

CONCOSTA REDD+ PROJECT: SECOND MONITORING REPORT

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Project Title	Concosta REDD+ Project
Project ID	1400
Version	3.0
Report ID	20220420
Date of Issue	17 February 2023
Project Location	Territorio Colectivo de Concosta in Chocó, Departamento del Cauca, Colombia.
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GHG Accounting/ Crediting Period	18 July 2013 – 17 July 2043; 30-year total period
Monitoring Period of this Report	1 January 2018 – 31 December 2019
History of CCB Status	This monitoring period pertains to and supports joint CCB + VCS verification for January 1st, 2018 – December 31st 2019. Joint CCB + VCS Validation was achieved on April 23, 2015. Verification event for 2014 – 2017 achieved July 2, 2019
Gold Level Criteria	The project aims to verify this last monitoring period at the gold level in terms of exceptional community benefits, using the following criteria: 1. Short- and long-term benefits: - 103 loggers participating in regeneration and/or maintenance of areas of carbon reserves and/or biodiversity conservation. - 31 Households receiving technical assistance. - Equipment to maintain digital records of monitoring activities of the delimitation, control and surveillance. -32 governance initiatives. 2. Benefits for marginalized and/or vulnerable community groups: -Hiring of 8 people from the community in forest patrolling and governance activities. -Inclusion of 131 community members in regeneration and maintenance activities in conservation areas. 3. Net positive impacts on women: - 9 Women participation in decision-making processes (board sessions). - 9 Women participating in community monitoring of forest and biodiversity 4. Effective participation through governance and implementation structures: - 77 people participating in board sessions 5. Capacity building for small farmers and community members: -Training of 45 people in various topics related to REDD+, productive activities and strengthening governance.

The project is explicitly pro-poor by virtue of its in terms of targeting benefits to globally poorer communities and the poorer, more vulnerable households and individuals within them. The project has generated both long-term and short-term net positive well-being benefits for community members at the individual and/or family level, based on the theory of change model developed at the time of validation and put into use during the monitoring period. All of the REDD+ project activities implemented have been designed to ensure that vulnerability is reduced and benefits accrue to the most marginalized and vulnerable groups, including strengthening land tenure for these groups and reaffirming their use rights over of natural resources; developing alternative economic activities to reduce financial vulnerability; protecting natural resources to reduce environmental vulnerability; increasing governance capacity;, and enhancing relationships and contacts with other institutions;, thereby reducing the general vulnerability of the community.

Table of Contents

1.	Summary of Project Benefits	6
1.1	Unique Project Benefits	6
1.2	Standardized Benefit Metrics.....	13
2	General	37
2.1	Project Description.....	37
2.2	Project Implementation Status	46
2.3	Stakeholder Engagement	52
2.4	Management Capacity	71
3	Climate.....	84
3.1	Monitoring GHG Emission Reductions and Removals	84
3.2	Quantification of GHG Emission Reductions and Removals	139
3.3	Optional Criterion: Climate Change Adaptation Benefits	156
4	Community.....	157
4.1	Net Positive Community Impacts.....	157
4.2	Other Stakeholder Impacts	163
4.3	Community Impact Monitoring	166
4.4	Optional Criterion: Exceptional Community Benefits	178
5	Biodiversity	185
5.3	Biodiversity Impact Monitoring.....	192
5.4	Optional Criterion: Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits	197
6	Additional Project Implementation Information.....	198
7	Additonal project Impact Information	198

Index table

Table 1. Unique Project Benefits	6
Table 2. Standardized Benefit Metrics	13
Table 3. Location project	41
Table 4. Sustainable Development Goals	45
Table 5. Implementation Schedule	47
Table 6. Minor Changes to Project Description	50
Table 7. Project Description Deviations from Prior Monitoring Period	52
Table 8. Communications with Stakeholders	60
Table 9. Below lists new legislation and regulations as well as project compliance	87
Table 10. List of Sentinel-2 images processed and analyzed for final LULC map	132
Table 11. List of PALSAR-2 scenes classified for Degradation analysis	133
Table 12. Post-processing adjustments to 2018 LULC Classification	136
Table 13. Results of Accuracy Assessment	139
Table 14. Carbon stock estimates at Validation (Val) and updates due to monitoring for this Verification (Ver). See VM0006 for pool designations	142
Table 15. Standard errors of carbon stock estimates at Validation (Val) and updates due to monitoring for this Verification (Ver). See VM0006 for pool designations.	142
Table 16. Emissions factors and uncertainties for LULC transitions over one year of decay (see VM0006 for pool designations).	143
Table 17. Estimated emissions or removals in the baseline scenario for the project area and leakage area both at time of validation and updated for this verification. For all credit generation calculations, the updated values for verification are used	146
Table 18. Total area of transitions that happened within the project area during the monitoring period and the associated emissions accounted for in each transition.	147
Table 19. Total annual GHG emissions within the project area during the current monitoring period.	148
Table 20. Comparison of total area of transitions that happened within the project area during the monitoring period with total area of transitions that happened within the project area during the corresponding period of the baseline.	149
Table 21. Total area of transitions within the leakage area and associated emissions during the monitoring period	151
Table 22. Total leakage emissions during the monitoring period.	152
Table 23. Comparison of total area of transitions that happened within the leakage area during the monitoring period with total area of transitions that happened within the leakage area during the corresponding period of the baseline.	153
Table 24. NERs generated during this monitoring period.	156
Table 25. Baseline, project, and leakage emissions as well as NERs achieved by the project during this monitoring period	156
Table 26. NERs, buffer credit allocation and VCUs generated by the project.	157
Table 27. NER's Buffer credit allocation, and VCUs generated during the 2018-2019 monitoring period	157
Table 28. Net Positive Impacts on Women	179
Table 29. Net Positive Impact on Corteros	181
Table 30. Intact Forest Area	186
Table 31. Intact Forest Area Data/Parameter	187

1. SUMMARY OF PROJECT BENEFITS

1.1 Unique Project Benefits

The table of Unique Project Benefits below contains brief summaries of multiple project benefits that are not captured by the Standardized Benefit Metrics protocol. Together, these two perspectives on the assessment of tangible project results comprise an important tool for quantifying the net benefits.

Table 1. Unique Project Benefits

Outcome or Impact	Achievements during the Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
1) Science-based methods for ensuring the long-term viability of local produce as an alternative economic livelihood	2018-2019: No data available	Section 4.4.1	2013-2017: Project activities managed to secure all the necessary permits and licenses needed for the construction and installation of 7 processing and storage plants for Acai production. Along with some necessary collection and processing equipment.
2) Exchange of experiences workshop between project proponents and other organizations involved with REDD+ and other payment-for-ecosystem-services related initiatives.	2018-2019: Socialization Project FCS- BID - Fondo Acción. Please refer to MTC_IndSocialesCONCOSTA_V2 for supporting evidence/documentation The data and CONCOSTAorts related to strengthened capacities can be found in the spreadsheet MTC_Portafolio_CONCOSTA_V2. . Rows/columns (A4-L4)	Section 2.3.4	2018-2019: Socialization Project FCS- BID - Fondo Acción. 2013-2017: On October 28, 2014, an exchange of experiences workshop was developed with the help and participation of various organizations involved with REDD+ at the regional and international level. This workshop was carried out among members of the Concosta Community Council, FAO officials, CORPOURABA and the

			PNNP. Its main objective was to share the actions developed by the Community Council, within the framework of the Concosta REDD + project, with other relevant institutions and organizations carrying out similar initiatives, and for these organizations to in turn share their own experiences with the project proponents.
3) Capacity Building in consolidating and strengthening tenure and governance over natural resources.	2018-2019: 489 people with strengthened capacities in the following activities: 2 General Assembly: Assembly to approve the proposal for zoning of the Assembly to build annual operating plan POA. 11 governance spaces with the participation of the 151 people in the following spaces: • Socialization Project FCS- BID to the community (19 people) • Socialization of FCS- IDB Project to legal representatives (22 people) • Socialization of the Annual Operational Plan - POA Guineal • Construction of methodological routes for the construction of the annual operational plan (POA) (2 people) • Governance space of the Concosta community council in Guineal. Current status of benefit sharing mechanisms and other issues such as the proposal by the action fund	Section 4.1.1	2018-2019: 489 people with strengthened capacities in the following activities: 2 General Assembly: Assembly to approve the proposal for zoning of the Assembly to build annual operating plan POA. 11 governance spaces with the participation of the 151 people in the following spaces: • Socialization Project FCS- BID to the community (19 people) • Socialization of FCS- IDB Project to legal representatives (22 people) • Socialization of the Annual Operational Plan - POA Guineal • Construction of methodological routes for the construction of the annual operational plan (POA) (2 people) • Governance space of the Concosta community council in Guineal.

