



ADAPTATION FUND

PRE-CONCEPT FOR A REGIONAL PROJECT/PROGRAMME

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Table with 2 columns: Field (Title of Project/Programme, Countries, etc.) and Value (Enhancing the climate resilience of local livelihoods through nature-based tourism in the Caribbean communities of Limon, Costa Rica, and Bocas del Toro, Panama, etc.)

Project / Programme Background and Context: Costa Rica and Panama are among the three most-tourism dependent economies in Central America (IADB 2020) and are home to Limon and Bocas del Toro, bordering provinces in the countries' Caribbean coast. Limon's economic dynamic, with a population of around 607,407 people², is mainly based on tourism and port activity in its northern side, while the centre and southern part is based on agriculture, with tourism focusing mostly on the area of Cahuita and Puerto Viejo. Bocas del Toro has a population of 147,302 people³, and the main source of job generation is the services sector, centred on tourism and retail. Agriculture and livestock are the next most important sectors.

More unpredictable weather patterns have affected tourism planning and preparedness to extreme events. Along with higher temperatures, precipitation has decreased in the summer season and increased in winter, escalating the risk of flooding and landslides, impacting agriculture and the supply chain for tourism, and causing a general discomfort in visitors. Besides from flooding and landslides, storm surges and other associated hydrometeorological events (such as hurricanes), and sea level rise are among the main climate hazards in the region. The physical destruction caused by these hazards damages touristic infrastructure, local housing, and agricultural land. The collapse of road infrastructure causes the interruption of transport, port, and supply services too. These events also cause the degradation of coastal and terrestrial ecosystems, a higher erosion of coastal areas and saline intrusion. All this increases the vulnerability of communities in several ways. For example, the reliability of water and food supply and transport services in the provinces is reduced, concerning both locals and tourists. Since Limon and Bocas del Toro rely on its natural landscapes as its main touristic attractions, these climate change impacts also represent a direct threat to the touristic value of the sites, affecting its positioning as preferred destinations and decreasing its competitiveness. As a result, the livelihoods for the communities reliant directly and indirectly on tourism are jeopardized.

Besides from climatic drivers, unsustainable business-as-usual tourism development also increases the vulnerability of ecosystems and communities. Climate data and disaster risk are not generally considered in tourism or land-use planning. This, along with the limited productive connectivity between the demand from tourism and the supply of local agriculture and other sectors, leaves visitors -and local populations- with no access to food, water, and other basic services during extreme events. Additionally, deforestation and land-use change are affecting natural barriers that mitigate the effects of such events. Agriculture is the other main activity in the area, and techniques used do not consider climate aspects or adaptation practices. Banana, the

1 Thematic areas are: Food security; Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems; Transboundary water management; Innovation in adaptation finance.
2 Costa Rica's 2020 household survey.
3 Panama's 2010 census.

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most important crop, is mainly produced by large companies for export, increasing the pressure for monocropping. To worsen the situation, the COVID pandemic has left many unemployed, as the region was highly dependent on international tourism. A tailored support is therefore needed to help strengthen ecosystems and sources of income.

Promoting nature-based solutions (NbS) for disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation as an integral part of economies is fundamental for a sustainable post-COVID reconstruction. The re-opening of international tourism is uncertain at this point, but by implementing innovative strategies for resilience and promoting productive connectivity in the local value chain, there is a unique opportunity not only to build back a better tourism sector, but mainly to put communities at the centre and reduce their current vulnerability.

Project / Programme Objectives: The project aims to reduce the vulnerability to climate hazards of communities directly and indirectly reliant on tourism along Limon and Bocas del Toro Caribbean provinces by unlocking the potential of nature-based tourism for local livelihood diversification and reduced ecosystem damage, and by mainstreaming climate information and adaptation strategies into policy and planning.

