

2019

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**Mainstreaming Sustainable-use BD in forests**

[Basic Data](#_Toc1)

[Overall Ratings](#_Toc2)

[Development Progress](#_Toc3)

[Implementation Progress](#_Toc4)

[Critical Risk Management](#_Toc5)

[Adjustments](#_Toc6)

[Ratings and Overall Assessments](#_Toc7)

[Gender](#_Toc8)

[Social and Environmental Standards](#_Toc9)

[Communicating Impact](#_Toc10)

[Partnerships](#_Toc11)

[Annex - Ratings Definitions](#_Toc12)

# Basic Data

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Information** | |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 4829 |
| GEF ID | 5338 |
| Title | Mainstreaming sustainable use of biodiversity in production practices of small producers to protect the biodiversity of high value conservation forests in the Atlantic Forest, Yungas and Chaco |
| Country(ies) | Argentina, Argentina |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Ecosystems and Biodiversity |
| Project Implementing Partner | Government |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |

|  |
| --- |
| **Project Description** |
| This project will protect high-biodiversity value forest in three globally significant forest ecosystems (Upper Parana Atlantic -UPAF, Yungas and Chaco) in Argentina. It will build on an existing land-use planning and incentive framework that restricts land-use in forested areas (the Native Forest Law). It will overcome current governance and market constraints to optimize the Law´s contribution to reduce conversion and degradation of native forests, increase restoration and foster connectivity. It will mainstream sustainable-use of biodiversity, principally non-timber forest products (NTFP), in management plans developed under the Forest Law, and build capacities of small-scale farmers for biodiversity-based production combined with low impact agroforestry systems near high conservation value forest. It will facilitate access to existing finance mechanisms and subsidies for NTFP and improve supply chains and access to markets for biodiversity friendly products. To maintain production within ecosystem limits it will strengthen the regulatory and enforcement of sustainable-use of forest biodiversity at the provincial and national level. In doing so the project will address threats to biodiversity from existing small-holder production practices while increasing the viability of biodiversity-based land-uses, preventing migration of farmers and providing a buffer to forest areas under strict conservation. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Contacts** | |
| UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser | Ms. Alexandra Fischer (alexandra.fischer@undp.org) |
| Programme Associate | Ms. Maria Gabriela Pinto (mariagabriela.pinto@undp.org) |
| Project Manager | Mr. Gustavo Marino (gdmarino@ambiente.gob.ar) |
| CO Focal Point | Mr. Matias Mottet (matias.mottet@undp.org) |
| GEF Operational Focal Point | Ms. Patricia Noemí Holzman (pholzman@ambiente.gob.ar) |
| Project Implementing Partner | Mr. Diego Moreno (dmoreno@ambiente.gob.ar) |
| Other Partners | *(not set or not applicable)* |

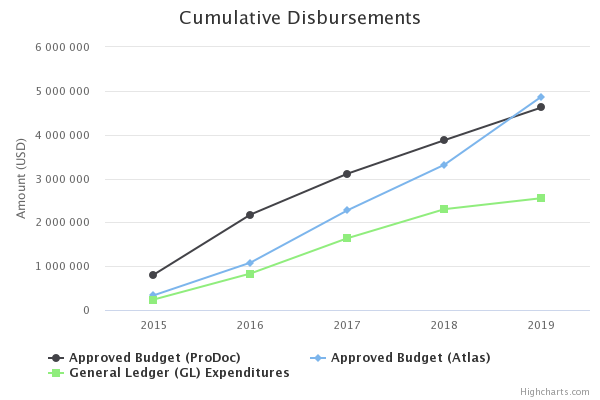
# Overall Ratings

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Overall DO Rating | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Moderately Unsatisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | High |

