Resolution Facilitator, and the Compliance Verification Expert on the Environmental and Social Policy.
- Advises the Grievance Management Committee on all matters related to the Adaptation Fund.

AF Project Implementing Entity

- Provides all information requested by the Grievance Management Committee, the Conflict Resolution Facilitator, and the Compliance Verification Expert on Environmental and Social Policies for review and verification in relation to the complaint or grievance received.
- Participates in the Conflict Resolution Phase.
- Develops and implements the Implementation Plan.

3.5 Phases of the Grievance Mechanism

Phase 1: Receipt of a Complaint or Grievance

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| <p>At any time during the start-up and implementation of the project.</p> <p>Depending on the project and until the final verification of its proper functioning.</p> | <p>Step 1: Receipt of the Complaint or Grievance Individuals or groups who may submit a grievance or complaint and who believe they have been or may be adversely affected by the environmental and social impacts of a project in which CAF acts as the implementing agency for the AF should be considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The complaint or grievance may refer to any stage of the project, whether it is the design or the implementation. - The complaint or grievance can be received via email, physical letter delivered to one of CAF's Representation Offices, or through the system established during the formulation of the Full Proposal. - In remote areas, where access to telecommunications or electronic means is limited, CAF, in coordination with the Project Implementing Entity during the preparation of the Full Proposal, may receive the grievance or complaint via email, physical letter, or through any of CAF's Representative Offices. - During the formulation of the Full Proposal, effective alternative mechanisms will be adopted so that the individuals involved can submit their complaints or grievances. These effective alternative mechanisms should ensure proper translation and written records in case the native language of the affected group is different from Spanish, Portuguese, or English. |
| <p>Within 20 business days of receiving the complaint or grievance (up to a maximum of 35 business days in special justified cases).</p> | <p>Step 2: Registration and Acknowledgment of Receipt of the Complaint or Grievance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The OP acknowledges receipt of the complaint or grievance to the complainants. - The Project Office (PO) verifies the information of the complainants and the request (problem resolution or compliance review). - The PO registers the grievance on the CAF-AF Projects web portal. - The PO may postpone the grievance until sufficient information and documentation are provided. - The PO ensures the confidentiality of the complainants' identities upon request. - The PO activates the Grievance Processing Committee. |
| <p>Within 3 business days of the complaint or grievance being published on the CAF-FA web portal.</p> | <p>Step 3: Transmission of the Complaint or Grievance The OP activates the Grievance Processing Committee by forwarding the complaint or grievance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Grievance and Complaints Processing Committee - Other appropriate CAF departments or area offices (if the nature of the complaint or grievance falls within their scope of responsibility). |
| <p>(3) The deadline in business days after the new submission of the complaint or grievance.</p> | <p>Step 4. Complainant Update The OP informs the complainants about the process that CAF will follow with the complaint or grievance and provides contact information.</p> |

Phase 2: Conflict Resolution

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| <p>Within 10 business days of receiving the complaint or grievance (up to a maximum of 20 business days in special justified cases).</p> | <p>Step 1: Determine Admissibility The Ombudsperson (OP) presents the information to the Grievance Processing Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Grievance Processing Committee reviews the information and decides on the appropriate course of action (compliance review or conflict/problem resolution). - The Grievance Processing Committee forwards the information to the conflict resolution facilitator. |
| <p>Within 20 business days of receiving the complaint or</p> | <p>Step 2: Evaluation of the Complaint or Grievance</p> |



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| grievance (up to a maximum of 35 business days in special justified cases). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Conflict Resolution Facilitator will prepare the Compliance Verification Report and the Monitoring and Follow-up Plan, in accordance with the verification by the Compliance Verification Expert on the Environmental and Social Policy, based on the PPR and the Environmental and Social Management Plan approved in the Full Proposal by the Adaptation Fund. - The Conflict Resolution Facilitator will present the Compliance Verification Report and the Monitoring and Follow-up Plan to the Grievance Management Committee. - The Grievance Management Committee communicates the Compliance Verification Report and the decision regarding the conclusions and recommendations to the OP. |
| The time required depends on the specific conditions, context, nature, and complexity of the issues. | <p>Step 3: Conflict Resolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Conflict Resolution Facilitator coordinates with the stakeholders for their participation in problem-solving activities through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) consultative dialogue (b) information exchange (c) investigation (d) a mediation mechanism (e) other problem-solving methods. - The Conflict Management Facilitator and the stakeholders (including the Implementing Entity) agree on the corrective measures. - The Conflict Resolution Facilitator presents the Problem Resolution Report to the Grievance Management Committee, with a copy to the OP. - The Project Executing Entity presents the Implementation Plan. - The Compliance Verification Expert on the Environmental and Social Policy will participate in Step 3 of Conflict Resolution. - The Grievance Processing Committee approves the Problem Resolution Report and the Monitoring and Follow-up Plan presented by the Conflict Resolution Facilitator. - The Grievance Processing Committee approves the Implementation Plan presented by the Implementer. - The Grievance Processing Committee reviews the reports on the Monitoring and Follow-up Plan. - If no agreement is reached, the problem resolution process is concluded. |
| The time required depends on the specific conditions of the Plan and the Project. | <p>Step 4. Implementation and supervision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Implementation Plan is executed by the Implementer, while the Conflict Management Facilitator follows the Monitoring Plan and its reporting schedule. |
| Within 10 business days after the completion of the Execution Plan (a maximum of 20 business days in special justified cases). | <p>Step 5. End of the problem resolution process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Once the Application Plan and the Monitoring Plan are completed, the Conflict Management Facilitator prepares a Final Closure Report. - The Grievances Management Committee approves the Final Closure Report. - The PO approves the Final Closure Report. - The PO sends the Final Closure Report to the stakeholders. |