Project / Programme Components and Financing:

Project/ Programme Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Countries	Amount (US\$)
1. Incorporation of systems for risk reduction and early warning.	1.1 Improved provincial and regional capacity to monitor and forecast climate hazards for enhanced decision-making for adaptation	1.1.1 Platform for local stakeholders established to support the production of tailored climate information or services. 1.1.2 Binational information system on climate hazards established to provide, monitor and project information to the local level by developing and downscaling hazard maps and future scenarios. 1.1.3 Climate risk maps and vulnerability assessments developed or downscaled to identify priority areas for adaptation. 1.1.4 A disaster risk reduction municipal or provincial plan developed and implemented, including an early warning system and the modelling of NbS potential impact. 1.1.5 Established mechanisms for multi-stakeholder coordination for territorial risk-informed management in tourism.	Costa Rica and Panama	US\$2.5M
2. Implementation of NbS measures and adaptation practices	2.1 Increased resilience of key ecosystems and their services.	2.1.1 NbS pilots implemented in key areas identified for mitigation of climate hazards, including measures for protected areas. 2.1.2 Concrete adaptation actions piloted for resilient watershed management. 2.1.3 Good agricultural practices from local, indigenous, and traditional knowledge identified and piloted for the promotion of climate-smart agriculture. 2.1.4 Concrete adaptation actions piloted for the protection of coastal and road infrastructure.	Costa Rica and Panama	US\$3.0M

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<p>3. <u>Strengthening of local livelihoods and productive chains</u></p>	<p>3.1 <u>Strengthened local livelihoods and productive chains linked to tourism</u></p>	<p>3.1.1 <u>Value chains linked to tourism identified, including an inventory of supply needs and productive gaps, and an assessment of its impacts on ecosystems.</u></p> <p>3.1.2 <u>Improved connectivity between the tourism value chain, local production (e.g. agriculture) and enhanced ecosystem services.</u></p> <p>3.1.3 <u>Local stakeholders trained about the use of climate-risk information for their economic activities, diversification alternatives in a COVID recovery context, and the potential of NbS to reduce vulnerability.</u></p> <p>3.1.4 <u>Financial entities supported to build their capacity to develop credit lines that promote adaption finance and a more inclusive and resilient tourism model, emphasizing access to women, Afro-Antillean and indigenous people.</u></p> <p>3.1.5 <u>Local stakeholders trained about the potential of microfinance for adaptation, grant and loan schemes and the feasibility of financial risk transfer (climate risk insurance) mechanisms.</u></p>	<p>Costa Rica and Panama</p>	<p>US\$1.5M</p>	<p>Deleted: <#>Increased resilience of ecosystems and their services through the implementation of NbS measures in response to climate change. [10]</p> <p>Deleted: <#>Implemented ecosystem-based adaptation measures, identified by national and sub-national governments, including measures for protected areas. Implemented solutions for integrated management of water resources with community participation and leadership. Climate-resilient agricultural and fishing practices implemented, based on good practices and on local, indigenous, and traditional knowledge. Deleted: 4...5 ... [13]</p> <p>Deleted: Local livelihoods and productive chains strengthening and diversification through pilots and implementation of adaptation measures ... [9]</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Deleted: Pilots implemented for diversification of tourism activities, like tourism facilities and itineraries, and activities that contribute to the local tourism value chain such as agriculture, fishing and handicraft, towards a more resilient range of livelihoods and economic structure with integration of local goods and services into tourism. [11]</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Formatted: ... [12]</p> <p>Deleted: Improved</p> <p>Deleted: m</p> <p>Formatted: ... [15]</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Formatted: ... [17]</p> <p>Deleted: mainstreamed across</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Deleted: ...management tools, namely and decisions</p> <p>Deleted: abling conditions for community engagement</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Deleted: ...local development plans at ... [19]</p> <p>Deleted: policies and regulations to promote resilient</p> <p>Formatted: Font: 10 pt</p> <p>Deleted: <#>Adaptation and resilience guidelines and</p> <p>Deleted: Tourism sustainability s...tandards for ... [21]</p> <p>Deleted: Stakeholder collaboration and knowledge.. [22]</p> <p>Deleted: <#>An experience-exchange programme... [24]</p> <p>Deleted: m</p> <p>Deleted: Experiences and lessons learned shared and</p>
<p>4. <u>Enhancing governance for strengthened resilience</u></p>	<p>4.1 <u>Climate change adaptation mainstreamed into policies, regulations, and instruments to strengthen resilience</u></p>	<p>4.1.1 <u>Climate change adaptation considerations and incentives included in local planning and management tools, namely land zoning (e.g. "planes reguladores", "planes de ordenamiento territorial") and local development plans at municipal/cantonal or provincial levels.</u></p> <p>4.1.2 <u>Risk-informed tourism recovery plans are developed promoting NbS in tourism policies, in alignment with their NAP readiness plans and local DRR strategies.</u></p> <p>4.1.3 <u>Protected areas management plans enhanced by integrating climate-risk assessments considerations and NbS.</u></p> <p>4.1.4 <u>Standards for resilient tourism developed or adjusted and piloted to consider climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, carbon and water footprints, promotion of local consumption and sustainable agricultural practices.</u></p>	<p>Costa Rica and Panama</p>	<p>US\$1.0M</p>	<p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Formatted: ... [12]</p> <p>Deleted: Improved</p> <p>Deleted: m</p> <p>Formatted: ... [15]</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Formatted: ... [17]</p> <p>Deleted: mainstreamed across</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Deleted: ...management tools, namely and decisions</p> <p>Deleted: abling conditions for community engagement</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Deleted: ...local development plans at ... [19]</p> <p>Deleted: policies and regulations to promote resilient</p> <p>Formatted: Font: 10 pt</p> <p>Deleted: <#>Adaptation and resilience guidelines and</p> <p>Deleted: Tourism sustainability s...tandards for ... [21]</p> <p>Deleted: Stakeholder collaboration and knowledge.. [22]</p> <p>Deleted: <#>An experience-exchange programme... [24]</p> <p>Deleted: m</p> <p>Deleted: Experiences and lessons learned shared and</p>
<p>5. <u>Knowledge transfer and upscaling</u></p>	<p>5.1 <u>Knowledge transfer and upscaling promoted to increase resilience and collaboration</u></p>	<p>5.1.1 <u>An awareness-raising strategy designed and implemented, centered on disseminating strategies for climate risk-informed tourism recovery in the Caribbean communities of Costa Rica and Panama.</u></p> <p>5.1.2 <u>Strengthened community organization and ownership, with active participation of women, Afro-Antillean and indigenous group through exchange programmes about good practices for resilient tourism related stakeholders (including farmers that supply productive chain).</u></p>	<p>Costa Rica and Panama</p>	<p>US\$1.0M</p>	<p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Deleted: ...local development plans at ... [19]</p> <p>Deleted: policies and regulations to promote resilient</p> <p>Formatted: Font: 10 pt</p> <p>Deleted: <#>Adaptation and resilience guidelines and</p> <p>Deleted: Tourism sustainability s...tandards for ... [21]</p> <p>Deleted: Stakeholder collaboration and knowledge.. [22]</p> <p>Deleted: <#>An experience-exchange programme... [24]</p> <p>Deleted: m</p> <p>Deleted: Experiences and lessons learned shared and</p>