	(FAN) to manage resources from carbon sales (28 people). • Governance space of the Concosta community council in Guineal, socialization of the financial sustainability mechanism of the REDD+ project (8 people). • Governance space: Articulation in processes of preservation and care of the territory. Concosta Community Council, mayor's office, Autoridad Nacional de Acuicultura y Pesca-AUNAP, Marine Infantry, ASAIBA indigenous community (18 people). • Inter-ethnic meeting with legal representatives of REDD+ projects (Tumaco) • Analysis and discussion of productive activities for the REDD+ project: Naidí, Coco and Arróz. • Adjustments to the REDD+ project operational manual (Pacific community REDD+ project portfolio) (56people) • Pilot meeting Naidi Pacifico PAF- Fondo Acción 8 Sessions board directives with the participation of de 77 people in the following spaces: • Governing board session (analysis of the present difficulties with neighboring		Current status of benefit sharing mechanisms and other issues such as the proposal by the action fund (FAN) to manage resources from carbon sales (28 people). • Governance space of the Concosta community council in Guineal, socialization of the financial sustainability mechanism of the REDD+ project (8 people). • Governance space: Articulation in processes of preservation and care of the territory.: CONCOSTA Community Council, mayor's office, Autoridad Nacional de Acuicultura y Pesca-AUNAP, Marine Infantry, ASAIBA indigenous community (18 people). • Inter-ethnic meeting with legal representatives of REDD+ projects (Tumaco) • Analysis and discussion of productive activities for the REDD+ project: Naidí, Coco and Arróz. • Adjustments to the REDD+ project operational manual (Pacific community REDD+ project portfolio) (56people) • Pilot meeting Naidi Pacifico PAF- Fondo Acción
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	indigenous communities) (50 people). • Governing board session (adjustment of internal regulations and socialization of boundaries) (41 people). • Governing Board Session (dissemination and implementation of the technical and economic proposal FCS - Construction of the POA - Socialization of public order (34 people). • Governing Board Session (REDD+ Unit Training Workshop) (32 people) • Governing Board Session: meeting with neighboring neighbors -Guineal and Docampadó • Governing Board Session: La Comba Community REDD+ unit performance evaluation (31 people). • Governing Board Session: Belén de Dopcampadó - Adjustment of internal regulations (23 people). • Governing Board Session: Belén de Dopcampadó-Community meeting Puerto Mango and Bajo Grande (23 people). 45 people who have improved skills and/or knowledge resulting from training in the following spaces: • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (22 people). • 1 Training workshop for coordinators of REDD+ units: experiences in the implementation of REDD+ projects (Acandí) (1person)		8 Sessions board directives with the participation of 77 people in the following spaces: • Governing board session (analysis of the present difficulties with neighboring indigenous communities) (50 people). • Governing board session (adjustment of internal regulations and socialization of boundaries) (41 people). • Governing Board Session (dissemination and implementation of the technical and economic proposal FCS - Construction of the POA - Socialization of public order (34 people). • Governing Board Session (REDD+ Unit Training Workshop) (32 people) • Governing Board Session: meeting with neighboring neighbors - Guineal and Docampadó • Governing Board Session: La Comba Community REDD+ unit performance evaluation (31 people). • Governing Board Session: Belén de Dopcampadó - Adjustment of internal regulations (23 people). • Governing Board Session: Belén de Dopcampadó-Community meeting
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	• 1 Workshop SMART monitoring tools and gender guidelines (1 person) • 1 Workshop-Quantification of carbon emissions REDD+ coordinators team. (1person) • 1 Training workshop REDD+ Concosta team: Formats and management of equipment (8 peoples) • 1 Training and technical meeting REDD+ Coordinators. Socialization of progress and challenges in implementation. Bogotá (1 person). • 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products • 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. • Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (10 people). 1 Socialization of productive action plan-Organizational strengthening (10 people) 1 Socialization of the activity to be carried out (territorial governance)-Guineal (18 people)		Puerto Mango and Bajo Grande (23 people). 45 people who have improved skills and/or knowledge resulting from training in the following spaces: • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (22 people). • 1 Training workshop for coordinators of REDD+ units: experiences in the implementation of REDD+ projects (Acandí) (1person) • 1 Workshop SMART monitoring tools and gender guidelines (1 person) • 1 Workshop-Quantification of carbon emissions REDD+ coordinators team. (1person) • 1 Training workshop REDD+ Concosta team: Formats and management of equipment (8 peoples) • 1 Training and technical meeting REDD+ Coordinators. Socialization of progress and challenges in implementation. Bogotá (1 person). • 1 Training in strengthening,
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	1 Administrative and financial manual of Concosta 2019. 1 Contracted team for control and surveillance comprised of 5 promoters, 1 REDD+ liaison, 1 management support and 1 technician REDD+. 1 REDD+ team with equipment. 4 equipment delivered: 1 Garmin 64s GPS 1 laptop computer 2 Blackview equipment for the use of the SMART tool in the collection of information in the field. 179 people participating in community monitoring routes, field and biodiversity monitoring Please refer to MTC_IndSocialesCONCOSTA_V2 for supporting evidence/documentation The data and supports related to strengthened capacities can be found in the spreadsheet MTC_Portafolio_CONCOSTA_V2. . Rows/columns (A2-L52)		productive alliance and marketing of naidí products • 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. • Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (10 people). 1 Socialization of productive action plan-Organizational strengthening (10 people) 1 Socialization of the activity to be carried out (territorial governance)-Guineal (18 people) 1 Administrative and financial manual of CONCOSTA 2019. 1 Contracted team for control and surveillance comprised of 5 promoters, 1 REDD+ liaison, 1 management support and 1 technician REDD+. 1 REDD+ team (5 personas) with equipment. 4 equipment delivered:
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			1 Garmin 64s GPS 1 laptop computer 2 Blackview equipment for the use of the SMART tool in the collection of information in the field. 179 people participating in community monitoring routes, field and biodiversity monitoring 2013-2017: 10 municipal and/or community councils and one district council trained and prepared to conduct socio-economic diagnostics, and the delineation and zoning of a marine conservation area.
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1.2 Standardized Benefit Metrics

Table 2 below quantifies the net benefit the project has achieved during the monitoring period. Since it is the first verification, the lifetime achievements are the same as the monitoring period achievements.