3.3 Sustainability of the complaint mechanism

The proposal includes training activities for key technical government staff and decision-makers, as well as for local communities, the development of partnerships and agreements with relevant government institutions for the maintenance of investments, supporting local ownership of the activities.

As part of the planned awareness-raising and training activities, the project includes the signing of agreements to ensure the social and environmental sustainability of the project results. During the project implementation, support will be provided for the integration of risk management activities into the overall climate risk management process, thereby ensuring long-term environmental and social outcomes.

Regarding the sustainability of the complaint mechanism once the project is completed, it is proposed to work with the three regional corporations during the project implementation to streamline their processes and ensure the integration of the project's complaint mechanism into existing government structures. Several agencies that manage this type of mechanism already exist, as described below.

The country has an environmental complaint mechanism within the National Directorate of Quality and Environmental Assessment of the Ministry of Environment, where complaints can be submitted online, by phone, or in person at the Ministry's reception desk. The National Institution for Human Rights and Ombudsman (INDDHH) receives complaints about potential violations of human rights recognized in national or international regulations. These must originate exclusively from the responsibility of state institutions or agencies. The Ministry of Labor and Social Security handles complaints related to labor issues, such as violations of labor rights or unsafe working conditions.



Based on the implementation of training activities on environmental and social safeguards and complaint mechanisms, the project will collaborate with national and local institutions to integrate the specific issues of the RESILTUR project and ensure that the complaint mechanism remains operational in the post-project phase under the responsibility of the Government.