	5.1.3 Innovative schemes and tools shared to support resilient community-based livelihoods.		
	5.1.4 Communication campaign designed and implemented for tourists to recognize the impacts of their touristic choices by promoting local consumption, strengthening of local productive chains, and a re-focus on domestic tourism.		
6. Project/Programme Execution cost (9.5%)		0.855 M	
7. Total Project/Programme Cost		9.855 M	
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable) (8.5%)		0.838 M	
Amount of Financing Requested		10.693 M	

Project Duration: 4 years (48 months)

PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

(I) Project components: The project is divided into five components focused on reducing the communities vulnerability and helping them adapt, with activities that promote Nature based Solutions (NbS), including Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA) measures, for disaster risk reduction, by: i) Incorporating systems for risk reduction and early warning; The establishment of a system; ii) Implementing NbS measures and adaptation practices; iii) Strengthening local livelihoods and productive chains; iv) Enhancing governance for strengthened resilience; and iv) Transferring and upscaling knowledge. Project activities in the different components will feed into others, improving the conditions, and reducing the existing barriers for effectiveness. Project geographical scope is significant, encompassing the entire Caribbean coast of Costa Rica (Limon province), while covering the Province of Bocas del Toro in Panama. Concrete sites of intervention are yet to be determined in further stages. Beneficiaries include indigenous communities in both countries, such as indigenous peoples of the Ngobe Bugle reserve, and the Naso and Bri Bri indigenous peoples. The project builds added value through its regional approach. Both provinces are a continuous geographic and ecological region, connected by its coastal/marine and terrestrial ecosystems, and therefore, facing the same climate hazards and suffering similar impacts. As a matter of fact, given the proximity, tourism flow and activities between the two sites are common. On the social side, the areas share similar socio-economic structures and main activities, and are culturally connected as some common indigenous communities live between both countries. Working on a common-regional information system for risk assessment, early warning systems and decision planning is therefore expected, as there are extensive opportunities to exchange experiences and data, allowing for an enhancement and alignment of policies, practices, and collaborative schemes. For example, Costa Rica's more-advance adaptation planning process will be of use to enhance the planning capacities of Panama, while the recent creation of the Naso Teribe territory in Bocas del Toro will provide an updated frame for the dialogue with indigenous communities in both countries. Institutionally, there is potential to work with bi-national and regional institutions, such as the Sixaola Binational Commission and the Central American Integration System (SICA), and to feed from regional network on microfinances (REDCOM) to work on a regional programme for adaptation financing or resilient nature-based tourism investments.