Table 2. Standardized Benefit Metrics

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
GHG emission reductions	Net estimated emission removals in the project area, measured against the without-project scenario	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Net estimated emission reductions in the project area, measured against the without-project scenario	421,840 tCO ₂ e	Section 3.2.4	1,044,388 tCO ₂ e
Forest ¹ cover	For REDD ² projects: Number of hectares of reduced forest loss in the project area measured against the without-project scenario	3,838.9 ha	Section 5.1	6,150.9 ha
	For ARR ³ projects: Number of hectares of forest cover increased in the project area measured against the without-project scenario	N/A	N/A	N/A
Improved land management	Number of hectares of existing production forest land in which	N/A	N/A	N/A

¹ Land with woody vegetation that meets an internationally accepted definition (e.g., UNFCCC, FAO or IPCC) of what constitutes a forest, which includes threshold parameters, such as minimum forest area, tree height and level of crown cover, and may include mature, secondary, degraded and wetland forests (VCS Program Definitions)

² Reduced emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) - Activities that reduce GHG emissions by slowing or stopping conversion of forests to non-forest land and/or reduce the degradation of forest land where forest biomass is lost (VCS Program Definitions)

³ Afforestation, reforestation and revegetation (ARR) - Activities that increase carbon stocks in woody biomass (and in some cases soils) by establishing, increasing and/or restoring vegetative cover through the planting, sowing and/or human-assisted natural regeneration of woody vegetation (VCS Program Definitions)

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
	IFM ⁴ practices have occurred as a result of the project's activities, measured against the without-project scenario			
	Number of hectares of non-forest land in which improved land management has occurred as a result of the project's activities, measured against the without-project scenario	2018-2019: 0 ha	4.1.1	Total Lifetime: 75 Ha 2018-2019: 0 ha 2013-2017: 75 hectares of improved farmland now managed and/or established under more sustainable practices. Acai (Naidi).
Training	Total number of community members who have improved skills and/or knowledge resulting from training provided as part of project activities	2018-2019: 45 people who have improved skills and/or knowledge resulting from training in the following spaces: • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (22 people). • 1 Training workshop for coordinators of REDD+ units: experiences in the implementation of REDD+ projects (Acandí) (1person) • 1 Workshop SMART monitoring tools and gender guidelines (1 person) • 1 Workshop-Quantification of	4.1.1; various	Total Lifetime: 1346 people with improved skills and/or knowledge resulting from training provided as part of project activities 2018-2019: 45 people who have improved skills and/or knowledge resulting from training in the following spaces: • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (22 people). • 1 Training workshop for coordinators of REDD+ units: experiences in the implementation of REDD+ projects (Acandí) (1person)

⁴ Improved forest management (IFM) - Activities that change forest management practices and increase carbon stock on forest lands managed for wood products such as saw timber, pulpwood and fuelwood (VCS Program Definitions)

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
		carbon emissions REDD+ coordinators team. (1person) • 1 Training workshop REDD+ Concosta team: Formats and management of equipment (8 peoples) • 1 Training and technical meeting REDD+ Coordinators. Socialization of progress and challenges in implementation. Bogotá (1 person). • 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products • 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. • Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA -		• 1 Workshop SMART monitoring tools and gender guidelines (1 person) • 1 Workshop-Quantification of carbon emissions REDD+ coordinators team. (1person) • 1 Training workshop REDD+ Concosta team: Formats and management of equipment (8 peoples) • 1 Training and technical meeting REDD+ Coordinators. Socialization of progress and challenges in implementation. Bogotá (1 person). • 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products. • 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries.

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
		ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (10 people). Please refer to MTC_IndSocialesCONC OSTA_V2 for supporting evidence/documentation The data and supports related can be found in the spreadsheet MTC_Portafolio_CONC OSTA_V2. Rows/columns (A9-L9), (A13-L13), (A17-L17), (A35-L35), (A40-L40)		Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (10 people). 2013-2017:644 participants in capacity building in consolidating and strengthening governance over their natural resources and land use planning. 291 people trained in workshops regarding the strengthening of land tenure and effective consolidation of their territory. 36 corteros and 4 piangueras trained and hired in the regeneration and maintenance of carbon and biodiversity reserve areas of the project. 43 families trained in agricultural pest management and control, monitoring and harvest at

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
				altitude, training in good silvicultural practices, management of the fruit/harvest during and post-harvest, storage, and other logistics. 85 households and 3 fishermen associations trained in appropriate fishing gear, performance management, and participation in the development of a value chain. 166 fishermen trained and equipped in responsible fishing criteria, monitoring and monitoring and record keeping, and good coastal practices and product quality assurance. 17 community members trained to Improve their administrative capacity through courses and workshops in (i) accounting, (ii) financial analysis and project evaluation, (iii) management of environmental and social projects, (iv) markets, (v) administration and management and (vi) leadership.

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
				1 person attended an environmental education workshop. 11 people attended workshops geared at training in the administrative and financial management of Acai production.
	Number of female community members who have improved skills and/or knowledge resulting from training provided as part of project activities of project activities	2018-2019: 7 women community members trained in: • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (5 women). • 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí • 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. (1 woman). • Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA -	4.1.1; various	Total lifetime: 151 women 2018-2019: 7 women community members trained in: • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (5 women). • 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí • 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. (1 woman). • Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
		ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (1 woman). Please refer to MTC_IndSocialesCONC OSTA_V2 for supporting evidence/documentation The data and supports related can be found in the spreadsheet MTC_Portafolio_CONC OSTA_V2. Rows/columns (A9-L9), (A13-L13), (A17-L17), (A35-L35), (A40-L40)		(ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (1 woman). 2013-2017: 118 women trained in workshops regarding the strengthening of land tenure and consolidation of their territory. 3 women trained to Improve their administrative capacity through courses and workshops in (i) accounting, (ii) financial analysis and project evaluation, (iii) management of environmental and social projects, (iv) markets, (v) administration and management and (vi) leadership. 22 fishermen women trained and equipped in responsible fishing criteria, monitoring and monitoring and record keeping, and good coastal practices and product quality assurance.

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
				1 woman attended an environmental education workshop.
Employment	Total number of people employed in of project activities, ⁵ expressed as number of full time employees ⁶	2018-2019: 8 people employed to form part of surveillance patrols: 5 local REDD+ promoters, 1 MRV liaison. 1 management support and 1 technician REDD+. Please refer to MTC_IndSocialesCONC OSTA_V2 for supporting evidence/documentation The data and supports related can be found in the spreadsheet MTC_Portafolio_CONC OSTA_V2. Rows/columns (A16-L16)	4.1.1; various	Total lifetime: 95 people hired. 2018-2019: 8 people employed to form part of surveillance patrols: 5 local REDD+ promoters, 1 MRV liaison. 1 management support and 1 technician REDD+. 2013-2017: 5 people employed to form part of surveillance patrols, local REDD+ promoters, MRV liaisons, and node coordinator. 40 people (former corteros/piangueras) trained and employed to help safeguard and regenerate areas of degradation within the project area. 42 people employed along newly established agricultural value chain (Acai, Naidi).

⁵ Employed in project activities means people directly working on project activities in return for compensation (financial or otherwise), including employees, contracted workers, sub-contracted workers and community members that are paid to carry out project-related work.