# Development Progress

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | | | | | | |
| **Objective**  **Strengthening the management framework for sustainable use of biodiversity1 to increase the protection of high conservation-value forests in Argentina** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Area (ha) of forest with benefits for the sustainable use of biodiversity in SMPBN Areas – Level II | - Atlantic Forest (Misiones Province): 0 ha    - Yungas (Jujuy Province): 0 ha    - Chaco (Salta Province): 0 ha | *(not set or not applicable)* | - Atlantic Forest (Misiones Province): 40,000  - Yungas (Jujuy Province): 60,000  - Chaco (Salta Province): 100,000 | -Atlantic Forest (Misiones Province): 29,559 ha    - Yungas (Jujuy Province): 4,200 ha + 20,000 ha (transhumant activities)\*    - Chaco (Salta Province): 10,248 ha    Note:  Yungas: It is estimated that the area used by the Coyas communities in their transhumant activities is 20,000 ha. The project has been working in this area to set aside plots to facilitate recuperation of the forest understory species, which are seedlings of some of the target NTFP species. This has been accompanied by training in pasture rotation times to reduce the impact of the transhumant cattle ranching activities. The project will also provide support for the development of SMPs in this area.    \* Although the limit in which the project works is framed within the pilot sites, it is noted that there is a wider use of the territory by the communities. It is the area of ​​influence of the project where sustainable use practices can be replicated in the native forest.    Salta: Some 1,000 ha more are coming to be incorporated in SMPs, which correspond to neighboring communities. In addition two new sites will be added soon, since the interaction with small and medium ranchers (criollos) is now at a starting point. The project is now in cooperation with two PIC from the "Bosques y Comunidad" Project (National Forest Directorate) that encompass 4,000 ha to share information and promote joint activities.  There is also an opportunity to develop an interchange of information and activities with the "Corredores Rurales y Biodiversidad" Project, which is implemented by APN (National Parks Administration) (8,200 ha) | -Atlantic Forest (Misiones Province): 31,059 ha    - Yungas (Jujuy Province): 4,200 ha + 20,000 ha (transhumant activities)\*    - Chaco (Salta Province): 10,248 ha + 50,000 ha (to be incorporated at the end of this year)\*    Note:  Atlantic Forest: 1500 ha and 20 families were incorporated through the work with medicinal species.    Yungas: The technical team of Yungas with the purpose of expanding the area benefited by the Project participated and proposed the realization of different workshops in the Coya Arzay Community located in the town of Los Toldos. Through this work there is the possibility of adding this territory of 11,000 hectares that will be worked in conjunction with the technical team of Salta. Currently, conversations are being held with this Community.    Chaco: work is being done in the province of Salta with the recently created board of management of native fruits processing room and the agreements to be signed by the Wichi Commissions, the Civil Association Tepeyac and the local Creole community to regulate the use of the carob flour processing room. This coordination will allow the the area of harvest and number of project beneficiaries to be expanded next year with the incorporation of Creole landowners.  \* Previously a consultancy with the NGO Asociana (Social Accompaniment of the Anglican Church of the North of Argentina) was implemented. It developed the work with rubber pitch (Goma Brea) with 10 indigenous communities that occupy approximately 50,000 hectares in the Pilcomayo area (Santa Victoria Este Localities and in the former Fiscal Lots 55 and 14). This was discontinued at the beginning of 2018, when the project was without a coordinator. We are currently in the process of reinitiating that work that will significantly impact the number of hectares and beneficiaries in the dry Chaco area of Argentina. |
| Changes in the presence (% occurrence) of key animal species at the site level (Atlantic Forest: 40,000 ha; Yungas 60,000 ha; Chaco: 100,000 ha) | Dry Chaco:    - 4 species    Atlantic Forest:    - 5 species    Yungas:    - 8 species | *(not set or not applicable)* | Dry Chaco  - 4 species (Intervention sites: % occurrence is maintained or increased; Control sites: % occurrence decreases).  Atlantic Forest  - 5 species (Intervention sites: % occurrence is maintained or increased; Control sites: % occurrence decreases).  Yungas:  - 8 species (Intervention sites: the presence of key species is maintained; Control sites: absence of key species) | - Dry Chaco: 4 species  - Atlantic Forest: 5 species  - Yungas: 8 species    Note: Values of presence of key fauna did not show variations.    Chaco: consultancy was carried out to monitor fauna in the communities of Los Baldes, La Cortada and Pozo del Chañar. Transects were installed and individuals trained in field data collection.  The members of the community of Los Baldes registered the presence of the species during 15 days of monitoring between the months of December to March. In the communities of Pozo del Chañar and La Cortada, during the installation of the transects, the presence of the key species was also recorded.  Although the forms (prepared by CEBio and put to the consideration of the caciques and presidents in the agreement meetings) are simple, with drawings of each of the species, it is necessary to modify them since some people cannot read or write. In the next worksheets that will be delivered, the tables with the words traces, bones, caves will be added the respective drawings and the opinion of each one of the local informants participating in the activity will be sought.    Yungas and Misiones: although there were no fauna surveys and there is less pressure on fauna species in these provinces, the producers mentioned that during the field activities the presence of the key species in both ecoregions could be observed. | - Dry Chaco: 4 species  - Atlantic Forest: 5 species  - Yungas: 8 species    Note: Since last year, values of presence of key fauna did not show variations. The goal has already been met at this point. However, this will need to be verified at project closure.    Work has been carried out since the beginning of the project with the key species listed below and corresponding to those reported in the ISEARL of the ProDoc:    Misiones: (5)  Leopardus pardalis (Wildcat), Tapirus terrestris (Tapir), Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris (Capybara), Nasuna nasuna (Coatí), Sapajus apella (Cai Monkey)    Jujuy: (2)  Tapirus terrestris (tapir), Tayassu pecari (peccary lipped)    Salta: (3)  Catagonus wagneri (peccari quimilero), Chaetophractus villosus (pichi), Dasypus novemcinctus (mulita) |
| % of Sustainable Management Plans (SMP) that include NTFP | - Jujuy Province: 0    - Misiones Province: 0    - Salta Province: 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | - Jujuy Province : > 50% of small producers present SMP with NTFP  - Misiones Province: > 50% of small producers present SMP with NTFP  - Salta Province: > 50% of small producers present SMP with NTFP | - Jujuy province: 57.14% (4/7 plans)    - Misiones province: 275% (11 plans compared to the initial 4 planned)    - Salta province: 9% (2/22 plans)    Note:  Jujuy: there are actually 4 plans including NTFPs and during the next 12 months 2 more plans will be added. This increment should be reflected in the 2019 PIR.    Salta: 2 plans have been presented to the Provincial Environmental Authority and 5 more plans are underway and should be presented in the short term. The project´s team is working hard to increase the number of SMP in cooperation with the Salta Province and National Forest Directorate. | - Jujuy province: 85.71% (6/7 plans)    - Misiones province: 275%  Goal exceeded  (11 plans compared to the initial 4 planned)    - Salta province: 18.18% (4/22 plans)      Note:  Jujuy: There are 3 approved Plans (two Management Plans and one Conservation Plan), two presented to the Provincial Forest Agency and one elaborated and in the process of development in the Community of Valle Colorado.    Salta: The Management Plan (PM) of the Wichí Community of La Cortada and the PM of San Benito were presented to the Provincial Forest Agency . |
| Change in the ecosystem health index (ISEARL)\* for the project landscapes      \* Ecosystem Health Index Adjusted to Real Local Conditions (ISEARL). | - Atlantic Forest: 0.61    - Yungas: 0.48    - Chaco: 0.44      Specific results from the ISEARL are presented in Appendix 8.8. | *(not set or not applicable)* | - Atlantic Forest: > 0.7  - Yungas: > 0.7  - Chaco: > 0.7 | The index has not been measured for 2018.  The National Forest Directorate , MAyDS, reported that the data will be available in the coming months. However, they observed that in Yungas, Jujuy, there was no deforestation over the last 21 months.    On the other hand, the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses has not yet updated the information on the basic needs of families, so the index cannot be properly estimated. It is expected to be fully calculated for the 2019 PIR. | The index has not been measured yet in 2019.    This index, which is integrated by 13 indicators, was addressed in the Mid Term Review (MTR), where the possibility of modifying or excluding it due to the difficulty of measurement was analyzed    The main challenge regarding this indicator relies on th fact that many of the data required for its calculation are provided by the national censuses of the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses of the Argentine Republic (INDEC in spanish) which are carried out every 10 years, the last one being carried out in the year 2010; and by other national and provincial level institutional bodies (RENAF, INAES, Forestry Directorate) that do not adjust their data with the periodicity needed for their measurement or have changed their operation due to political decisions outside the scope of the project.    The plan is to reduce the complexity of the index to solve this issue. For instance, the data provided by the NDVI, % of land use and the key species with presence is enough to generate novel information.    If there is a project extension and additional time to do so, the development of a new index relative to ecosystem services that cover topics related to economy, ecology and sociology could also be an interesting task to recover the valuable information (through a GIS). Moreover, the concept of the biodiversity footprint index could be introduced in this task in order to recognize the impact of the productive landscape. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 1**  **Sustainable use models of native forest biodiversity in areas of high conservation- value in 3 ecosystems** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Percentage of coverage of forests in Category II in SMPBN Areas – Level II | - Atlantic Forest (Misiones Province, Department of San Pedro): 0.77 %    - Yungas (Jujuy Province, Department of Valle Grande): 0.55%    - Chaco (Salta Province, Department of Rivadavia): 0.76 % | *(not set or not applicable)* | - Atlantic Forest: 0.77%  - Yungas: 0.55%  - Chaco: 0.76%    Control Sites ( without project intervention): % of forest cover decreases according to the annual deforestation rates for each province :  - Atlantic Forest: 0.75%  - Yungas: 0.46%  - Chaco: 0.73% | Note:  The National Forest Directorate has not yet updated the forest cover data, so the values of this index are not available as it has not been measured since 2017.    However, the new data will be available in the coming months and will be presented in the 2019 PIR.    In order to advance toward this indicator, the project is working with forested watersheds in Jujuy in cooperation with the Forests Directorate to carry out extension to promote the sustainable use of BD here and later on will replicate this extension work in other provinces.    In Misiones, Salta and Jujuy, the project is promoting the development of SFMPs that include NTFPs. Most of these are still pending approval.    The project is also currently developing a manual of best practices to promote the sustainable use of NTFP to a wider audience. | The new data will be reported and presented in the fourth quarter of 2019. Next year the PIR will have the updated and measured indexes as requested.    This indicator was also discussed with the MTR, as it was observed that it is the only one that is used to measure the fulfillment of Outcome 1, so any difficulty with it would undermine the whole Outcome and it was also observed that this indicator uses data provided by the National Directorate of Forests at the departmental level (Level II), which makes it difficult to measure the real progress in the intervention sites of the project because if there was deforestation in other areas that are within the department but outside the intervention zone the indicator would show a negative impact even if there was evident progress in the pilot sites.  In this sense, it will be useful to analyze the percentage of coverage through remote sensing methods in the pilot sites and their area of ​​influence before and after the implementation of the project. Work began in this regard on the possibility of a consultancy that would provide the project with forest cover data at a farm scale to work with more data that is precise . This consultancy will start in the next period.    The reason we consider this indicator to be "On Track" is based on the information relative to forest loss (deforestation) provided by National Directorate of Forests. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 2**  **Markets and financing mechanisms to ensure economic and social sustainability of Sustainable Management of NTFPs of the native forest** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Number of products incorporated into a “Native forests” collective brand | -  0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | -  7 (one NTFP per category) | 7 (edibles, handcrafts, tinctures, non-food fauna, Brea gum, ornamental and medicinal plants) incorporated into the native forest brand    Note:  As part of the planning process, during 2017/18 the beneficiaries of the Project began working with medicinal plants.    Atlantic forest: 7 varieties of jams and vinegars from native fruits, native bee honey (the presentation was made to the CONAL -National Commission of Foods- to request inclusion of honey in the Argentinian Food Code and is awaiting approval) and orchids are being developed. Workshops were held on reproduction, propagation and commercialization of the species used to make the jams and vinegars.    Yungas: Edible products: chilto jams, syrups, sauces and pickles. Dyes: clothing and handcrafts. Native bee honey (in process).    Dry Chaco: handcrafts of chaguar, Brea gum, and carob flour. | - 8 products  This objective has been met and surpassed.    Misiones:  Products: Medicinal herbs, hearts of palm, mushrooms, ornamental fish, meliponas honey, native fruit candies, native fruit vinegars, orchids    Salta:  Products:: Handicrafts in chaguar, carob flour, tar rubber, wildlife (non-food), meliponas honey, Forage preparations with native species    Jujuy:  Products: Chilto, meliponas honey, dye plant species    A milestone of the project was the incorporation in the Argentine Food Code (CAA) of Yateí honey (Tetragonisca fiebrigi Schwarz) through the Joint Resolution 17/2019 of the Ministry of Health Regulation and Management and the Ministry of Food and Bioeconomy, published in the Official Gazette of the Argentine Republic on May 2nd. of 2019. This achievement is the result of the effort of the entire USUBI team after hard work and opens the door to the commercialization of this product at all levels (internal and external market) and to the approval of the honey of the other species of honey bees , taking into consideration that the product is also in other regions of the country.    It is also important to mention the construction and refurbishment of two greenhouses built on the site of the Mby'a Guarani Chapaí Community of San Ignacio and in the Picada Norte Bonpland area of the province of Misiones. This benefits 20 new families who work with medicinal herbs. |
| Number of species incorporated into the “Native forests” collective brand | -  0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | -  At least 20 species | A total of 42 species have been incorporated to the collective brand. The target for this indicator has therefore been exceeded.    Note:    Misiones province: Fruits (7 species), native bee honey (1), Edible wild mushrooms (3), Orchids (7), Ornamental Fishes (7), Medicinal Plants (3).    Jujuy province: Fruits (1), native bee honey (1), Dyes (8)    Salta province: Handcrafts (1), non-food fauna (1), Brea gum (1), food (1) | - 53 species. target reached and surpassed    The actions of the project to incorporate all these species from the native forests are linked to the development of sustainable use criteria and are now considered in the protocol of the "Argentine Biodiversity" seal.  This objective has been met and exceeded.    MISIONES  Medicinal herbs (3): Cecropia pachystachya, Maytenus ilicifolia, Baccharis trimera  Palmito (1): Euterpe edulis  Fungi (3): Poliporus sp., Macrolepiota sp., Auricularia fuscosuccinea  Ornamental fish (9): Gymnogeophagus lipokarenos, Australoheros ykeregua, Crenicichla misioneira, Leporinus amae, Characidium serrano, Ancistrus taunayi, Hemiancistrus fulliginosus, Tachellyopterus cf. Teaguei, Diapoma lepiclastus  Melipone honey (1): Tetragonisca fiebrigi  Native fruits (9): Campomanesia xanthocarpa, Guapurium peruvianum, Eugenia uniflora, Bromelia balansae, Jacaratia spinosa, Eugenia myrcianthes, Eugenia involucrata, Plinia rivularis, Campomanesia guazumifolia  Orchids (7): Brassavola tuberculata, Cattleya cernua, Leptotes unicolor, Rodriguesia decora, Warmingia eugenii, Zygopetalum maxillare, Isabelia virginalis    SALTA  Chaguar (1): Bromelia hieronymi  Carob flour (1): Prosopis alba  Rubber pitch (1): Cercidium praecox  Non-food fauna (1): Amazona aestiva  Melipone honey (2): Scaptotrigona jujuyensis; Melipona orbignyi)  Forage preparations with native species (5):  Geoffroea decorticans; Caesalpinia paraguariensis; Prosopis nigra; Ziziphus mistol; Acacia aroma.      JUJUY  Chilto (1): Solanum betaceum  Melipone honey (1): Plebeia intermedia  Dye plants (7): Berberis fiebrigii, Alnus acuminata, Sambucus nigra, Campovassouria cruciata, Juglans australis, Rumex sp.    Total species: 53 |
| Number of producers (including women producers) in three ecoregions with Social Tax certification to formally access the NTFP markets | - Atlantic Forest (Misiones Province, Department of San Pedro): 39 (30 men and 9 women)    - Yungas (Jujuy Province, Department of Valle Grande): one (1) (man)    - Chaco (Salta Province, Department of Rivadavia): 96 (66 men and 30 women)      Source: National Registry of Effectors of Local Development and Social Economy of the National Ministry of Social Development. | *(not set or not applicable)* | - Atlantic Forest (Misiones Province, Department of San Pedro): 350 (175 men and 175 women)  - Yungas (Jujuy Province, Department of Valle Grande): 450 (225 men and 225 women)  - Chaco (Salta Province, Department of Rivadavia): 600 (300 men and 300 women) | - Atlantic Forest (Misiones Province, Department of San Pedro): 310 (120 men and 190 women)    - Yungas (Jujuy Province, Department of Valle Grande): 90 families.    - Chaco (Salta Province, Department of Rivadavia): 96 (66 men and 30 women)    Note:  Yungas and Chaco are characterized by having highly dispersed rural communities, therefore more time is required to advance towards the planned target.    In Yungas there are 40 families with Social Security Tax and 1 cooperative with legal status that includes 50 families. In the province of Salta there are difficulties at the administrative level to implement these changes.    However, the activities to achieve the objective continue to be implemented through workshops for capacity building on the incorporation of social taxes. | -Atlantic Forest (Misiones Province, Department of San Pedro): 310 (120 men and 190 women)    -Yungas (Jujuy Province, Department of Valle Grande): 90 families.    -Chaco (Salta Province, Department of Rivadavia): 96 (66 men and 30 women)    There is a lack of updated information in the National Registry of Social Development and social development agencies of the Ministry of Social Development. It should also be noted that the Social Tax certification, which provided a differential tax rate for small producers, is no longer being applied in Argentina. Furthermore, there is a reticence on the part of small low-income producers to register in the regular tax system. In Salta and Jujuy, the project works with communities and in Misiones with individuals, who are mostly enrolled in the National Registry of Family Farming (RENAF), thus enabling them to market their products. |