(II) Innovative solutions: The project has innovative features related to a resilient nature-based tourism model, such as: 1) support to develop microfinance schemes for adaptation in tourism and related sectors; 2) emphasis on the productive connectivity of the local value chain; 3) potential financial risk transfer (climate risk insurance) mechanisms; 4) tourism standards that include climate and DRR criteria, among others. Innovation also resides in the ambition of mainstreaming climate change data into tourism and related activities for strengthening the livelihoods of communities, while setting the conditions to consolidate a nature-based tourism model based on resilient goods and services.

(III) Cost effectiveness: Besides from the well-known nature-based solutions' cost-effectiveness, the regional approach is key to increase the scope of the expected benefits. Both countries will share expertise and

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technical support on integrated risk management to address transboundary climate change challenges that affect their Caribbean coastal area. By sharing and learning from each other's experiences, resources will be optimised. likewise, at the community level, it will be cost-beneficial to implement, in parallel, similar or complementary pilots and policies, promoting opportunities for scaling-up and replication.

(IV) Consistency: The project is complementary to other related national and binational government efforts, led by national entities of both countries including the Ministries of Environment (MINEC Costa Rica and MiAmbiente-Panama), the Tourism authorities (ATP-Panama and ICT Costa Rica) and local authorities, such as the efforts: 1) Towards the transboundary Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) of the Sixaola River Basin shared by Costa Rica and Panama (GEF project implemented by UNDP); 2) Central American Strategy for Rural Territorial Development (ECADERT) of the SICA, Binational pilot project CBCRS "Fincas Integrales" (Integrated farms); 3) Sixaola Binational Commission working programme and the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Transboundary Territorial Development (2017-2021); 4) Development of Sub-national Capacities for the Implementation of the National Adaptation Plan in Costa Rica, implemented by MINEC and UNEP, framed within the Readiness program of the Green Climate Fund, advancing adaptation planning and risk analysis for 20 pilot *cantones*, including the cantons of Talamanca, Siquirres, Matina and Pocosí; 5) the Sustainable Tourism Master Plan of Panama; 6) the Integrated Urban Development of Cities with a world-class tourist destination Programme financed by the IDB (Panama); 7) Conduction of a Climate Vulnerability Assessment and identification of key adaptation measures for the tourism sector, conducted as part of Costa Rica's Fourth National Communication to the UNFCCC, and the tourism sustainability standards in both countries; 8) Post-COVID recovery strategies in both countries, that prioritize tourism as a key sector for adaptation work; 9) Tu-Modelo ("Tourism as local development engine") and MEbA initiatives in Costa Rica (executed by Fundecooperación), that promote adaptation financing and the productive connectivity in local value chains.

Building upon these initiatives, the project aims to operate from various entry points: DRR, policy, planning implementation, adaptation finance, and local communities' livelihoods.

(V) Learning and knowledge management: The project proposes component 5 to capture and disseminate lessons learned with local and regional stakeholders.

(VI) Consultative process: The concept note and full proposal processes will require consultation processes which will benefit from previous binational schemes operating for the Sixaola Watershed and La Amistad International Park Binational Site, facilitating national and local institutions engagement. Because of the presence of indigenous peoples in both countries, Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes will be considered. A gender-sensitive approach will guide the process, including development of a gender action plan.