⁶ Full time equivalency is calculated as the total number of hours worked (by full-time, part-time, temporary and/or seasonal staff) divided by the average number of hours worked in full-time jobs within the country, region or economic territory (adapted from UN System of National Accounts (1993) paragraphs 17.14[15.102];[17.28])

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
	Number of women employed in project activities, expressed as number of full time employees	Data Not available	N/A	Data Not available
Livelihoods	Total number of people with improved livelihoods ⁷ or income generated as a result of project activities	2018-2019: 53 people with improved livelihoods or income generated as a result of project activities: • 8 people employed to form part of surveillance patrols: 5 local REDD+ promoters, 1 MRV liaison. 1 management support and 1 technician REDD+ • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (22 people). • 1 Training workshop for coordinators of REDD+ units: experiences in the implementation of REDD+ projects (Acandí) (1person) • 1 Workshop SMART monitoring tools and gender guidelines (1 person)	4.1.1; various	Total lifetime: 1401 people. 2018-2019: 53 people with improved livelihoods or income generated as a result of project activities: • 8 people employed to form part of surveillance patrols: 5 local REDD+ promoters, 1 MRV liaison. 1 management support and 1 technician REDD+ • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (22 people). • 1 Training workshop for coordinators of REDD+ units: experiences in the implementation of REDD+ projects (Acandí) (1person) • 1 Workshop SMART monitoring tools and gender guidelines (1 person)

⁷ Livelihoods are the capabilities, assets (including material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living (Krantz, Lasse, 2001. *The Sustainable Livelihood Approach to Poverty Reduction*. SIDA). Livelihood benefits may include benefits reported in the Employment metrics of this table.

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
		• 1 Workshop-Quantification of carbon emissions REDD+ coordinators team. (1person) • 1 Training workshop REDD+ CONCOSTA team: Formats and management of equipment (8 peoples) • 1 Training and technical meeting REDD+ Coordinators. Socialization of progress and challenges in implementation. Bogotá (1 person). • 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products • 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. • Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and		• 1 Workshop-Quantification of carbon emissions REDD+ coordinators team. (1person) • 1 Training workshop REDD+ CONCOSTA team: Formats and management of equipment (8 peoples) • 1 Training and technical meeting REDD+ Coordinators. Socialization of progress and challenges in implementation. Bogotá (1 person). • 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products • 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. • Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
		fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (10 people). Please refer to MTC_IndSocialesCONC OSTA_V2 for supporting evidence/documentation The data and supports related can be found in the spreadsheet MTC_Portafolio_CONC OSTA_V2. Rows/columns (A16-L16)		(CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (10 people). 2013-2017: Numerous community members have improved livelihoods in total, including: 87 people employed by the project; 644 participants in capacity building in consolidating and strengthening governance over their natural resources and land use planning; 291 people trained in workshops regarding the strengthening of land tenure and effective consolidation of their territory; 43 families trained in agricultural pest management and control, monitoring and harvest at altitude, training in good silvicultural practices, management of the fruit/harvest during and post-harvest, storage, and other logistics; 85 households and 3 fishermen associations trained in appropriate fishing gear, performance

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
				management, and participation in the development of a value chain; 166 fishermen trained and equipped in responsible fishing criteria, monitoring and monitoring and record keeping, and good coastal practices and product quality assurance; 17 community members trained to improve their administrative capacity through courses and workshops in (i) accounting, (ii) financial analysis and project evaluation, (iii) management of environmental and social projects, (iv) markets, (v) administration and management and (vi) leadership; 1 person attended an environmental education workshop; and 11 people attended workshops geared at training in the administrative and financial management of Acai production.
	Number of women with improved livelihoods or income generated as a result of project activities	2018-2019: 7 women community members trained in: 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (5 women).	4.1.1; various	Total lifetime: 151 Women 2018-2019: 7 women community members trained in:

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
		1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products. 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. (1 woman). - Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (1 woman). Please refer to MTC_IndSocialesCONCOSTA_V2 for CONCOSTAorting evidence/documentation The data and supports related can be found in the spreadsheet MTC_Portafolio_CONC		1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (5 women). 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products. 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. (1 woman). Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (1 woman). 2013-2017: Numerous women have improved their livelihoods as a result of project activities, including: 118 women trained in workshops regarding the strengthening of land tenure and consolidation of their territory; 3 women trained to Improve their administrative capacity

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
		OSTA _V2. Rows/columns (A9-L9), (A13-L13), (A17-L17), (A35-L35), (A40-L40)		through courses and workshops in (i) accounting, (ii) financial analysis and project evaluation, (iii) management of environmental and social projects, (iv) markets, (v) administration and management and (vi) leadership; 22 fishermen women trained and equipped in responsible fishing criteria, monitoring and monitoring and record keeping, and good coastal practices and product quality assurance; and 1 woman attended an environmental education workshop.
Health	Total number of people for whom health services were improved as a result of project activities, measured against the without-project scenario	Data not available	N/A	Data not available
	Number of women for whom health services were improved as a result of project activities, measured against the without-project scenario	Data not available	N/A	Data not available
Education	Total number of people for whom access to, or quality of, education was	Data not available	N/A	Data not available

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
	improved as a result of project activities, measured against the without-project scenario			
	Number of women and girls for whom access to, or quality of, education was improved as a result of project activities, measured against the without-project scenario	Data not available	N/A	Data not available
Water	Total number of people who experienced increased water quality and/or improved access to drinking water as a result of project activities, measured against the without-project scenario	Data not available	N/A	Data not available
	Number of women who experienced increased water quality and/or improved access to drinking water as a result of project activities, measured against the without-project scenario	Data not available	N/A	Data not available
Well-being	Total number of community members whose well-being ⁸	2018. Data no available	4.1.1; various	Total lifetime: 1401 people.

⁸ Well-being is people's experience of the quality of their lives. Well-being benefits may include benefits reported in other metrics of this table (e.g. Training, Employment, Health, Education, Water, etc.), but could also include other

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
	was improved as a result of project activities	2019: 53 people community members whose well-being was improved as a result of project activities, including: • 8 people employed to form part of surveillance patrols: 5 local REDD+ promoters, 1 MRV liaison. 1 management support and 1 technician REDD+. • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (22 people). • 1 Training workshop for coordinators of REDD+ units: experiences in the implementation of REDD+ projects (Acandí) (1person) • 1 Workshop SMART monitoring tools and gender guidelines (1 person) • 1 Workshop-Quantification of carbon emissions REDD+ coordinators team. (1person)		2018-2019: 53 people community members whose well-being was improved as a result of project activities, including: • 8 people employed to form part of surveillance patrols: 5 local REDD+ promoters, 1 MRV liaison. 1 management support and 1 technician REDD+. • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (22 people). • 1 Training workshop for coordinators of REDD+ units: experiences in the implementation of REDD+ projects (Acandí) (1person) • 1 Workshop SMART monitoring tools and gender guidelines (1 person) • 1 Workshop-Quantification of carbon emissions REDD+ coordinators team. (1person)

benefits such as empowerment of community groups, strengthened legal rights to resources, conservation of access to areas of cultural significance, etc.

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
		• 1 Training workshop REDD+ CON COSTA team: Formats and management of equipment (8 peoples) • 1 Training and technical meeting REDD+ Coordinators. Socialization of progress and challenges in implementation. Bogotá (1 person). • 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products • 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. • Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO		• 1 Training workshop REDD+ CON COSTA team: Formats and management of equipment (8 peoples) • 1 Training and technical meeting REDD+ Coordinators. Socialization of progress and challenges in implementation. Bogotá (1 person). • 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products • 1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. • Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
		Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (10 people). Please refer to MTC_IndSocialesCONC OSTA_V2 for CONCOSTAoring evidence/documentation The data and supports related can be found in the spreadsheet MTC_Portafolio_CONC OSTA_V2. Rows/columns (A16-L16)		associations (10 people). 2013-2017: Numerous community members have improved their well-being, including: 87 people employed by the project; 644 participants in capacity building in consolidating and strengthening governance over their natural resources and land use planning; 291 people trained in workshops regarding the strengthening of land tenure and effective consolidation of their territory; 43 families trained in agricultural pest management and control, monitoring and harvest at altitude, training in good silvicultural practices, management of the fruit/harvest during and post-harvest, storage, and other logistics; 85 households and 3 fishermen associations trained in appropriate fishing gear, performance management, and participation in the development of a value chain; 166 fishermen trained and equipped in responsible fishing criteria, monitoring and monitoring and record