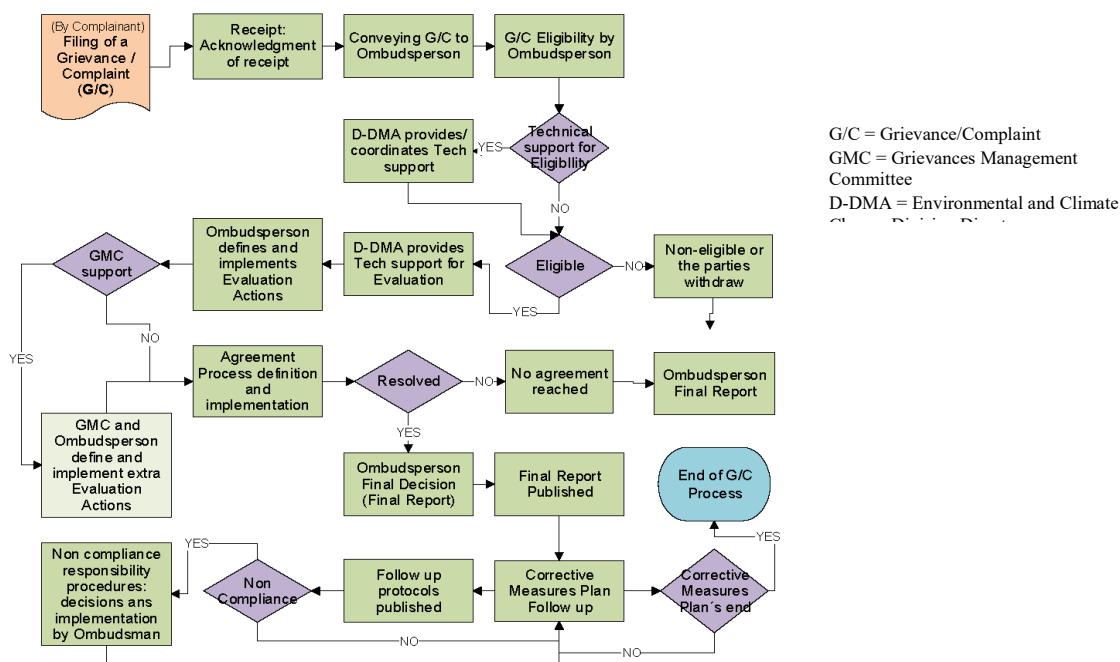


Figure 2. Grievances and complaints reception mechanism

7. GUIDELINES FOR DISSEMINATION AND PARTICIPATORY STRATEGY

CAF and AF are committed to ensuring the effective and informed participation of direct stakeholders in the formulation and execution of the project. The effective participation of stakeholders is a cornerstone for achieving sustainable development. Commitment to stakeholders, including access to timely, relevant, and understandable information and the resolution of complaints, are key aspects of a rights-based programming approach. Government partners, civil society actors and organizations, local government actors, local communities, and other stakeholders are crucial partners. Effective stakeholder participation is also essential for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and addressing the principle of "leaving no one behind" in the fight against inequality, while ensuring equity and non-discrimination in all areas of programming.

In this regard, the project mechanism allows for the participation of stakeholders, with the purpose of enhancing their involvement in decisions and actions during the diagnosis, formulation, implementation, evaluation, and monitoring phases of the Project. This mechanism establishes the general foundation for the engagement of stakeholders throughout the different stages of the Project.

Preparation stage: During the design of the Project, stakeholder mapping was conducted, followed by consultation meetings in the preparation stage of the Concept Note. This process was further deepened through virtual meetings with Stakeholders and also during in-person missions (May 2024 and October 2024) at each of the Project sites. See the Stakeholder Engagement reports attached to the FP.

Execution stage: Before starting the execution, the Project will develop a "Communication and Participatory Strategy Plan" tailored to its reality, modality, and current meeting dynamics, in case a pre-existing mechanism is already in place, or a new Plan will be created in cases where no such mechanism exists. These Plans must ensure the dissemination of information, free participation, continuous collaboration with the involved parties, especially the vulnerable population identified in the Project. The Plans should include details on communication channels, meeting invitation modalities, frequency and location of meetings, types of activities, etc.

Throughout the entire execution, each Participation Plan must:

- Keep stakeholders informed about what is happening during the implementation.



- Engage with stakeholders regarding any changes in the Project design or in the risks of environmental and social impacts, the ongoing implementation of E&S mitigation measures, and any new issues that may arise in relation to or during Project implementation.
- Provide timely and consistent responses to complaints and questions received through the Complaints and Grievances Mechanism and maintain a record of them.
- Review the stakeholder participation plan, including the suitability of stakeholder identification, in light of any issues that may have arisen during the project implementation.
- Proactively seek stakeholder feedback, prioritizing two-way dialogue in addition to one-way information sharing.
- Ensure that there is no discrimination based on gender, race, or age in the design of the plan.
- Identify barriers and take actions to facilitate the participation of women and diverse groups.
- Facilitate inclusive participation by involving all stakeholders, including people or groups with disabilities, marginalized, or vulnerable individuals.

In the meetings, specific topics of interest to the Project may be addressed as proposed by any of the parties, and experts and/or residents from other municipalities with experience, or others involved in the subject, may be invited to provide information and support when necessary. The plan must establish the procedure to document each meeting, including the proposals, concerns, complaints, or questions raised by the attendees and how they were or will be addressed, if applicable to the Project, by the decision-makers.

The success of many of the Project's activities and its sustainability are linked to the level of involvement and participation of civil society during implementation. In the Environmental and Social Mitigation Plan (ESMP), activities that require civil society participation to mitigate identified risks are highlighted with an (*).

8. FOLLOW-UP, EVALUATION, AND MONITORING

Before the project implementation, an Operational Manual will be developed, outlining the necessary steps for the application of everything detailed in this ESMP and the social and environmental safeguards of the AF. This may include specific indicators, verification means, and responsible parties for implementing the mitigation measures. These procedures will be validated with the key stakeholders involved in the project's execution. Additionally, a training workshop will be held for the members of the project's executing unit and other organizations to implement this Manual. CAF will provide technical support for the development of the manual and the operation of the training workshop.

5.1 Environmental and Social Monitoring

The monitoring of environmental and social aspects will be carried out continuously by the executing entity, the implementing entity, and will be reported to the Adaptation Fund through annual project execution reports. These reports will include a section on the status of the implementation of the environmental and social management plan, including the necessary measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate environmental and social risks, as well as evaluations of the USP activities. The reports will also include, if applicable, a description of the corrective measures deemed necessary. Mid-term and final evaluation reports will include an assessment of the project's performance with regard to environmental and social risks and the Complaints and Grievances Mechanism.