| Change in the flow of financing (USD) for sustainable use initiatives measured by the increase in approved management plans that include the sustainable use of NTFP | - Jujuy (Yungas): $0 USD.    - Misiones (Atlantic Forest): $0 USD.    - Salta (Chaco): $0 USD. | *(not set or not applicable)* | - Jujuy (Yungas): $30,000 USD  - Misiones (Atlantic Forest): $30,000 USD  - Salta (Chaco): $30,000 USD | - Jujuy (Yungas): $10,000 USD (some of these funds pending confirmation)  - Misiones (Atlantic Forest): $0 USD.  - Salta (Chaco): $0 USD.    Note:    22 Management Plans were approved in 2017 (Jujuy 7, Misiones 7, Salta 8), consequently allowing the flow of resources for the sustainable use of biodiversity in these jurisdictions.    In Jujuy, Valle Colorado, USD 1,700 were financed by the Forest Law for the development of management plans, which are at the moment being developed. More funds are expected to be contributed by the same law, but the amount is still unknown.    The same location has a project approved and funded by the National Fund for the Arts for another USD 1,700.- In addition, two projects were presented, one to MinCyT for USD 3,300 and another to the Ministry of Tourism for USD 3,300, but the results of this request are still unknown.    In Misiones, a project has been approved by the Ministry of AgroIndustry for the expansion of the facilities of the work station of Mujeres Soñadoras, which is channeled through the Secretary of Family Agriculture of the Nation. These funds should be reflected in the 2019 PIR.    There is a support project for the Yvytú Porá community through the financing of ecotourism activities and the enhancement of trails in the forest to enable the products to be transported to potential markets, including native orchids. As of the August 2018 rate of exchange, the approximate value of this Project is US$ 18,000.    Salta, Los Baldes, has received an allocation of USD 30,000 by the Forest Law, which should be transferred in the short term. This should be reflected in the 2019 PIR. | -Jujuy (Yungas): $13,200 USD (some of these funds pending confirmation)\*    -Misiones (Atlantic Forest): $ 47,000 USD + ($ 19,040 USD pending confirmation)\*    -Salta (Chaco): (Forest Law $ 143,000 USD + PIC (Plan Integral Comunitario) $ 200,000 USD)\*    Disbursements are still pending:  US$ 143,000 from 26.331 Law of Minimum Budgets for Environmental Protection of Native Forests in August 2017.  Pending approval:  US$ 200,000 corresponding to Integrated Community Plans (PIC) of the Native Forests and Community Project.    The allocation of funds depends on external factors that are related to the implementation in territory of the actions and administrative procedures in the national and provincial agencies.    \*Note:  -Yungas: In addition to the contribution made by the National Arts Fund (US$ 3,200 ), the US$ 10,000 funding has been obtained through the ProHuerta INTA project. Prohuerta is an INTA program to support small producers throughout the country.  These funds will be used to implement pilot enrichment plots with native fruit species and beehives of native stingless bees.    -Atlantic Forest: The UNDP ARG 15 / G53 Project (USUBI) obtained the financing of USD 47,000 through the Small Grants Programme Argentina, which supports work on the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable production of NTFP, among others. This Initiative is working in conjunction with the Treaty of Peace Association and is coordinated with the province of Misiones and the municipality.  In addition, the production and commercialization of medicinal plants is being promoted and in this sense, the financing of 17,000 Euros (USD 19040) has been approved through the agency of the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ) for the construction of a laboratory that will facilitate one of the stages of development of phytomedicines.    -Chaco: The amounts requested for the 3 communities by the Forestry Law totaled $ 143,000 USD in August 2017. Regarding the Integrated Community Plans (PIC) of Forests and communities, $ 200,000 were requested for the 3 communities. |
| Estimated proportion of average annual gross income for small producers (Family farm nuclei [NAF]) (including women producers) as a result of the sale and sustainable use of the NTFP | - Misiones (Atlantic Forest): 15% (proportion of women in the NAF: 0.50)    - Jujuy (Yungas): 15% (proportion of women in the NAF: 0.51)    - Salta (Chaco): 25% (proportion of women in the NAF: 0.50)      The proportion of annual income from NTFP is based on interviews with the Directive Unit of the Ministry of Family Agriculture    Note: baseline estimates of the gross income from the NAF are approximate given the lack of accounting logs among the producers and the multi-activity approach that prevails in family-based agriculture. Baseline estimates have not been adjusted for inflation. | *(not set or not applicable)* | - Misiones (Atlantic Forest): between 35% and 45% (proportion of women in the NAF is maintained at 0.50)  - Jujuy (Yungas): between 35% and 45% (proportion of women in the NAF is maintained at 0.51)  - Salta (Chaco): between 35% and 45% ( proportion of women in the NAF is maintained at 0.50)    (in all cases the target increases until Year 4 and is maintained in Year 5) | Note:  Revenues related to the sustainable use of biodiversity have not been calculated as of yet because the project is still in the pilot phase.    An expert in rural economy will hired in the short term and this activity will help to compile and assess all the economic information relative to project achievements. The production and packaging of new NTFPs, including their added value, represent an important support for increasing small producers´ annual gross income. Also, this consultancy will assess legal aspects that have been identified as the main problems to be tackled in order to launch a safe product to the market. For example, products for human consumption need to be incorporated in the Argentinian Food Code.    According to data received from Jujuy in 2018, a group of 10 families raised USD 2,400 only for the sale of chilto-related products (tree tomato).    In Misiones, in 2018 alone a group of 8 families raised USD 1,250 from the sale of their products.    In Salta, one estimation for the annual gross income for a wichi individual would be around US$ 2,500 per year, including the sustainable use of algarrobo, brea and handcrafted items.    The impact of this total on the percentage of the family economy has still not been measured from the economic perspective but estimates indicate it is very important. | Revenues related to NTFP from the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, although they have increased in relation to the start of the project, are not yet precisely calculated as a percentage of income because the work is just starting.    The improvement in the percentage of family income because of the use of NTFPs is already being included in the cost and marketing analysis carried out by a current consultancy under the supervision of our technical team (expected to be completed in a few months).    It should also be emphasized that it is still necessary to fine-tune the value chains and the business plans of each of the items and products with which the project is working. This task will be carried out during the final stage of the Project.    Throughout the period NTFP sales by project beneficiaries are around $ 7,000.00.    Nevertheless, the main fact is that the participation in different fairs and local, provincial and national exhibitions and the coordination with the gastronomic sector have increased the visibility of these products by a large mass of consumers. It is necessary at this stage for the project to consolidate the operation of the different processing facilities and achieve the necessary scale to position NTFPs in the market. To this end, we are also working intensively on the registry of the “Argentinian Biodiversity" seal or label. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 3**  **Governance framework at national and provincial levels for sustainable management of NTFP of native forests landscapes** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Number of proposals submitted regarding types of new and/or reformed policies or regulations that promote and/or facilitate the sustainable use of biodiversity of in 4.4 million ha. | -  0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | -  Protocol for sustainable management of the NTFP adopted by the Forest Unit for 3 ecoregions, and updates made in at least one province that increase the proposed requirements (improving sustainability) | A draft of the Minimum Requirement law for the sustainable use of biodiversity has been presented to the Ministry of the Environment in order for it to be assessed by legal experts. The Law proposal includes innovative aspects regarding the sustainable use of biodiversity. This law will then need to be approved by Congress. | 2 ecoregions (I-II)    Note:  I) The preliminary draft of the "Law of Minimum Requirements for the Conservation of Biological Diversity, and the Sustainable Use of its Components" prepared through a consultancy of the Project was presented to the authorities of the Secretary of the Government of the Environment and Sustainable Development (SGAyDS) on June 30, 2019.  The final version of the draft "Law of Minimum Budgets for the Conservation of Biological Diversity, and the Sustainable Use of its Components" and its foundations was presented on June 30 of this year to the authorities of the SGAyDS.  This minimum budget bill provides a broad framework that is consistent with the objectives of the USUBI project, based on various aspects.  The first, one of the objectives of the USUBI project is to unify sustainable practices and uses of biological diversity in the provinces that are the partners of the project, with special reference to NTFP, an aspect that the draft law fully supports.    The second aspect is that being a national law of minimum budgets, it orders the system not only for the three jurisdictions of the USUBI project but for the 23 Argentinian jurisdictions, with unique rules for hunting, fishing, flora collection, threatened species of flora and fauna, access to genetic resources and invasive alien species, control systems, ecosystem management, among other highlights.  The third point is that since it is a national law, it contributes directly to international agreements on the matter, especially the Convention on Biological Diversity approved in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, which regulates the bulk of the matter in the international field.  The fourth aspect is that the draft law creates a system of ecoregional planning that has enormous virtues for the resolution of divergent policies on common ecosystems. These points are important because, for shared ecological systems, the draft law provides for common management, through the national authority and the provincial authorities on issues pertaining to each ecoregion to make decisions on these common aspects.    The current state of biological diversity in crisis highlights the need for systemic regulations of the same, such as this draft law that unites what would be four or five separate laws, as it regulates flora, fauna, hunting, inland fisheries, access to genetic resources and traditional knowledge, ecoregional planning; following the most avant-garde comparative methodology in Europe and with little precedent in Latin America.  It is for this reason that this final product, which is in an advanced degree of consolidation as a draft law, turns out to be an input that is highly connected with the objectives pursued by the present project.  Process of participation and information of the preliminary draft:  The preliminary draft was prepared through a drafting process where the technical and internal policy areas of the Secretary of Environment and Sustainable Development participated, with a special emphasis on the areas of biological diversity within the Secretariat of Policy on Natural Resources.  Based on the preliminary text of the Preliminary Draft, with the approval of the Secretary of the Environment, a consensus process was carried out with the different sectors within the National Advisory Commission for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity (CONADIBIO). These sectors are: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship (MRECyC), Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation (MinCyT), National Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET), National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA), Ministry of Agribusiness Institute National Seed (INASE), National Service of Health and Agri-Food Quality (SENASA), Ministry of Education and Sports, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Culture, Federal Council of the Environment (COFEMA) (one per regional), the Interuniversity Council National (CIN), Council of Rectors of Private Universities (CRUP), professional organizations, business chambers, NGOs, indigenous peoples, trade associations among other.    In addition, the draft law was presented on three occasions to the Biodiversity Commission of the Federal Environment Council (COFEMA), in its Biodiversity Commission and in the general assembly, to agree on aspects related to the provinces. The same was done with the Interjurisdictional Coordinating Body for Fauna (ECIF) that brings together all the provincial enforcement authorities in the field of fauna.  To conclude, the preliminary draft has been disseminated to interested sectors, as well as in the provincial space.    II) Work is being done on the preparation and registration of the "Argentine Biodiversity" seal/label that will be granted by the application authority (SGAyDS) to distinguish the products generated within the Argentinian territory with raw materials from the sustainable use of native biodiversity. This refers to products or groups of products whose harvest or collection are carried out with sustainable practices that minimize the effects on the environment and promote the maintenance of biodiversity. |
| Change in the capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs) and the provincial governments to implement and monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity in landscapes as measured by the project’s Capacity Scorecard: a) Capacity for participation; b) Capacity for the creation of, access to, and use of information and knowledge; c) Capacity for the development of strategies, policy, and legislation; d) Capacity for management and implementation; e) Capacity for monitoring and evaluation | CSOs    - Salta (Chaco): 10%    - Jujuy (Yungas): 10%    - Misiones (Atlantic Forest : 10%    Provincial governments    - Salta (Chaco): 29.4%    - Jujuy (Yungas): 35.3%    - Misiones (Atlantic Forest): 41.2%      The specific results of the project’s Capacity Scorecard are presented in Appendix 8.9. | *(not set or not applicable)* | CSOs  - Salta (Chaco): baseline + up to 30%  - Jujuy (Yungas): baseline + up to 30%  - Misiones (Atlantic Forest : baseline + up to 30%  Provincial governments  - Salta (Chaco): 59.4%  - Jujuy (Yungas): 65.3%  - Misiones (Atlantic Forest): 71.2% | CSOs  - Salta (Chaco): 52.31%  - Jujuy (Yungas): 52.94%  - Misiones (Atlantic Forest): 47.03%    Provincial Government  - Salta (Chaco): 41.17%  - Jujuy (Yungas): 50%  - Misiones (Mata Atlántica): 52.94 %    Note: Meetings and trainings were held in all ecoregions with state and private organizations, communities, associations and NGOs, achieving significant progress in the capacities to implement and monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity.    In order to calculate this indicator in 2018, Annex 8.9 of the Project Document was used. It should also be highlighted that the indicator used to measure Gov degree of development is also used to measure the same in CSOs.    CR 1: Capacity for developing legislation and policies:  • Indicator 1: existence of regulatory frameworks regarding Management Plans for biodiversity.  • Indicator 2: existence of instruments (either plans, programs or projects) available for implementing Sustainable Use of Biodiversity policies, in particular those related to non-timber forest products.  • Indicator 3: Enhancement of articulation strategies between organisms during the process of strategy development related to non-timber forest products.    CR 2: Capacity for management and implementation.  • Indicator 4: Sustainable Use of Biodiversity –particularly, non-timber forest products- through existence and mobilization of resources.  • Indicator 5: Availability of technical training and technological linkages.  CR 3: Capacity for generating, accessing and using information and knowledge.  • Indicator 6: Degree of knowledge about non-timber forest products production and/or utilization.  • Indicator 7: Use of traditional knowledge in the development of management plans or sustainable use of biodiversity projects.  • Indicator 8: Access and trade of available information regarding sustainable use of biodiversity through non-timber forest products.  • Indicator 9: Existence of educational projects about the environment, which include the sustainable use of biodiversity through non-timber forest products.  • Indicator 10: Links between environmental sciences research and the implementation of sustainable use of biodiversity policies.  CR 4: Capacity for monitoring and evaluating.  • Indicator 11: Adequacy of sustainable use of biodiversity monitoring processes.  • Indicator 12: Adequacy of evaluation processes regarding sustainable use of biodiversity plans, programs or projects. | CSOs    - Salta (Chaco): 57.81%  This goal has been met and exceeded.    - Jujuy (Yungas): 60.14%  This goal has been met and exceeded.    - Misiones (Atlantic Forest): 55.20%  This goal has been met and exceeded.      Provincial Government    - Salta (Chaco): 52.30%    - Jujuy (Yungas): 58.10%    - Misiones (Mata Atlántica): 59.50 %        Note:  The respective Letters of Agreement with the Provinces of Misiones and Jujuy were signed and the for province of Salta a specific consultancy will be implemented this year. This will strengthen the capacities of the respective provincial governments.    In order to achieve this, a strategy for coordinating the project in which the lines of work to be included in the Letters of Agreement were defined:    (1) Support and transfer of experiences on NTFP products to the Provinces;    (2) Institutional strengthening and training;    (3) Biodiversity inventories and development of a biodiversity information system. Development and strengthening of transit guides for biodiversity. Logistics and related equipment.    (4) Communication, dissemination and positioning of NTFPs.    (5) Branding, commercial strategy and quality management plan at the national level    (6) Strengthening and development of regulations on the sustainable use of biodiversity;    (7) Strengthening of commercial chains and equipment;    (8) Implementation of administration, coordination and support in the territory for all the aforementioned activities.    As a result, at the beginning of 2019, two Agreement Letters and their corresponding plans were signed with the Provinces of Misiones ($ 167,698.45 USD) and Jujuy ($ 100,420.59 USD); while progress was made in joint planning of an analogous consultancy to be implemented in the Province of Salta.    In order to calculate this indicator in 2018, Annex 8.9 of the Project Document was used. It should also be highlighted that the indicator used to measure the level of government capacity is also used to measure the same in CSOs.    CR 1: Capacity for developing legislation and policies:  • Indicator 1: existence of regulatory frameworks regarding management plans for biodiversity.  • Indicator 2: existence of instruments (either plans, programs or projects) available for implementing sustainable use of biodiversity policies, in particular those related to non-timber forest products.  • Indicator 3: Enhancement of articulation strategies between organisms during the process of strategy development related to non-timber forest products.    CR 2: Capacity for management and implementation.  • Indicator 4: Sustainable Use of Biodiversity –particularly, non-timber forest products- through existence and mobilization of resources.  • Indicator 5: Availability of technical training and technological linkages.  CR 3: Capacity for generating, accessing and using information and knowledge.  • Indicator 6: Degree of knowledge about non-timber forest products production and/or utilization.  • Indicator 7: Use of traditional knowledge in the development of management plans or sustainable use of biodiversity projects.  • Indicator 8: Access and trade of available information regarding sustainable use of biodiversity through non-timber forest products.  • Indicator 9: Existence of educational projects about the environment, which include the sustainable use of biodiversity through non-timber forest products.  • Indicator 10: Links between environmental sciences research and the implementation of sustainable use of biodiversity policies.  CR 4: Capacity for monitoring and evaluating.  • Indicator 11: Adequacy of sustainable use of biodiversity monitoring processes.  • Indicator 12: Adequacy of evaluation processes regarding sustainable use of biodiversity plans, programs or projects. |
| Number of persons/officials trained in the Application of the Forest Law | Atlantic Forest    - Misiones Province : 0    Yungas    - Jujuy Province: 0    - Additional province: 0    Chaco    - Salta Province: 0    - Additional province: 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | Atlantic Forest  - Misiones: 44 (4 persons in the forest sector + 40 persons in the biodiversity sector)  Yungas  - Jujuy: 24 (4 persons in the forest sector + 20 persons in the biodiversity sector)  - Additional province: 50  Chaco  - Salta: 33 (13 persons in the forest sector +20 persons in the biodiversity sector)  - Additional province: 50 | Atlantic Forest  - Misiones Province: 50 (20 in biodiversity and 30 in forest sector)  Yungas  - Jujuy Province: 23 (5 forest sector and 18 in biodiversity sector)  - Additional province: 0  Chaco  -Salta Province: 32 (6 forest sector and 26 in biodiversity sector)  -Additional province: 0      Note: Training sessions were held on different aspects of the Forest Law, participatory workshops were held and informational material was delivered with subsequent debates, both in the forest area and in the biodiversity sector, including officials, technicians, NGOs and beneficiaries. | Atlantic Forest  - Misiones Province: 85 (40 in biodiversity and 45 in forest sector)  This goal has been met and exceeded.    Yungas  - Jujuy Province: 29 (9 forest sector and 20 in biodiversity sector)  This goal has been met and exceeded.  - Additional province: Salta Province    Chaco  -Salta Province: 44 (13 forest sector and 31 in biodiversity sector)  This goal has been met and exceeded.  -Additional province: Chaco Province    Note:  These trainings on the application of the Forest Law were carried out by the project.  The meetings and workshops continued and although the increase in the new people involved has not yet been reported, the strengthening of the capacities has been achieved at both levels. In the case of the CSOs, the goal has already been surpassed and as for the provincial governments, it is estimated that the signing of the Letters Agreement with the provinces will increase their capacities. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |

# Implementation Progress



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 55.22% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 55.22% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 2,551,186 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Key Financing Amounts** | |
| PPG Amount | 150,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 4,620,000 |
| Co-financing | 23,687,400 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Key Project Dates** | |
| PIF Approval Date | Jun 20, 2013 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Jan 22, 2015 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | May 18, 2015 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | Jun 23, 2016 |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | Jan 31, 2019 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Jan 18, 2020 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | May 18, 2020 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | *(not set or not applicable)* |

|  |
| --- |
| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)** |
| 2018-11-23 |

# Critical Risk Management

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Current Types of Critical Risks | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |
| Political | The political risk is associated to the national election to be held on October 27th. The results will have an important impact, whether this implies the actual party will continue or a change in the ruling political party. The team will resocialize the project with new counterparts and stakeholders as needed. |
| Strategic | Part of the project´s overall success depends on the generation of markets for a series of non timber sustainable products. As explained in other sections, the economic context is not favorable, especially at provincial level. The project will have to be especially attentive to the rsponse of the markest identified fotr the products to the economic measures taken by the national government. |
| Operational | One of the main operational risks for the project is the weakness of the supply chains of the biodiversity`s products. In addition to the long distance between the productive areas and the market there are not enough facilities (roads, storage buildings, process plants, etc.) to develop the business in a proper way.  The project continues to work to strengthen the supply chains of different NTFP species through different actions such as incorporation of NTFP products into the native forests collective brand. |

# Adjustments

**Comments on delays in key project milestones**

|  |
| --- |
| **Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The mid-term review, which was delayed for what was described in the previous PIR, was finally initiated between November 2018 and January 2019. It was carried out by an external consultant, Dr. Segundo Coelho, and a local consultant, Lic. Gabriela Sbarra. The external consultant carried out all the relevant interviews in Buenos Aires, Salta and Jujuy, but since the beginning of the year he stopped responding to communication attempts on behalf of the project and representatives of UNDP, and on June 30 2019, he did not present the final report, so the local consultant who had already completed her tasks in the province of Misiones, was hired to conclude the rest of the evaluation between July and August 2019. |

|  |
| --- |
| **Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| There was a major delay in the implementation of the MTR for a number of different reasons. To begin with, and since the project had experienced some delays exacerbated by the change of National Coordiantor, it was agreed to have the MTR at a point in time in the project´s life cycle that would allow the evaluation team to be able to see and evaluate outputs with sound progress. Thus, the MTR was rescheduled for mid 2018. Finally, the MTR consultants were identified and hired and the mission took place in November, 2018.  Unexpectedly, after the local mission was finished, the international consultant Segundo Coello neglected his responsibilities and Terms of Reference and stopped all communications with the CO and the project team. This act of irresponsability had a huge impact on the MTR, which had to be redone by a new consultant.  The draft of the report is expected to be finalized by July 2019. |