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
				keeping, and good coastal practices and product quality assurance; 17 community members trained to improve their administrative capacity through courses and workshops in (i) accounting, (ii) financial analysis and project evaluation, (iii) management of environmental and social projects, (iv) markets, (v) administration and management and (vi) leadership; 1 person attended an environmental education workshop; and 11 people attended workshops geared at training in the administrative and financial management of Acai production.
	Number of women whose well-being was improved as a result of project activities	2018: Data no available 2019: 7 women community members trained in: • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (5 women). • 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products (	4.1.1; various	Total life time: 151 women. 2018-2019: 7 women community members trained in: • 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (5 women). • 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products (

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
		1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. (1 woman). - Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (1 woman). Please refer to MTC_IndSocialesCONCOSTA_V2 for CONCOSTAoring evidence/documentation The data and supports related can be found in the spreadsheet MTC_Portafolio_CONCOSTA_V2. Rows/columns (A9-L9), (A13-L13), (A17-L17), (A35-L35), (A40-L40)		1 Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries. (1 woman). - Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (1 woman). 2013-2017: Numerous women have improved their well-being as a result of project activities, including: 118 women trained in workshops regarding the strengthening of land tenure and consolidation of their territory; 3 women trained to Improve their administrative capacity through courses and workshops in (i) accounting, (ii) financial analysis and project evaluation, (iii) management of environmental and social projects, (iv) markets, (v)

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
				administration and management and (vi) leadership; 22 fishermen women trained and equipped in responsible fishing criteria, monitoring and monitoring and record keeping, and good coastal practices and product quality assurance; and 1 woman attended an environmental education workshop. Other data regarding women with improved livelihoods or income as a result of project activities was unfortunately not disaggregated by gender, but a strong percentage of such beneficiaries (especially when households involved in the agricultural value chain) were women.

Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
Biodiversity conservation	Change in the number of hectares significantly better managed by the project for biodiversity conservation, ⁹ measured against the without-project scenario	2018-2019: The project has maintained a total of 53,378 ha of in-tact forest area.	5.1	2018-2019: The project has maintained a total of 53,378 ha of in-tact forest area. 2013-2017: The project has maintained a total of 53,452 ha of in-tact forest area. Additionally, the Concosta consejo comunitario is part of a new marine protected area in the department of El Choco of 311,565 hectares, named “Encanto de los Manglares”. This agreement covered the preconsultation, opening, analysis and identification of the impact and formulation of the management measures, formulation of agreements and protocols of this newly protected marine area that involved and will benefit 10 community councils directly, including those of Concosta, Siviru, Usugara, Pizarro, and Piliza, which are all involved in REDD+ projects.

⁹ Biodiversity conservation in this context means areas where specific management measures are being implemented as a part of project activities with an objective of enhancing biodiversity conservation.

	Number of globally Critically Endangered or Endangered species¹⁰ benefiting from reduced threats as a result of project activities,¹¹ measured against the without-project scenario	2018-2019: 42 species of mammals were recorded, representing 6 orders and 21 families. 2 VOC species were recorded, including: <i>Lontra longicaudis</i> (Neotropical otter) and <i>Panthera onca</i> (Jaguar). Of the total of the bird species recorded, 32 VOC species were registered, of which 20 are migratory species, one an endemic species (<i>Psarocolius cassini</i>), and 11 globally threatened species and 7 nationally threatened species. In relation to Herpetofauna, four VOC species were recorded, including: <i>Oophaga solanensis</i>, <i>Silverstoneia dalyi</i>, <i>Caiman crocodilus</i>, and <i>Boa constrictor</i>. Of the 144 species registered in the upland forest, 14 are VOCs, as they are included in a category according to IUCN Red List criteria. One critically endangered (CR) species, 3 as Vulnerable (VU), one Near Threatened (NT) and 9 species of the Least Concern (LC) category. The species in the Near Threatened (NT) and Critically Endangered (CR) categories correspond to <i>Aspidosperma megalocarpon</i> (Costillo) and <i>Humiriastrum procerum</i> (Chanucillo), respectively. The latter is also reported in the same category in Resolution 0192 of 2017 of MADS and in the Red Book of	2018-2019: 42 species of mammals were recorded, representing 6 orders and 21 families. 2 VOC species were recorded, including: <i>Lontra longicaudis</i> (Neotropical otter) and <i>Panthera onca</i> (Jaguar). Of the total of the bird species recorded, 32 VOC species were registered, of which 20 are migratory species, one an endemic species (<i>Psarocolius cassini</i>), and 11 globally threatened species and 7 nationally threatened species. In relation to Herpetofauna, four VOC species were recorded, including: <i>Oophaga solanensis</i>, <i>Silverstoneia dalyi</i>, <i>Caiman crocodilus</i>, and <i>Boa constrictor</i>. Of the 144 species registered in the upland forest, 14 are VOCs, as they are included in a category according to IUCN Red List criteria. One critically endangered (CR) species, 3 as Vulnerable (VU), one Near Threatened (NT) and 9 species of the Least Concern (LC) category. The species in the Near Threatened (NT) and Critically Endangered (CR) categories correspond to <i>Aspidosperma megalocarpon</i> (Costillo) and <i>Humiriastrum procerum</i> (Chanucillo), respectively. The latter is also reported in the same category in Resolution 0192 of 2017 of MADS and in the Red Book of plants of Colombia
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Category	Metric	Achievements during Monitoring Period	Section Reference	Achievements during the Project Lifetime
		plants of Colombia (Cardenas and Salinas 2007), as well as <i>Huberodendron patinoi</i> (Carra) that is cataloged as Vulnerable (VU). In the guandal forest, 17 species were registered in five categories of risk or threat according to the IUCN Red List criteria, the Red Book of Colombia and MADS Resolution 0192 of 2017. A single Critically Endangered (CR) species was found corresponding to <i>Humiristrum procera</i> (Chanul), two in Vulnerable status (VU) whose representatives are <i>Otoba lehmannii</i> (Cuangare) and <i>Huberodendron patinoi</i> (Carracillo), a Near Threatened (NT) <i>Campnosperma panamense</i> (Sajo), and the rest of the species were in the Least Concern (LC) category.		(Cardenas and Salinas 2007), as well as <i>Huberodendron patinoi</i> (Carra) that is cataloged as Vulnerable (VU). In the guandal forest, 17 species were registered in five categories of risk or threat according to the IUCN Red List criteria, the Red Book of Colombia and MADS Resolution 0192 of 2017. A single Critically Endangered (CR) species was found corresponding to <i>Humiristrum procera</i> (Chanul), two in Vulnerable status (VU) whose representatives are <i>Otoba lehmannii</i> (Cuangare) and <i>Huberodendron patinoi</i> (Carracillo), a Near Threatened (NT) <i>Campnosperma panamense</i> (Sajo), and the rest of the species were in the Least Concern (LC) category. 2013-2017: 34 birds, 18 mammal, 9 amphibians, and 5 reptile species are estimated to exist in the project area and known to fall within these RTE categories.

¹⁰ Per IUCN's Red List of Threatened Species

¹¹ In the absence of direct population or occupancy measures, measurement of reduced threats may be used as evidence of benefit

2 GENERAL

2.1 Project Description

2.1.1 Implementation Description

Throughout this monitoring period, the project has continued to implement activities that contribute to GHG emission reductions. In total, these activities have resulted in **421,840 tons** of net GHG emission reductions or removals for 2018-2019. The project's main goals during this monitoring period have been to continue developing community engagement, and to further facilitate alternative livelihoods. Reducing deforestation and forest degradation pressure were other primary aims, and monitoring progress in these areas has been prioritized.