(VII) Sustainability: Activities will be designed ensuring community and country ownership to guarantee sustainability and component 5 is key for that as it centers on knowledge sharing and upscaling. Additionally, by not focusing on the tourism sector per se, but rather in the livelihoods of communities related directly and indirectly to tourism through the local value chains, the project ensures the strengthening of locals even with the international tourism scenario being uncertain. Finally, by applying climate data to policy, and planning and activities implementation concentrating on NbS, resilience is secured after project completion.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

Overall guidance will be provided by UNEP as Implementing Entity. Accredited NIEs of both countries, Fundecooperación para el Desarrollo Sostenible (Costa Rica) and Fundación Natura (Panama), are expected to be the Executing Entities, supported by the national environmental and tourism authorities of both countries: Ministry of Environment (MiAmbiente), Tourism Authority of Panama (ATP), Ministry of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica (MINEC), and Tourism Institute of Costa Rica (ICT). Implementation of adaptation measures will require strong engagement of local authorities municipalities, as well as traditional and indigenous authorities. Project architecture includes a binational steering committee, implementation unit, and technical support from government entities, local NGOs potential local partners to be contacted include Pocosí Tourist Business Services Association, Somos Caribe, Raising Coral, Bocas Alliance, REDTUCUMBO, among others, as well as private sector engagement microfinance national and regional networks: REDCOM, REDPAMIF and REDCAMIF and local community groups and organizations, including indigenous ones.

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

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government

<i>Milciades Concepción, Minister, Ministry of Environment, Panama</i>	Date: <i>January 5, 2021</i>
<i>Patricia Campos, Director, Direction of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica</i>	Date: <i>January 18, 2021</i>

B. Implementing Entity certification

<p>I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.</p>	
	
<p><i>Gustavo Máñez</i> Implementing Entity Coordinator</p>	
Date: <i>January 18, 2021</i>	Tel. and email: <i>+50761406202 / gustavo.manez@un.org</i>
<p>Project Contact Person: <i>Marta Moneo Lain</i></p>	
<p>Tel. And Email: <i>+50760388570 / marta.moneo@un.org</i></p>	

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January 18th, 2021

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

Subject: Endorsement for “Enhancing the climate resilience of local livelihoods and nature-based tourism in the Caribbean communities of Limon, Costa Rica, and Bocas del Toro, Panama”

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Costa Rica, I confirm that the above regional project/programme proposal is in accordance with the government’s priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the region.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by UN Environment Programme and executed by Costa Rica’s NIE Fundcooperación and Panama’s NIE Fundación Natura.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Campos".

Patricia Campos
Director, Direction of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Energy

January 5, 2021
DM-0013-2021

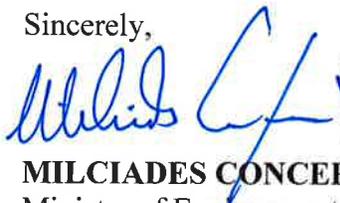
The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement for “Enhancing the climate resilience of local livelihoods and nature-based tourism in the Caribbean communities of Limon, Costa Rica, and Bocas del Toro, Panama”

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Panama, I confirm that the above regional project/programme proposal is in accordance with the government’s priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the region.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by UN Environment Programme and executed by Costa Rica’s NIE Fundcooperación and Panama’s NIE Fundación Natura.

Sincerely,



MILCIADES CONCEPCION
Minister of Environment, Ministry of Environment



MC/JUQ/LC

ACU



Project Formulation Grant (PFG)

Submission Date: January 18, 2021

Adaptation Fund Project ID: N/A

Country/ies: Costa Rica and Panama

Title of Project/Programme: Enhancing the climate resilience of local livelihoods through nature-based tourism in the Caribbean communities of Limon, Costa Rica, and Bocas del Toro, Panama

Type of IE (NIE/MIE): MIE

Implementing Entity: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Executing Entity/ies: Fundecooperación para el Desarrollo Sostenible (Costa Rica) and Fundación Natura (Panama)

A. Project Preparation Timeframe

Start date of PFG	April 5, 2021
Completion date of PFG	August 2, 2021

B. Proposed Project Preparation Activities (\$)

Describe the PFG activities and justifications:

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	USD Amount
Baseline, vulnerability, risks and needs assessments conducted by two national consultants	Assessments of the target areas performed with recommendations for the intervention strategy and activities	5,000
Maintain consultations with stakeholders at national, provincial, and territorial level for concept formulation, review and feedback	Received approval, feedback and appropriation of the proposal by the relevant stakeholders at a national, provincial and territorial level	5,000
Preparation of the concept note with a coordinator consultant (with role also as national consultant for one country) and another national consultant	Concept note and annexes prepared	10,000
Total Project Formulation Grant		20,000

C. Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund's criteria for project identification and formulation

Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Gustavo Máñez, UNEP		January 18, 2021	Marta Moneo Lain	+50761406202	marta.moneo@un.org