|  |
| --- |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| As mentioned in the comments of the project manager and Country Office, the Mid-Term Review was extremely delayed. While the problems experienced in 2019 due to non-compliance by the lead evalutor could not be avoided, the initial delay should have been reduced. Even when projects experience bottlenecks outside of their control which limit progress toward the defined objectives, MTRs should be initiated on time at the mid-way point of the cycle as they are meant to serve as an instrument to guide and help orient project implementation. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | During this period, the project has strengthened its work according to the proposed objectives and, especially, in relation to the Outcomes of Components 2 and 3.    Likewise, the evaluation of a set of management indicators continued to take place in order to monitor the project's quarterly / annual activities and to feed into the DO indicators. As with the quarterly planning, this was carried out to consolidate actions in the territory and have a greater impact on the beneficiaries. Unfortunately, and despite the substantial efforts made and for reasons beyond our reach, it was impossible to finalize the MTR and, therefore, the annual review of the ProDoc and the necessary adjustments in the action plan (financial and operational) of the project.    The achievements resulting from the implementation of the activities supported by the Project Executing Unit team are listed below:    I. Project planning and decision making  Two meetings of the Project Executive Committee (CEP) were organized (in June and December 2018), with the participation of all its members. In addition to the SGAYDS, the Provinces of Misiones, Jujuy and Salta, the Argentinean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UNDP and a large part of the team actively participated in both. In preparation for these meetings, we developed a strategy for coordinating the project in which the lines of work to be included in the Letters of Agreement were defined:  (1) Support and transfer of experiences on NTFP to the Provinces;  (2) Institutional strengthening and training;  (3) Biodiversity inventories and development of a biodiversity information system. Development and strengthening of transportation permits for biodiversity. Logistics and related equipment.  (4) Communication, dissemination and positioning of NTFPs.  (5) Branding, commercial strategy and quality management plan at the national level  (6) Strengthening and development of regulations on the sustainable use of biodiversity;  (7) Strengthening of commercial chains and equipment;  (8) Administration, coordination and accompaniment in the field for all the aforementioned activities.    As a result, at the beginning of 2019, two Letters of Agreement and their corresponding plans were signed with the Provinces of Misiones ($ 167,698.45 USD) and Jujuy ($ 100,420.59 USD); while progress was made in joint planning of an analogous consultancy to be implemented in the Province of Salta. Both Misiones and Jujuy are already implementing actions within the framework of the Agreement Letters, such as the development of a provincial event related to yate (Melipona) honey and participation in local and national fairs. Through these advances, the empowerment of the beneficiaries and the replicability of the project will be achieved once it comes to an end.    II. Development of NTFPs with Local Added Value    The project has deepened its action in the field and is generating the growing participation in the communities where it works, consolidating the work with them over time including through activities that promote the improvement of the community organization and the definition of sustainable value chains to guarantee a fair price for the products of native biodiversity.    The most outstanding achievement of the period, in terms of the development of products, is the incorporation into the Argentine Food Code of honey from Yateí or Rubita (Tetragonisca fiebrigi), one of the stingless native bees. On May 4, the National Food Commission approved the report submitted to incorporate its honey in said official code and was published in the Official Gazette. This milestone in the life of the project, which establishes the precedent of a registry in the Argentinian food code by the SGAyDS, will allow communities living in the forest to market their products throughout the country, and not only locally. This development enabled us to carry out an event that summoned the public of the Province of Misiones, and generated a renewed interest in the realization of the 2nd MANSA (Mesa de Abejas Nativas Sin Aguijón) meeting nationwide.    The installation of NFTP processing facilities is a milestone and enables added value at the local level as part of the intervention model of the project in the territory. The construction of the carob flour processing room in Solá, Province of Salta is already envisioned to improve the income of the beneficiaries. The fruit-making facility in the jungle located on the Andresito Peninsula is almost completed. Moreover, the drying facility for medicinal herbs in Picada Norte, Province of Misiones is showing consistent progress. It was also decided to build the last facility for fruit elaboration in the jungle in the town of Ocloyas, Jujuy Province, but this activity will be curtailed if the project duration cannot be extended.    In addition to products already developed in previous periods, such as sweets and vinegars derived from chilto, pitanga and guaviroba; palm pulp or jejià, orchids and medicinal herbs from the Atlantic Forest are now beginning to be considered very seriously by local actors. The same applies to carob flour and Chaco Chaguar handicrafts, which show a clear growth due to significant progress of the project in Salta, as is the case with native inks in the Jungas de Jujuy Jungle. Through new actions, in the period of time remaining from the project, we can also develop the products derived from Rubber Gum and strengthen the achievements made with Yateí honey    III. Update in collective brand development and NTFP marketing    Through the start of a specific consultancy, the technical team is generating a series of key actions for the development of Component 2. The tasks that are currently being carried out are:  1) Socio-economic assessment of the value chain and commercial potential of products originating from the sustainable use of biodiversity,  2) Design of a quality management plan based on protocols for the sustainable use of biodiversity,  3) Development of a communication strategy through an identification or badge associated with the quality attribute,  4) Definition of a commercial management strategy and business models for the realization of commercial operations at local, national and international levels,  5) Implementation of pilot experiences of marketing of products developed under the commercial management strategy and the collective brand.    As a result, as of today, there is already a quality protocol that will allow the collective brand to be put in place, differentiating the products supported by the project in the market. Likewise, the visual logo and its accompanying message ("Biodiversity Argentina") have been agreed upon. The validation of these advances was carried out jointly with the National Biodiversity and Forest Directions, and included the participation of local citizens and provincial actors from Salta and Jujuy Provinces.    As part of the initial process to build the demand for the products of Biodiversidad Argentina, important advances have been made. In the first place, thanks to the cooperation of the Development Agency of Misiones (ADEMI), two sales points were established that continuously market the project products in the two airports of Misiones. In addition, meetings were held with the company that builds a high-end gourmet market in downtown Buenos Aires City. The company promised to offer a stand to permanently market NTFPs. Finally, an informal communication group was formed with 14 chefs from 7 Argentine provinces called “Conserve while Cooking”. In this space, the progress of the project has been communicated and some commercial operations has been facilitated.    IV. Preparation and presentation of regulations with national scope (Biodiversity Law and Resolution of creation of collective brand).    In accordance with the timeline envisioned in the ProDoc, Component 3 is beginning to see greater implementation. Progress was made in the development of regulations at various levels for the sustainable use of biodiversity. The main action that stands out is the elaboration of the draft Law for the sustainable use of biodiversity at the national level, in relation to public and private incentives. This elaboration has involved the participation of provincial governments, extension agents and members of the academic community. The approval of a national minimun requirements law is important to ensure the replicability of the project. It is worth mentioning that the tools that are being generated have a scope that is much greater than that of the project, since they can be used throughout the country.    Finally, in the requested extension period, the intervention model in territory applied by the project can be strengthened (involving sustainable use of the forest, added value and commercialization) and the extension and communication actions deepened in order to expand the number of beneficiaries and the area of ​​impact of the initiative. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Moderately Satisfactory | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | This year´s performance has been assessed as Marginally Satisfactory both for DO Progress and Implementation progress. The overall general context in which the project has been working during the assessed period has had ups and downs. Nonetheless, there has been an enormous effort from the coordination unit in order not to suffer delays in the implementation of activities, hindered by the non enabling environment. Thus, efforts have been centered around the development of a local brand for placing sustainable use of non-timber products in new markets with a specific value added, and consequently with a distinctive price. This initiative is still under development. In addition to the local brand, the main achievements of the project include capacity building for beneficiaries including producers and counterparts, providing support for the implementation of a national biodiversity inventory and database, development of a national draft law on sustainable use of biodiversity, as well as other local regulations.    The relationship with the provinces of Jujuy and Misiones has had a push and a positive impact on the overall project´s performance, considering the start up and entry into force of the Letters of Agreement signed with each jurisdiction. These agreements have helped both implement local activities as well as national related activities.    On the other hand, the devaluation of the local currency and the inflation trend (cumulative of 49% for 2018 and 25% for 2019) and interannual increase have had a negative impact on the financial performance of the project, both at the national and provincial level. These two aspects have delayed and slowed down an already slow degree of fund execution, even though the project has been able to advance on the technical aspects as described in the DO section. The annual work plans have not been completely implemented mostly as a result of the described economic and political context.    On the political dimension, the project faces a potential risk related to the national and provincial elections to be held in October 2019. The results of this election process will define the continuity or not of the current ruling political party with direct implications on the national and provincial counterparts. As part of the risk mitigation strategy, the CO will begin informal contact with the candidates identified to be in charge of the Secretary of Environment after the technical teams are presented by the candidates. This will include both the ruling party as well as other political parties. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Other Partners** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser** | Moderately Satisfactory | Moderately Unsatisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | Progress toward Development Objectives- Moderately Satisfactory (MS)    This project´s objective is to increase the sustainable use of biodiversity through the promotion of non-timber forest products (NTFP) in order to provide socioeconomic benefits to poor small farmers in Argentina while conserving globally significant biodiversity and ecosystems goods and services in the Atlantic Forests, Chaco and Yungas ecoregions. The progress toward the project´s Development Objectives is rated as Moderately Satisfactory, meaning that the project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only. This coincides with the CO´s rating this year, and with the rating I provided last year, though it is somewhat lower than the Project Coordinator´s rating of Satisfactory.    Outcome 1 is focused on establishing sustainable use models of native forest biodiversity in areas of high conservation value in three ecosystems. The project has continued to promote development of sustainable forest management plans (SFMPs) for producers to be able to put in place sustainable production systems and access the associated financing from Argentina´s Forest Law. In order to reduce the typical delays in approval of these management plans, the project has been providing training to technicians. The percentage of forest cover is believed to have remained the same, based on data from the National Directorate of Forests, however, data will be collected in the second semester of this year on forest cover at a farm scale for the project´s intervention sites. It should also be noted that a consultancy is underway under this Outcome to synthesize data on the supply of NTFP and on labour requirements, among other issues, to support the development of management plans. In areas that do not have SFMPs, the project continues to work to promote sustainable use models (for example, with Goma Brea with 10 indigenous communities).    Outcome 2 aims to put in place markets and financing mechanisms to ensure economic and social sustainability in terms of the sustainable management of NTFPs of the native forest. The project has developed protocols for sustainable production and maintenance of forests for 53 species, which are proposed to be part of a Native Forests collective brand. However, this brand still needs to be formally established for the species and associated products to be marketed under this label. The indicator that relates to the number of producers formally registered with the social tax certification will not likely be met considering that the government is no longer providing this type of differential tax rates for small-scale producers. Instead, the project is supporting registration of communities and individuals in the National Registry of Family Farming (RENAF), which enables them to market their products. The amount of funding available for sustainable use of NTFP through approved management plans under the Forest Law is limited by the fact that not all management plans have been approved and not all disbursements have been made due to administrative delays, among others. In any case, a consultancy is being carried out to determine the impact of NTFP on family incomes. While the sale of NTFPs clearly provides income to locals and there is increasing awareness about these products through the participation of the project in multiple fairs, further work is needed on the NTFP processing facilities to enable more production at scale, to formalize the Native Forests collective brand, and to develop business plans for the different NTFP products.    Outcome 3 strives to set up a governance framework at the national and provincial levels for the sustainable management of NTFP in native forest landscapes. In this respect, it is important to highlight the project´s work to develop the final version of the draft "Law of Minimum Standards for the Conservation of Biological Diversity and the Sustainable Use of its Components", a first for the country. This law regulates biodiversity matters at a national scale and therefore supports the process of unifying NTFP sustainable production criteria across the provinces. The draft law was developed in a highly participatory manner and has been presented to the Secretary of Environment and Development, after which it needs to be approved by Parliament.    The project has contributed to an increase in the capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs) and the provincial governments to implement and monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity in landscapes. The targets related to the number of people trained in the application of the Forest Law have already been surpassed for civil society organizations. This will facilitate greater interest from other stakeholders outside of the project´s specific intervention sites to develop sustainable forest management plans and access the associated funds. It is expected that with the recent signing of Letters of Agreement with two provinces and a consultancy to be carried out for institutional strengthening among others, the capacity building targets will also be achieved for government institutions.    During this reporting period, the project stepped up its communications activities as planned. It produced a number of products, such as flyers and videos, and is in the process of developing infographics. There has also been substantial media coverage.    While progress has been made during this reporting period in the promotion of the sustainable use of biodiversity from NTFP, it is evident that more time is needed to put in place the conditions to process NTFP at scale, to formally establish the brand for these products to distinguish them in the marketplace, and to develop and implement business plans for different NTFP based on native biodiversity. The project is progressing toward the end-of-project targets, such as the number of SFMP that include NTFPs and the area of forest with benefits for biodiversity, but actions will need to accelerate in what remains of project implementation to meet the targets. Furthermore, for several of the indicators, data still need to be collected to assess progress toward the targets.    Implementation Progress- Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)    My rating for Implementation Progress is Moderately Unsatisfactory. This reflects implementation issues that are hampering delivery and delays in cumulative financial delivery and the timing of key implementation milestones, including the Mid-Term Review and the expected date of operational closure. This rating is somewhat lower than the rating provided by the CO of Moderately Satisfactory, and lower than the rating I provided last year for the reasons explained below.    The financial delivery for 2019 is 21% by the middle of the year and it was 64% by the end of 2018. The cumulative financial delivery since the Project Document was signed in 2015 is 55%, with the original expected closure date being May, 2020. This clearly shows that cumulative financial delivery is significantly off track; delays have accumulated from previous years due to a major change in government, climatic issues and a change in coordinator, and this year delays are related primarily to changes in the institutional structure, bureaucratic delays and lengthy approval processes. In addition, Argentina has been impacted by extreme currency devaluation and inflation. All these factors are, unfortunately, outside of the control of the project. The positive news is that financial execution is expected to increase with the recent signing this year of Letters of Agreement with the provinces of Jujuy and Misiones and with the consultancy to be carried out in Salta for the promotion of NTFP sustainable production and strengthening of value chains, among other activities. The project is in the process of requesting an extension of 18 months in order for it to achieve its end-of-project targets given the complexity of the national context in which it has operated. This will be important for project objectives to be met.    Annual work plan implementation is adequate, although some activities could not be carried out as planned in 2018 and 2019 due to the previously mentioned delays. Project management is satisfactory, with a team of 15 people in place between those working centrally and those working in the ecoregions. Adaptive management is carried out to deal with different issues and to take advantage of emerging opportunities. For example, the project team decided to expand its reach and begin working with creole populations that are adjacent to the indigenous populations with which the project had been working, and in this way expand upon the number of project beneficiaries. Another example of adaptive management is the decision to hire a consultancy to carry out activities in Salta, given the province´s reluctance to sign a Letter of Agreement for the receipt of resources.    Monitoring of project activities is carried out quarterly, including through management indicators that feed into the assessment of progress on the project´s actual indicators. The Mid-Term Review, which should have been carried out in early 2018 was delayed and the process of initiating the selection process commenced in mid-2018. By November, 2018, the evaluators were hired, but then for reasons beyond the scope of the project, the lead evaluator that was hired dropped out and the project was forced to work with a different evaluator (the MTR report has since finally been submitted after the end of this reporting period in August 2019).    No critical risks are reported. The project is monitoring a few non-critical risks, such as the impact of the coming elections, which may require the project to be re-socialized with stakeholders and which could cause some delays that are outside of the control of the project.    Project governance is satisfactory with one Steering Committee meeting held during this reporting period in November, in which all the members participated, including the Secretary of the Environment, UNDP, Ministry of Foreign Relations and the three provinces. The Steering Committee contributed effectively to annual work planning. The level of project ownership has increased considerably now with the signing of the Letters of Agreement which transfer funds from the central level to two of the three provinces participating in the project; this means that they can take on more of a leadership role in implementing activities related to strengthening sustainable NTFP production, supply chains and marketing.    It is recommended that the project plan carefully to expedite delivery, especially for the post-election period in order to make up for lost time and ensure that all planned project outputs are produced. This may require considering additional/ alternative procurement arrangements, such as hiring NGOs or firms, to carry out some activities as responsible parties, as well as continuing to consolidate partnerships to increase project impact. The project extension will also be vital, considering the different factors that have undermined execution that are wholly outside of the control of the project. | |