The continued monitoring of community impacts, both positive and negative, was conducted. This included further advancements in the training and project employment of community members. Additional progress was made during this monitoring period in employing women in the REDD+ activities, monitoring, and overall decision-making processes. Net benefits for marginalized and/or vulnerable community groups were also assessed, with the overall results of these activities consequently disseminated to the communities. More details about governance and capacity building activities that were conducted in the community can be found in Section 4.1.1 of this report.

In response to the objectives set by the communities to alleviate the pressures of deforestation and forest degradation, the following activities were implemented during the current monitoring period:

Strengthening local governance through the implementation of inclusive community participation spaces focused on informing the long-term objectives of the project. Likewise, spaces for dialogue were developed with local environmental authorities and neighboring communities to raise awareness of the REDD+ project and initiate approaches to achieve future alliances or work articulation. The community councils were strengthened in their governance by using the governing board sessions as a decision-making mechanism for implementation in the territory; this mechanism also allowed them to approach the *corteros*, disseminate the REDD+ project to other local authorities, and inform the communities of the project's progress. Likewise, by training its members in administrative and financial issues, it allowed the government boards and REDD+ teams to improve their management capacities.

Forming REDD+ units, equipping and training community members in forest conservation activities, patrolling and control of the territory, improving skills to communicate to communities the importance of caring for natural resources and strengthening control and surveillance of the territory through multiple community monitoring tours, allowed for greater governance and ownership of the project at the local level during this monitoring period. 9 community monitoring and forest governance tours, with the participation of people from the territory. Land use planning and demarcation of conservation zones, through participatory land zoning exercises, which allowed the communities to identify areas where they should focus conservation efforts and demarcate zones for biodiversity protection, 103 *corteros* participate in REDD+ activities.

Regarding the sustainable intensification of productive activities identified for the area, during the current monitoring period, efforts focused on the Naidi value chain, developing training in good agricultural practices, crop planning, marketing of products, among others. 31 technical assistance activities, installation of naidi product pulping machine and silvicultural management practices and techniques of *naidizales* to increase production.

To provide alternative livelihoods to the agents of deforestation identified for the project, organizational strengthening of artisanal fishing production activities: training in product handling, size and good storage practices.

The generation of alternative livelihoods and non-timber income sources is another measure that results in GHG emission reductions. Throughout the current monitoring period, activities such as technical assistance workshops, training workshops, and exchange meetings occurred with the aim of exposing community members to the benefits and feasibility of alternative economic activities. With the provision of these alternative income sources, the need to pursue traditional forest-based economic activities—a factor which often contributes to deforestation and forest degradation—decreases. Specific information about the training and capacity-building of community members in alternative livelihoods can be found in sections 2.3.13 and 2.3.14 of this report.

For the implementation period years 2018-2019, the actions to promote capacity building, community cohesion and REDD actions were continued. It is noteworthy the continuation of the activities of the project under the support of international cooperation such as the Sustainable Colombia Fund project (supported by the governments of Sweden, Switzerland and Norway) and the Paramos y Bosques Program of USAID.

The greatest contributions of these programs is to maintain alternative economic activities based on increases in the commercialization of native products such as Naidí, technical assistance has been given for the cultivation of sugar cane, cocoa and aquaculture activities, among other products. Likewise, on the ground, the patrols of control and governance of the territory were maintained, the monitoring schemes of biodiversity and assembly of carbon plots in degraded forests were implemented, the above was harmonized with training processes.

Leakage and non-permanence risk factors have been appropriately monitored and managed during this monitoring period. New LULC classification maps were created to monitor changes in the project area and leakage area to assess deforestation during the monitoring period. For more details concerning climate monitoring activities, see section 3.1 of this report. Further details on leakage are in Section 3.2.3 of this report. For more details about the assessment, management, and monitoring of risk, please see the most recent “Concosta Non-Permanence Risk Report M2 2018-2020 v1.1”. During this monitoring period, the net GHG emission reductions generated by the project amount to 421,804 tCO₂e.

In March 2018 and to continue the actions in the territory with the communities, Fondo Acción secured additional funding for the Monitoring processes aimed at the continued verification of the Project. This financial boost seeks to maintain the established local REDD network, have resources for contracting audits and the development of workshops for the collection of REDD indicators. The new financial support was presented by FA to the Interethnic agenda that represents the initiatives of the REDD+ Pacific Fund Action portfolio.

At the end of 2018, new international cooperation support was granted for the Sustainable Colombia Fund project implemented by Fondo Acción for the Pacific REDD portfolio and the USAID Paramos and Bosques program. In March 2019, to carry out the implementation of the Fondo Colombia Sostenible, socialization and budget approval meetings were held with the community and the governing boards. Fondo Colombia Sostenible, sought to support and strengthen the processes of the projects formulated in the BIOREDD scheme.

2.1.2 Project Category and Activity Type

This project is an Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) project under the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) project category. Specifically, the project is of the “Avoided Unplanned Deforestation & Degradation” (AUDD) project category. This is not a grouped project.

2.1.3 Project Proponent(s)

Organization name	Concosta Community Council
Contact person	José Fernando Mosquera González
Title	Legal Representative
Address	Consejo Comunitario de Concosta
Telephone	+573 313 782 3674
Email	jofemosgon@yahoo.com

2.1.4 Other Entities Involved in the Project

Organization name	Fondo Acción
Role in the project	Main Implementing Partner
Contact person	Andres Sierra
Title	REDD+ Coordinator
Address	Carrere 7 No. 32-33 piso 27, Bogota D.C. Colombia
Telephone	(57-1 2853862
Email	asierra@fondoaccion.org
Organization name	EP Carbon

Role in the project	Remote Sensing, Land Use Change Analysis, VCS/CCB verification CONCOSTAort services
Contact person	Joel DeBoer
Title	Technical Manager
Address	2930 Shattuck Ave Suite 304 Berkeley, California 94705
Telephone	+1 415 634 4650 extension 110
Email	Jdeboer@ecopartnersllc.com

Organization name	Wildlife Works Carbon
Role in the project	Project implementation CONCOSTAort and MRV
Contact person	Jeffrey Hayward

Title	Director Colombia
Address	Calle 94ª, #13-72, Oficina 501
Telephone	+57 3172288982
Email	jeff@wildlifeworks.com

Organization name	Chemonics International
Role in the project	Project implementation CONCOSTAort and MRV
Contact person	Luis Fernando Jara
Title	Program Director
Address	Calle 94ª, #13-72, Piso 5 Bogota DC, Colombia
Telephone	+57 320 364 3690
Email	ljara@paramosybosques.org

2.1.5 Project Start Date (G1.9)

The project start date is **July 18, 2013**. This date corresponds to the signing of a letter of intent with Optim consult, to reduce emissions through the present REDD+ project. The signing of this letter also marks the initiation of project activities, as it tangibly represents a change in forest governance practices. According to the project's theory of change model, the modification of forest governance is an important project aim if the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation are to be addressed.

2.1.6 Project Crediting Period (G1.9)

The project's crediting period is 30 years, starting on 18 July 2013 and ending on 17July 2043.

2.1.7 Project Location

The project is located within the communities of the Territorio Colectivo de CONCOSTA, located in the municipality of Bajo Baudó and Litoral del San Juan, in the Colombian department of Chocó. The entire project area lies within the areas awarded to these communities through executive resolution (See map below). The entire project area lies within the areas awarded to these communities through executive resolution. The communities are organized as community councils (consejos comunitarios, or CCs), to which the property rights have been allocated. These land rights are protected by Constitutional Law, and by Law 70/93.

The Community Council is organized by the community itself. It has an administrative body that consists mainly of a general assembly made up of all the members of the community and a board elected by the assembly. The Concosta Collective Territory is composed of 36 villages distributed in 4 zones, lands collectively occupied by the Black Community. It includes the communal councils of Orpúa, Playita, Venado, Guineal, Punta Ijua, Puerto Abadía, Sepulcro, La Comba, Puerto Melúk, Pajonal, Manglares, Pomeño, Belén de Docampadó, Cabre-Cocal, Mochado, Pie de Docampadó, El Firme San Miguel, Villa Colombia and Puerto Bolívar.

The spatial boundaries of this project's area and its geodetic coordinates are presented in the table below. Please refer to the Project Description for more specific details regarding location.

Table 3. Location project

Community Council	Contributing Area (ha)	Centroid Coordinates (Lat, Long)	
Concosta	54,623	4° 42'17" N	77° 13'18" W
Total	54,623		



Location map of Project Zone and Community Councils

In the forests that are part of the project area, there are the habitats of different species of fauna and flora. (See map below).



Map of project area and project zone

2.1.8 Title and Reference of Methodology

VM0006 V2.2 Methodology for Carbon Accounting for Mosaic and Landscape-scale REDD projects.

In addition to applying the VM0006 methodology in full, it further uses the VT0005 Tool for measuring aboveground live forest biomass using remote sensing, designed by Terra Global Capital. This tool provides a method for determining aboveground Live Forest Biomass (ALFB) through a combination of remote sensing data and field measurements to provide an accurate and cost-effective estimation of ALFB across varied LULC classification types and broad spatial extents. The tool is intended for use with all approved VCS methodologies within the scope of AFOLU projects.

This methodology also refers to the latest version of the following approved tools and modules:

- CDM A/R Methodological Tool Estimation of carbon stocks and change in carbon stocks in dead wood and litter in A/R CDM project activities.
- CDM A/R Methodological Tool 03 Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities.
- CDM A/R Methodological Tool 06 Procedure to determine when accounting of the soil organic carbon pool may be conservatively neglected.

- CDM A/R Methodological Tool 09 Estimation of GHG emissions related to displacement of grazing activities in A/R CDM project activity.
- CDM Tool Tool for testing significance of GHG emissions in A/R CDM project activities.
- VCS Tool VT0001 Tool for the demonstration and assessment of additionality in VCS Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) project activities.
- VCS Tool Tool for calculating deforestation rates using incomplete remote sensing images

The project also meets all the requirements for models and default factors set forth in the VCS Standard v 3.4 and CCB 3.0.

2.1.9 Other Programs (G5.9)

- Emission Trading Programs and Other Binding Limits: The emissions reductions and removals generated by the project are not used for compliance with any emissions trading program or to meet any binding GHG emissions limit. To avoid double counting, emissions reductions will only be issued as Verified Carbon Units (VCUs).
- Other Forms of Environmental Credit: The project has not and does not intend to generate any related environmental credit for GHG emissions reductions or removals other than those claimed under the VCS Program. No other forms of environmental credit will be sought by the project proponent.
- Participation under Other GHG Programs: The project has not been, and will not be, seeking registration under any other GHG programs other than VCS and CCB. CCB verification will demonstrate positive climate, community and biodiversity impacts, but does not produce any registered emissions reductions or credits.
- Resolution 1447: This project has been registered on the Registro Nacional de Reducción de las Emisiones de Gases de Efecto Invernadero- RENARE platform with the ID 1767¹² Being registered on the platform demonstrates that there is no overlap with another type of initiative registered as GHG emission reductions.

Fondo Acción submitted a formal inquiry to MADS regarding the possible implications of Resolution 1447 on this project. This petition was resolved by means of file No. DCC-8250-E2-2018-037242, dated December 11, 2018 and authored by MADS. Said government response allowed the project proponent to affirm that it has conformed to all requirements under Resolution 1447, as applicable. Based on subsequent analyses, the main project implementer has proactively solicited advice to determine any potential effects that Articles 40 and 41 may have on this initiative.

To assess the effects of Resolution 1447, it is first necessary to analyze the content of Article 40 in conjunction with the fact that Colombia currently has only one official forest reference emission level (FREL, or NREF in Spanish) that corresponds to the Amazon Biome in the southeast portion of the country. The FREL that was submitted and approved by UNFCCC in 2015 is only applicable to that portion of the country, from that date forth. As such, there is currently no FREL established for the Pacific biome where this project is located, nor is there a national FREL for Colombia. This is problematic, as Article 40 of Resolution 1447 states that a Maximum Mitigation Potential (MMP) for GHG emissions that were generated from January 2016 until December 2019 should be calculated based upon the submitted FREL. In the absence of a geographically-appropriate FREL, RENARE, MADS, and IDEAM have stated that they will instead establish an MMP based on official data from the national monitoring system.

¹² <http://renare.siac.gov.co/GPY-web/#/gpy/databasreddreg/121/1767>

As documented in DCC-8250-E2-2018-037242, Fondo Acción first requested clarification as to the timing and process for MMP calculation, as per national accounting. The response indicated that the calculations corresponded to activities reducing deforestation and storing carbon (in aboveground biomass) during the 2016-2019 period. As of June 20, 2019, the MMP calculations have still not been finalized, nor have any REDD+ projects been verified to Verra standards in Colombia.

The project proponents wish to indicate their willingness to abide by Colombia's national MMP calculations for relevant results as legally applicable once the government announces parameter findings. In the interim, it is important to note here that MADS clarified in document DCC-8250-E2-2018-037242 that verification processes can proceed in parallel or in advance of the final MMP calculations.

Article 41: Article 41 clearly establishes an important precedent acknowledging the validity of REDD+ project baselines that were validated on or prior to the December 11, 2018 date of Resolution 1447. Paragraph 1 of the aforementioned article stipulates a grandfather clause that allows for the legal use of existing validated project baselines, provided that projects follow the other provisions of Article 40.

2.1.10 Sustainable Development

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are framed within the context of a universal call for the adoption of global measures to end poverty, protect the planet, and to ensure that all people may enjoy peace and prosperity. Based on these guidelines, Colombia has adopted 17 objectives in its aim to achieve nationally-relevant SDGs. From a broader perspective, the SDGs encompass root causes of poverty and unite us to achieve positive change for the benefit of all people. Based on these principles, the fundamental pillars of Colombia's SDGs have focused on quality education (4), the reduction of inequalities (10), and peace, justice, and solid institutions (16) since the year 2016, all as stated in the country's National Development Plan from that same year (UNDP 2016).

This REDD+ project is located in an area of Colombia that is characterized by the greatest deficiencies of infrastructure, education, health, and social assistance nationwide. The Colombian Pacific Corridor is also defined as one of five national regions most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. In the chapter entitled, "Producing and Conserving While Producing" of the National Development Plan, the key role that native communities play in natural resource conservation was highlighted. REDD+ projects can further support this valuable role by facilitating economic alternatives and incentives that improve livelihoods, yet maintain ancestral customs aligned with the conservation of natural resources. REDD+ project activities aimed at capacity-building and increased territorial governance assist communities in the reduction of deforestation and forest degradation, while simultaneously promoting the management of climate change and disaster risks (PND, 2018-2022).