# Gender

**Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

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

|  |
| --- |
| **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** *not available* |
| **Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

|  |
| --- |
| **Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes |
| Not applicable: No |

|  |
| --- |
| **Atlas Gender Marker Rating** |
| **GEN1:** some contribution to gender equality |

|  |
| --- |
| **Please describe any experiences or linkages (direct or indirect) between project activities and gender-based violence (GBV). This information is for UNDP use only and will not be shared with GEF Secretariat.** |
| Not applicable |

|  |
| --- |
| **Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.**    **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.** |
| The USUBI project is promoting the participation of women in decision-making and in the management of change processes, together with the recognition and value of the knowledge of indigenous peoples. These perspectives (gender and cultural diversity) are understood as axes that cut across the conceptual and methodological actions that are implemented at the territorial and institutional level. It is emphasized that the concept of the sustainable use of biodiversity is culturally linked to the role of women in families or communities, since the very idea of ​​sustaining resources and guaranteeing reproduction has been their historically assigned role.    In the original communities and groups of small rural producers with whom they work, the harvest of fruits from the native forest has been linked to women and young people; and the economically profitable work of the farm (products, sale of wood) has been associated with men, in a clear distribution of the public and private spheres. This project is working to change this through a scheme of open training and differentiated marketing of products based on the sustainable use of biodiversity, mobilizing structures in the economic organization of families and that empower women and allow for the emergence of new organizational and cultural possibilities. This is the case of the Cooperativa Nueva Esperanza in the town of San Pedro, Misiones, made up of 12 women who make vinegars from fruits native to the Selva Paranaense, which today receives income from the sale of their products and which represents an example of creative and innovative entrepreneurism that opens up a work alternative for rural women.    Another aspect to mention is the expansion of the public sphere through the incorporation of rural women with low socio-educational level that generate monetary income in the framework of the commercialization of products based on the sustainable use of biodiversity, in differentiated market niches which tend to be highly exclusive. At the same time, the associative experience that the USUBI Project is promoting and implementing allows for the existence of spaces to think about the gender relations within family and/or community structures, enabling more informed decision making in the face of the evidence of other possible forms of relationship.    On the other hand, it is interesting to note the dismantling of stereotypes that occurs when men participate in activities considered &quot;women's&quot;, such as the harvesting of fruits of the forest or the preparation of packaging for marketing. Conversely, as can be seen in the Mbya Guaraní communities where the USUBI Project is implemented, in which work with honey bees is usually in the hands of the men and yet, based on open workshops agreed with the community, women are actively included and are the ones that are promoting the creation of a business for the commercialization of native honey. It is also about young men and women who seek to share their knowledge with Western society and offer their products within the framework of an identity story that identifies, values ​​and makes them visible. |

|  |
| --- |
| **Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| As a result of the collective work in Misiones, women have managed to promote their products in the local and provincial markets (Iguazú International Airport, hotels, e-commerce, events and fairs) as well as in various national events (&quot;Feria Masticar&quot;, &quot;Feria Caminos y Sabores &quot;, &quot;Feria Forestal Argentina ). The women of Jujuy have been able to improve the quality of their crafts and also socialize with other groups of women. In Morillo, province of Salta, work continues with wichí (indigenous) women to improve the design of their crafts.    In the coming months it is planned to conduct training for provincial technicians in order to identify gender gaps, determine their causes and analyze together how to address these problems.  The project continued providing training to all these groups of women, thus contributing to their livelihoods and strengthening the capacities of the communities, which acts as an incentive for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. |

# Social and Environmental Standards

**Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)**

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

|  |
| --- |
| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?** |
| No |

|  |
| --- |
| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.** |
| Not applicable |

|  |
| --- |
| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.** |
| No |

|  |
| --- |
| **If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.** |
| Not applicable |

|  |
| --- |
| **SESP:** [PIMS 4829 Argentina BD Mainstreaming Sustainable Use of Yungas ESSP.doc](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4829/213589/1717843/1724543/PIMS%204829%20Argentina%20BD%20Mainstreaming%20Sustainable%20Use%20of%20Yungas%20ESSP.doc)  **Environmental and Social Management Plan/Framework:** *not available* |
| **For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

|  |
| --- |
| **3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.** |
| Not Applicable |

|  |
| --- |
| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| Not applicable |

|  |
| --- |
| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential )?** |
| Yes |

|  |
| --- |
| **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.** |
| On March 26th, 2018, an email from SECU (Social and Environment Compliance Unit) was received at the UNDP Country Office following a complaint received through their grievances filing mechanism. The complaint indicated that the project was promoting deforestation in Corrientes Province in the Mesopotamia Region of Argentina. Evidence that the grievance was not only incorrect but completely unfounded was provided to SECU. Also, it was clearly indicated that the project does not carry out activities in the province where the grievance was made.    Following the information provided by the CO the file was closed and dismissed. |

# Communicating Impact

|  |
| --- |
| **Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s lives.**  **(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)** |
| The assessed period is characterized by a high degree of communication activities. Some actions were carried out together with the communications office of the Secretary of the Government of Environment and Sustainable Development. These actions have led a significant proportion of the public to know about the project, its activities and the biodiversity products with which it works.    During the assessed period, there are several examples of people or communities whose lives have been improved because of the project. Such improvements are now shared by and with the members of the communities involved, which are essentially related to the recognition of local knowledge and products. The social recognition of the aspects that were historically absent (such as the food that comes from the forest, for example, carob flour), is very relevant for cultural integration and is even more impressive when the market appreciates it. For instance, the first processing room for carob flour and other fruits native to the Chaco Seco promoted by the USUBI Project is about to open in the town of Coronel Juan Solá, province of Salta. This work will improve the economy of Wichís Communities. Two other processing facilitites are close to being inaugurated in the ecoregion of the Atlantic Forest:for the pulp of the palmito (a kind of asai), which is located in the town of Peninsula Andresito; and a big solar drier for medicinal native herbs in Picada Norte, both in Misiones Province.    The most important fact related to the communication of project achievements and the value of NTFP is definitely the incorporation of Yateí honey (meliponas) into the Argentinian Food Code. This is a milestone for the small producers of the Atlantic Forest Ecoregion even for a huge area in the north of Argentina, since it will allow them to improve and expand the commercialization of this honey from native stingless bees (https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/206764/20190502).    It is also important to mention the construction and refurbishment of two greenhouses built on the site of the Mby'a Guarani Chapaí Community of San Ignacio and in the Picada Norte Bonpland area of the province of Misiones. This benefits 20 new families who work with medicinal herbs. |

**Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media**

|  |
| --- |
| **Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.**    **Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.** |
| Project's website:  https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/biodiversidad/usosustentable/usubi    Project page on the UNDP website:  http://www.ar.undp.org/content/argentina/es/home/projects/uso-sustentable-de-la-biodiversidad--usubi-.html    Communication products are attached in the File Library section. Examples include documentary videos, flyers for each NTFP, and a pamphlet on the regulatory framework and products of the Chaco.    Hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project:    2017    JUJUY    • Feria Chilto Plaza Vilca:  o http://www.jujuyonlinenoticias.com.ar/jujuy/2017/8/28/realizan-feria-tomate-chilto-44638.html  o http://aquijujuy.com.ar/noticia/18977/llega-la-feria-chilto-una-alternativa-sustentable-de-las-yungas?platform=hootsuite  o http://www.pregon.com.ar/nota/24349/impulsan-el-uso-de-tomates-silvestres-como-alternativa-sustentable-de.html  o http://www.eltribuno.info/jujuy/nota/2017-8-27-21-30-57-potenciar-la-produccion-del-tomate-de-arbol (Entrevista)  o http://www.jujuyonlinenoticias.com.ar/jujuy/2017/8/29/chilto-tomate-enorme-potencial-sustentable-44666.html  o http://www.ahora-jujuy.com/chilto-el-festival-ya-esta-en-marcha/  o http://www.radionacional.com.ar/tomate-chilto-una-alternativa-sustentable-en-las-yungas/ (Entrevista Radial y nota)  o http://www.pregon.com.ar/nota/24382/la-produccion-de-tomate-chilto-tiene-apoyo-oficial-.html  o http://prensa.jujuy.gob.ar/tag/tomate-de-arbol/  o http://www.las24horasdejujuy.com.ar/index.php/more/tecnologia/15554-chilto-un-producto-con-enorme-potencial-sustentable  o http://diarioelportico.com/noticias/jujuy-1/seccion-sociedad-7/chilto-conoce-el-fruto-de-gran-potencial-en-jujuy-600  o http://jujuyrural.com.ar/agropecuarias/chilto-un-producto-con-enorme-potencial-sustentable.html  o http://www.paginacentral.com.ar/economia-jujuy/12873-se-realizo-la-feria-de-tomate-de-arbol-chilto  o http://aquijujuy.com.ar/noticia/19044/exitosa-feria-de-tomate-de-arbol-chilto?platform=hootsuite  o http://www.teleaudiosa.com.ar/locales/2017/8/28/promocionan-frutos-productos-alimenticios-zona-2999.html  o http://www.eltribuno.info/jujuy/nota/2017-9-3-22-8-0-una-gran-apuesta-a-los-frutos-tropicales  o http://www.tiemponortejujuy.com.ar/noticias/locales/item/5120-chilto-un-producto-con-emorme-potencial-sustentable.html  o https://youtu.be/JQE8mOsHqNc (Nota a Ministra Zigaran y a Juan Pablo Moro)  o https://youtu.be/DNA9lJDxlWw    • Taller de Elaborados en base a Chilto:  o http://prensa.jujuy.gob.ar/2017/05/17/incentivan-la-elaboracion-de-productos-a-partir-del-tomate-chilto/  o http://prensa.jujuy.gob.ar/2017/06/26/desarrollo-local-a-traves-del-aprovechamiento-sustentable-de-pfnm/  o http://www.jujuyalmomento.com/post/68529/buscan-comercializar-mermeladas-de-tomates-silvestres-de-nuestras-yungas  o http://www.elfederal.com.ar/desarrollan-alimentos-con-el-chilto-el-tomate-silvestre-de-las-yungas-jujenas/  o http://www.elfederal.com.ar/productos-del-territorio-campesinos-jujenos-revalorizan-el-chilto/    • 4 Taller Nacional de Chilto – Tucumán:  o http://www.producciontucuman.gov.ar/evento/4-taller-nacional-de-chilto/  o https://inta.gob.ar/eventos/4%C2%B0-taller-nacional-de-chilto-estado-del-conocimiento-y-perspectivas-de-desarrollo-del-cultivo-de-chilto-en-tucuman-y-la-region-de-las-yungas  o http://www.tucuman-conicet.gov.ar/VerNoticia.php?IdNoticia=518  o http://suenaacampo.com/2017/11/20/inta-famailla-realizara-una-capacitacion-sobre-produccion-de-chilto/  o http://www.tucumanoticias.com.ar/noticia/tucuman/el-chilto-produccion-sustentable-en-sistemas-agro-forestales-173250.html  o http://www.producciontucuman.gov.ar/con-una-gran-concurrencia-finalizo-el-4-taller-nacional-de-chilto/  o http://proyungas.org.ar/?p=5200  o http://www.lagaceta.com.ar/nota/752935/actualidad/iv-taller-nacional-chilto-reunio-productores-investigadores-gastronomicos.html    • Otros:  o http://prensa.jujuy.gob.ar/2017/06/03/uso-sustentable-de-la-biodiversidad-en-las-yungas/    MISIONES    • Taller de Hongos:  o http://www.economis.com.ar/realizaran-taller-sobre-hongos-silvestres-comestibles/    • Expo Mujer:  o http://diario99.com.ar/mujeres-rurales-y-los-frutos-del-monte-singularidad-en-la-expo-mujer/    • http://misionesonline.net/2017/08/12/productores-y-miembros-de-comunidades-originarias-de-misiones-jujuy-y-salta-recibiran-apoyo-economico-de-naciones-unidas/    SALTA  • http://www.agritotal.com/nota/30591-la-hora-del-chaguar-la-harina-de-algarroba-y-el-arbol-de-brea/  • https://www.lagacetasalta.com.ar/nota/86924/actualidad/productores-harina-algarroba-chaco-salteno-recibiran-apoyo-economico.html    USUBI    • USUBI Dolli:  o https://www.clarin.com/sociedad/bosque-ciudad-difunden-frutos-autoctonos-desconocidos\_0\_BJ\_POgTPb.html  o http://www.ar.undp.org/content/argentina/es/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2017/08/07/cocina-biodiversidad-sabresas-recetas-que-conservan-los-bosques.html  o http://www.comunicarseweb.com.ar/noticia/el-ministerio-de-ambiente-promueve-las-practicas-sustentables-para-la-conservacion-de-los  o http://www.infocampo.com.ar/bergman-y-dolli-irigoyen-se-reunieron-con-productores-de-bosques-nativos-para-promover-practicas-sustentables/  o http://www.selvaadentro.com.ar/noticias/del-norte-a-buenos-aires-productores-dan-a-conocer-frutos-autoctonos/    • FERIA MASTICAR 2017:  o https://www.clarin.com/sociedad/masticar-puede-hacer-ademas-comer\_0\_B1ADVz0AZ.html  o http://www.lanacion.com.ar/2081127-feria-masticar-3-historias-de-pequenos-productores-que-llegaron-a-la-gran-ciudad  o http://www.lanacion.com.ar/2081348-masticar-la-feria-que-se-convirtio-en-un-viaje-de-estudios-para-los-futuros-chefs  o http://www.jujuyalmomento.com/post/77263/jujenos-se-lucen-en-la-feria-masticar-de-buenos-aires.html  o http://www.telam.com.ar/notas/201711/221832-frutos-exoticos-tomates-de-las-yungas-y-vinagre-de-yerba-mate-entre-los-imperdibles-de-la-feria.html  o http://prensa.jujuy.gob.ar/2017/11/11/jujenos-en-la-feria-masticar-2017/  o http://www.girabsas.com/nota/2017-11-12-10-18-14-masticar-2017-frutos-exoticos-tomates-de-las-yungas-y-vinagre-de-yerba-mate  o https://losinrocks.com/feria-masticar-5-imperdibles-del-mercado-1b07b6e11242  o http://noticiasdel6.com/ampliar.php?id=192522  o https://www.ellitoral.com.ar/487624/Frutos-exoticos-tomates-de-las-yungas-y-vinagre-de-yerba-mate-entre-los-imperdibles  o www.radionacional.com.ar/por-primera-vez-se-muestra-el-chilto-en-una-feria-nacional/  o http://las24horasdejujuy.com.ar/index.php/turismo/18047-jujenos-en-la-feria-masticar-2017    2018    JUJUY  • Taller: Primera prueba piloto comercial de Chilto fresco:  o http://prensa.jujuy.gob.ar/2018/04/03/gestionan-localmente-la-produccion-sustentable-de-chilto/  o https://www.eltribuno.com/jujuy/nota/2018-4-4-0-0-0-procesaron-chilto-jujeno  o http://www.elefete.com/se-expande-la-produccion-de-chilto-fruto-silvestre-de-las-yungas-jujenas/    • Inauguración Sala de Elaborados de Valle Grande:  o https://www.somosjujuy.com.ar/espectaculos/2898-inauguraran-una-planta-de-tomate-chilto-en-valle-grande  o http://proyungas.org.ar/?p=5865  o http://jujuydespierta.com.ar/2018/06/01/inauguran-planta-procesadora-frutas/  o http://www.ambientejujuy.gob.ar/2018/06/01/inauguran-planta-procesadora-de-frutas-en-valle-grande/  o http://prensa.jujuy.gob.ar/2018/05/31/inauguran-planta-procesadora-de-frutas-en-valle-grande/  o https://www.casarosada.gob.ar/informacion/actividad-oficial/9-noticias/42841-se-inauguro-una-planta-procesadora-de-frutas-financiada-por-el-ministerio-de-ambiente  o https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-fortalece-los-pequenos-productores-en-jujuy  o http://www.criterio24.com.ar/index.php/economic/item/3082-inauguran-planta-procesadora-de-frutas-en-valle-grande  o http://www.ahora-jujuy.com/inauguran-planta-procesadora-de-frutas-nativas-en-la-localidad/  o https://www.jujuyonlinenoticias.com.ar/jujuy/2018/6/1/nueva-planta-procesadora-de-frutas-nativas-en-valle-grande-52656.html  o http://www.ar.undp.org/content/argentina/es/home/presscenter/articles/2018/USUBIValleGrande.html    • Feria Chilto Plaza Vilca:  o https://jujuyahora.com/2018/06/08/tomate-chilto-sabor-de-nuestras-yungas/  o http://www.radionacional.com.ar/nueva-edicion-de-la-feria-del-tomate-chilto/  o http://www.clickjujuy.com.ar/2018/06/festival-del-chilto-en-la-plaza-vilca/  o http://xn--panoramajujeo-tkb.com.ar/index.php/2-general/6423-la-produccion-de-chilto-genera-un-gran-impacto-para-el-desarrollo-de-las-comunidades  o http://diariojujuy.com.ar/noticiaslocales/item/12012-acciones-para-afianzar-produccion-del-chilto  o http://www.huellasdejujuy.com.ar/2018/06/3-festival-del-chilto-curso-de.html    • Caminos y Sabores 2018 (Fair):  o La Nación Newspaper: https://www.lanacion.com.ar/2151427-recorrer-el-pais-con-el-paladar-miles-visitaron-caminos-y-sabores-el-segundo-dia-de-feria  o Caminos y Sabores: http://caminosysabores.com.ar/gacetillas/07-07-un-viaje-por-las-rutas-argentinas-en-la-rural/  o Palermo Online: http://palermonline.com.ar/wordpress/?p=72817  o Newspaper of Jujuy:   http://web.elsubmarinojujuy.com.ar/feria-de-caminos-y-sabores-jujuy-mostro-recetas-y-bebidas-elaboradas/   https://www.somosjujuy.com.ar/cultura/5446-el-stand-de-jujuy-uno-de-los-mas-visitados-en-la-feria-caminos-y-sabores   https://viapais.com.ar/jujuy/494328-con-ingredientes-y-recetas-ancestrales-jujuy-deslumbro-en-caminos-y-sabores/   http://www.jujuyaldia.com.ar/2018/07/04/jujuy-estara-en-la-feria-caminos-y-sabores-2018/   http://www.pregon.com.ar/vernota/30075/jujuy-participara-de-feria-%26ldquo%3Bcaminos-y-sabores%26rdquo%3B.html    • Green Alert - Television Program (Channel C5N).  o Parte 1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ublrnKIevz0  o Parte 2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n0wgeU365g4    • Others:  o https://www.elintransigente.com/sociedad/2018/2/15/ya-probaste-los-imperdibles-tomates-de-las-yungas-478834.html  o http://www.ahora-jujuy.com/se-expande-la-produccion-de-chilto-un-fruto-silvestre-de-las-yungas-jujenas/  o https://descubritucuman.com.ar/chilto-el-superfruto-de-las-yungas/  o http://prensa.jujuy.gob.ar/2018/01/17/el-tomate-chilto-como-una-alternativa-sustentable/  o http://prensa.jujuy.gob.ar/2018/09/06/7-jornadas-forestales-el-potencial-foresto-industrial-del-noa/    MISIONES    • http://www.selvaadentro.com.ar/noticias/breve-cronica-una-cosecha-san-pedro-los-vinagres/    • http://diario99.com.ar/se-presenta-el-primer-menu-misionero-de-la-biodiversidad/    • http://tabaisiriri.org/noticias/2018/03/05/proyecto-hierbas-medicinales-de-la-selva-misionera/    • https://www.facebook.com/notes/catalino/unirnos-para-cuidar-lo-nuestro/546399929094599/    • Feria Forestal 2018:  o https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/feria-forestal-2018-ambiente-promueve-el-uso-sustentable-de-la-biodiversidad  o https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-presenta-forestar-2030-en-la-feria-forestal-2018  o http://argentinambiental.com/publicaciones/revista/argentina-ambiental-97\_98/feria-forestal-2018-uso-sustentable-la-biodiversidad/      USUBI    • La Nación: Mariano Ramon – Chilto:  o https://www.lanacion.com.ar/2143792-mariano-ramon-chilto-desde-el-bosque-nativo    • Encuentro de mesa sectorial de abejas nativas sin aguijón:  o http://comunicacion.chaco.gov.ar/noticia/52785/el-sector-apicola-del-nea-trabaja-para-fortalecerse  o http://www.datachaco.com/noticias/view/115890  o https://inta.gob.ar/noticias/jornadas-apicolas-del-impenetrable  o http://www.actualidadchaco.com/vernota.asp?id\_noticia=115229  o http://www.compactonea.com.ar/index.php/noticias/view/18401    • https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-promueve-la-produccion-artesanal-y-el-uso-sustentable-de-la-biodiversidad-del-gran    • https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/bergman-participo-en-la-expo-verde-fest    • Documentary videos of the three ecoregions of the USUBI Project:  o Yungas: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cVzknFymktFZYvTOzwPPiFTm9YkdhNWo/view?usp=sharing  o Atlantic Forest: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NY1rnJhKxyMiOJjKIjiIEQR2foAFDHYb/view?usp=sharing  o Dry Chaco: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kR6kgehjKsotXUWJcEBu-YRKZ9NIUuS1/view?usp=sharing    2019    JUJUY    • Caminos y Sabores 2019 (Fair)  o http://www.turismo530.com/noticia\_ampliada.php?id=55382&id\_seccion=1  o http://prensa.jujuy.gob.ar/2019/07/08/jujuy-presente-en-la-15o-edicion-de-caminos-y-sabores-2019/  o http://www.jujuyaldia.com.ar/2019/07/08/jujuy-presente-en-la-15o-edicion-de-caminos-y-sabores-2019/  o https://www.gazetajujuy.com.ar/67083/jujuy-presente-en-la-15o-edicion-de-caminos-y-sabores-2019/    MISIONES    • Jornada: «Miel de Yateí: intercambio de saberes y propuestas para la construcción de una política pública que promueva el desarrollo sustentable de la actividad»  o http://reportemisiones.com.ar/posadas-se-realizara-la-jornada-miel-de-yatei/  o https://lacolmenanews.com/noticia/554/posadas-sera-sede-de-una-jornada-sobre-miel-de-yatei  o https://misionesonline.net/2019/06/12/miel-yatei-debatieron-nuevas-propuestas-desarrollo-sustentable-la-actividad-misiones/  o http://nearural.com/posadas-sera-sede-de-una-jornada-sobre-miel-de-yatei-para-intercambiar-saberes/  o http://enfoquemisiones.com/buscan-potenciar-la-produccion-de-la-miel-yatei-que-tiene-propiedades-medicinales/  o http://www.facfor.unam.edu.ar/jornada-miel-yatei/    • https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/feria-forestal-2018-ambiente-promueve-el-uso-sustentable-de-la-biodiversidad  • https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/productores-locales-fomentan-el-uso-sustentable-de-la-biodiversidad-en-la-selva-paranaense    USUBI    • MASTICA FAIR 2019 (February):  o https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/podes-conocer-los-productos-sustentables-del-bosque-nativo-en-masticar-de-mar-del-plata  o https://www.lanacion.com.ar/2218774-sabores-locales-y-cocineros-estrellas-la-feria-masticar-llego-a-mar-del-plata  o https://dixit.guiaoleo.com.ar/masticar-2019-mar-y-sierra/  o http://www.vinomanos.com/2019/02/feria-masticar-mar-y-sierra/  o http://noticias.anses.gob.ar/noticia/podes-conocer-los-productos-sustentables-del-bosque-nativo-en-masticar-de-mar-del-plata-3144  o https://prs.com.ar/productos-sustentables-en-la-feria-masticar-de-mar-del-plata/  o http://promocionproductiva.blogspot.com/2019/02/masticar-de-mar-del-plata-podes-conocer.html  o https://thecookandthewine.wordpress.com/2019/02/04/todo-lo-que-tenes-que-saber-sobre-la-feria-masticar/    • https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/bergman-presente-en-la-inauguracion-de-expoagro-2019    • Incorporation of &quot;yateí honey&quot; in the Argentine Food Code:  o https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-gestiono-la-incorporacion-de-una-miel-sustentable-al-codigo-alimentario-argentino  o https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/206764/20190502  o https://www.elterritorio.com.ar/miel-de-yatei-fue-incorporada-al-codigo-alimentario-28025-et  o https://www.facebook.com/PNUDArgentina/posts/3235478163144495/    o https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/bergman-encabezo-la-celebracion-del-dia-mundial-del-ambiente    • Plan Nacional de acción en Derechos Humanos - Informe de Medio Termino - Ministerio de Justicia y Derechos Humanos (USUBI en Página 279):  o https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/informe\_medio\_termino\_sdh\_2019.pdf    • The development of four pieces of communication on the value chains of carob flour, honey of meliponas, tomato chilto and pitch gum is in process. This material will be used to make the development of products synthetically known, from the field to the markets. |

# Partnerships

**Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment**

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

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?** |
| Yes |

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| Yes |

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with the Private Sector?** |
| Yes |

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?** |
| Yes |

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with UN Volunteers?** |
| No |

|  |
| --- |
| **Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?** |
| No |

|  |
| --- |
| **CEO Endorsement Request:** [PIMS 4829 Argentina BD Mainstreaming Sustainable Use of Yungas CEO\_Endorsement.doc](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4829/213589/1672840/1673121/PIMS%204829%20Argentina%20BD%20Mainstreaming%20Sustainable%20Use%20of%20Yungas%20CEO_Endorsement.doc) |
| **Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.** |
| Challenges in liaising with counterparts usually arise when there are changes in political authorities. Since the project´s start, there have been national and provincial elections in all the subnational jurisdictions where the project has on the ground activities. The relationship with these authorities is vital for the project´s overall health and possibility to implement activities.    A national election will take place in October, 2019. This implies the possibility of having new national authorities, counterparts and focal points. This challenge will have to be addressed once the election has taken place and the new authorities are selected.    Vice Presidency of the Argentine Nation  Launch of the Argentine Craft Program.  In the month of November 2018, the Secretary of the Government of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Nation (SGAyDS) through the USUBI Project, was involved in carrying out an activity with the Vice-Presidency of the Nation in the C.C.K. (Kirchner Cultural Center). It was an event that was held for the launch of the “KNOW HOW TO DO and KNOW” program and a catalogue that will include several of the “USUBI” project products.  The event was institutional in nature and featured as the main speaker the Vice President of the country, Lic. Gabriela Michetti. It had about 200 attendees in addition to the press and was able to count on the presence of artisans and producers. The objective of the event was to make the actors behind each product or craft visible.  The project was able to participate in this event through the exhibition of the products produced by the small producers benefiting from the project in the three ecoregions, Yungas, Chaco Seco and Selva Paranaense. The work carried out by the USUBI Project of the SGAyDS of the Nation was also disseminated, through the delivery of booklets and explanatory brochures of the products of the sustainable use of biodiversity.  Finally, a souvenir containing USUBI products was delivered to each participant. A bag of chaguar (“gossipy”) with a vinegar from the Paranaense jungle, a sweet of chilto from the jujunas yungas and a bag of carob flour next to a spoon of holy stick from the dry Chaco region. The present was the finishing touch of the event which the participants were very happy to receive. National authorities participated in the event such as: Lic. Gabriela Michetti, Gob. Gerardo Morales, Gob. Juan Manuel Urtubey, Juliana Awada, Mariano Mayer, among others. Authorities of the Secretariat present: Diego Moreno, Juan Pedro Cano, Fernando Curas, Gustavo Marino, among others. Other provincial authorities: Antonio Alejo and Javier Gronda of the Ministry of Environment of Jujuy; Alan Diego Benítez Vortisch, Under Secretary of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the Ministry of Ecology and R.N.R. of Missions. Also present were Silvia Morimoto and Maria Eugenia Di Paola of UNDP Argentina. The curator of the event was Lujan Cambariere.  “CRAFTS, NATURAL RESOURCES and PUBLIC POLICIES” workshop  In the month of November 2018, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development organized the workshop “Crafts, Natural Resources and Public Policies”, together with the Argentinian Crafts Program and Vice President of the Nation, within the framework of the work that both national organizations are carrying out on public policies linked to the conservation and recovery of biodiversity in the Argentinian Grand Chaco. The event took place in the CCK of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. The training was organized in four panels to dissemination information on the state of the holy stick, the chaguar, the drunk stick and the carandillo, native species of the Chaco mountain key to the artisanal production of the communities of the region. They are at risk due to unsustainable use. The objective of the training was to identify, agree and define public policies for the conservation of strategic resources for the promotion of artisanal production of the original communities and the conservation and sustainable use of the biodiversity of the Great Argentine Chaco.    Ministry of Production and Labor - SEPyME  Together with the SEPyME (Secretariat of Entrepreneurs and SMEs, Ministry of Production and Labor), the team carried out activities under Component 2 of the project related to the strengthening of the productive matrix, the construction of strategic value chains and marketing. Many actions were coordinated between both teams, which proposed a series of training and extension tasks. In September 2018, in the city of Buenos Aires, a workshop was held with producers and technicians from the three provinces, together with the entire project team and the SEPyME. The general theme was strengthening of family businesses and the producers commented on their trajectories in the development of the products made from the Argentine Biodiversity, they defined their needs, problems and the challenges they are currently facing. Subsequently, it was decided to continue the work of the SEPyME on the ground and for this purpose, the province of Salta was selected, where the carob flour processing room was built. Between the months of February and March 2019, the SEPyME technicians together with the project technicians made a first exploratory visit and finally a workshop with substantial participation of producers was held. In addition, progress was also made in drafting a letter of agreement with the Ministry of Production and Labor to formalize and establish a more stable framework of the work between the two agencies.    National Park Administration  In May 2018, technicians from the central office were contacted and several meetings were held to identify possible joint actions. Points of common interest were detected in the development of actions with the GEF “Corredores del Chaco” project and finally its coordination was contacted. Because of these efforts, it was decided to generate a multisectorial alliance for the federal management of the activity linked to the native stingless bees. This culminated in the joint realization of the first meeting of the native stingless bees roundatble (MANSA) held in the Province of Chaco, with the participation of more than 70 people from 12 provinces, and the presence of high-ranking officials, such as the governor of the Chaco province.    Other Strategic Partners:  INTA and the Family Agriculture Secretariat (SAF) are government agencies with which regular contact is maintained in the territory and it is hoped to translate these actions, which thus far have been carried out informally, into a common program and agenda, a task that can be carried out only if the project is extended. Finally, a link was also established with the Ministry of Social Development which, together with the Japanese Cooperation Agency (JICA), which is starting to implement a project on Local Development (OVOP project). Technical meetings were held in Buenos Aires and in a town in Salta, a town where the results of the USUBI project to date were presented. Effective cooperation between both projects in Salta is expected.    Civil society organizations / NGOs  In the Atlantic Forest (province of Misiones), the Civil Association &quot;Mujeres Soñadoras&quot; and the Cooperativa Nueva Esperanza are cooperating with the project by improving the production of jams and vinegars of native fruits, in collaboration with local populations. The Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer works with ornamental tropical fish. The Faculty of Forest Sciences of the National University of Missions works on ornamental plants (orchids). The Fungicosmos Foundation works with populations of natural fungi, the Civil Association of the Atlantic Forest Research Center works with populations of palm (Euterpe edulis) and the Civil Association Tabá Isirirí works with medicinal herbs.    In the dry Chaco region (Salta province), the Niwok Foundation is involved in the manufacture of chaguar crafts (Bromelia hieronymi) together with the Wichis communities. The NGO ASOCIANA (Social Accompaniment of the Anglican Church in the Argentine Northwest) collaborates in the development of Sustainable Use Management plans for rubber pitch (Cercidium praecox). Finally, on the grounds of the Tepeyac Civil Association, a room for processing carob flour (Prosopis sp.) and processing room of native fruits have been built and there is a space for the storage of pitch gum.    In the Yungas Forest (Jujuy province), the BGEN (Germplasm Bank of Native Species) has completed the examination of populations of natural and managed tomato trees (Solanum betaceum) and the implementation of sustainable use management to increase the income of local producers. The PUNHA Cooperative is training women's groups in Valle Colorado to improve the quality of wool handicrafts dyed with vegetables.    Indigenous people  Atlantic Forest Ecoregion (Misiones province) Mbya Guaraní communities: Ka'a Kupé, Chapaí and Yvytú Porá.  Chaco Seco Ecoregion (province of Salta): Wichís Communities of Pozo El Chañar, Los Baldes, La Cortada, Pozo La China, Pozo El Toro, San Miguel, Pozo El Bravo, Bella Vista, Vertientes Chica, Pim Pim, San Bernardo, Bajo Grande, Alto de la Sierra, Mission Salim, Mission Chaqueña, Mission Carboncito, Lewetes.  Yungas Ecoregion (Jujuy province), Ocloya community and the Coyas communities of Valle Colorado and Valle Grande.    The challenge with each of the communities is currently to come to agreement on the protocols for the use of processing facilities in each of the ecoregions with the actors involved. Another challenge is to continue developing the sociocultural link between the original communities and the technicians involved in the project. To achieve this it is necessary to have time, resources and to build trust to continue moving forward with the activities. |

# Annex - Ratings Definitions

**Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions**

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

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

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

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

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

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