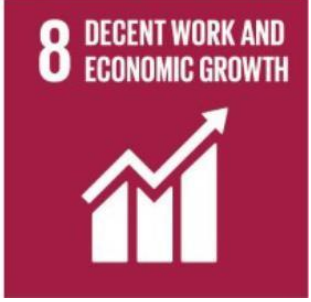
From its conception, this REDD+ project has been aligned with creating a Colombia in Peace by strengthening territory governance, implementing productive alternatives, and diversifying income generated from the protection of its forests. These characteristics align perfectly with the objectives of a Green Growth Economy, and with a reduction in the degradation of Colombian ecosystems. As per their registration to international standards, the vision of these projects is to contribute to the reduction of deforestation and degradation of the tropical humid forests of the Colombian Pacific under REDD+ schemes for the next 60 years. These actions will contribute to GHG emission reduction goals as per specific international agreements, to the goals of reduced deforestation and forest degradation in general, and to the future carbon policies (e.g. reforms related to carbon taxes and pollution, carbon neutrality, and reduced emission units to industrial sectors with carbon tax

compliance). The table below outlines Colombia's sustainable development goals as stated nationally, and how this project is explicitly contributing to each of them.

Table 4 below details national sustainable development goals and how this project is explicitly contributing to them.

Table 4. Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goals	REDD+ Project Contributions
 1 NO POVERTY Eradicating poverty in all its forms continues to be one of the main challenges facing humanity.	Generation of employment alternatives and opportunities in environmental service and green business markets. Employing the community in patrolling programs of their forest territory and administrative activities. See specific indicators in the theory of change matrices. New sources of temporary employment were implemented and new forms of providing services are provided within the framework of REDD + projects.
 2 ZERO HUNGER The Sustainable Development Goals seek to end all forms of hunger and malnutrition by 2030 and ensure access for all people, especially children, to sufficient and nutritious food throughout the year.	Sustainable agricultural practices have been promoted with community producers, and community participants have been given equal access to technologies to improve production and how to reach better markets. By improving the means of production, better income is generated for the producers and their families, resulting in community-wide livelihood improvements.
 4 QUALITY EDUCATION Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning for all	Through different workshops, trainings and events, the Connected Landscapes program implemented a strategy titled "Conservar Educando" during this reporting period to cultivate increased environmental education and sustainable agriculture in the communities. It is expected that with the income from the sale of carbon credits, contributions will be made to elements of the communities' educational infrastructure, internet connectivity and virtual courses with the National Learning Service (SENA).

 The Sustainable Development Goals will build on these achievements to ensure an end to discrimination against women and girls around the world. By 2030, the aim is to have women represent at least 50% of the decision-making public positions that determine national priorities.	As shown in the monitoring plan's social and economic indicators, female participation in decision-making, community councils, and workshops has been substantial, in accordance with the implementation of Fondo Acción's gender policy.¹³
 The Sustainable Development Goals aim to stimulate sustainable economic growth by increasing levels of productivity and technological innovation.	The present REDD+ project has allowed all community members access to improve their technical capabilities through service contract positions to develop activities for the project. All of these contracts have been drafted in accordance with Colombian labor regulations, including social and occupational safety aspects.
 Improve education, awareness, and both individual and institutional capacity in climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warnings.	This objective is met through the reduction of deforestation and ecosystem degradation in the humid forests of the Colombian Pacific, by means of REDD+ projects that have been validated or are in the process of verification, such as the present initiative.

2.2 Project Implementation Status

¹³ <http://fondoaccion.org/nuestras-politicas/>

2.2.1 Implementation Schedule (G1.9)

Table 5 shows the main milestones of the matrix monitoring period, and the activities implemented by components in the current monitoring period are detailed in the theory of change matrix. For greater detail of the activities implemented in the current monitoring period Table 5_idea_de_evidencias_v2_2018_2019 and MTC_IndSociales CONCOSTA_V2 28032022.

Table 5. Implementation Schedule

Date	Components	Main project activities	Milestone(s) in the project's development and implementation
18 Jul-2013	Management and administration	Management and administration	Project start date, based on the date in which the letter of intent was signed by the then most recent signatory community authority (consejo)
Jun-2013	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	First basic training workshops on REDD+
Jun-2014	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Drafting of internal governance regulation for land use and management of natural resources
Jul-2014	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Strengthening of capacities for the management of REDD + projects through shared experiences of a successful case
Aug-2014	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Surveillance patrols instated
Nov-2014	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Participative construction of REDD+ plan and approval by general assembly.
Apr-2015	Management and administration	Management and administration	End of USAID BioREDD Program
Sep-2015	Management and administration	Management and administration	USAID Support of project through: Connected Landscapes Program
Feb-2016	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Conformation and training of REDD + units for project management
Mar-2016	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Workshops on Territorial Appropriation Governance and REDD + with culturally appropriate pedagogical materials
Nov-2016	Productive activities	Sustainable Intensification of Agriculture on Existing Agricultural Land	Implementation of productive alternatives. Technical assistance, training, tools and Concostalies, improvement and management of existing crops, exchange tours.
Apr-2017	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Initial Mechanism of Distribution of Benefits Agreement and Mitigation Actions Document for the implementation of REDD activities

Jun-2017	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Conformation of Interethnic Agenda
Feb-2018	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Meeting of L First basic training workshops on REDD+egal Representatives Community REDD+ Portfolio. Verification Process and ERPA
Feb-2018	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	MRV team starts monitoring REDD+ activities and social indicators.
Mar-2018	Management and administration	Management and administration	USAID support of project through: Paramos y Bosques Program
Feb-Mar 2018	Management and administration	Management and administration	Addition USAID through Olgoonik. Contract # 9 from January 29 to March 31
Mar-2018	Management and administration	Management and administration	Support USAID Paramos & Bosques program
Apr-Dec 2018	Management and administration	Management and administration	Loan to Projects with Fondo Acción resources
Jun- 2018	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Meeting with community leaders to explain the activities and costs of the verification process. Lead by Paramos y Bosques / Fondo Acción
Jul-2018	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Start of Social Monitoring activities
Sep-2018	Governance	Demarcating Forest, Tenure and Ownership Boundaries, and Areas of Forest Protection	LIDAR flights to adjust emission factors. Contract CPS 016 de 2018
Sep-Oct 2018	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Start of Carbon and Biodiversity Monitoring. Convenio 019
Oct-2018	Management and administration	Management and administration	Contracting of third-party verification auditors
Nov-2018	Management and administration	Management and administration	Start of the public comment period of the first project verification period, and monitoring document
Dec-2018	Management and administration	Management and administration	Subscription of the cooperation agreement ATN/CM-17084-CO between Fondo Acción and The BID
2019	Management and administration	Management and administration	Investment under the model of small donations from Paramos y Bosques for productive activities
Jan-2019	Management and administration	Management and administration	Verification visit from auditor team (first verification)

Mar-2019	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Socialization meeting of FCS BID Program
Apr-May 2019	Management and administration	Management and administration	Start of the public comment period of the project monitoring document
May-2019	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Meeting <i>Agenda Interetnica</i>
Jul- Nov 2019	Governance	Support with the Development and Implementation of Sustainable Forest and Land Use Management Plans	Development of community assemblies and community participation spaces to strengthen knowledge of ethnic legislation and collective rights and governing board sessions and discussions aimed mainly at cutters, members of the governing board and the community
Aug-Dec 2019	Governance	Support with the Development and Implementation of Sustainable Forest and Land Use Management Plans	Socialization spaces for communities on progress in governance, productive and MRV activities, review of prioritization of social investment lines
Jun-Aug 2019	Other Activities	Training and Capacity Building	Capacity building for REDD+ teams: zoning workshops, monitoring tools, formats and team management, and exchange of REDD+ experiences.
Sep-Dec 2019	Other Activities	Training and Capacity Building	MRV team starts monitoring REDD+ activities and social indicators. Territorial governance tours
Jun-2019	Productive activities	Sustainable Intensification of Agriculture on Existing Agricultural Land	Activities focused on strengthening the Naidi value chain:
Mar-Jun 2019	Productive activities	Provide alternative livelihoods to agents of deforestation	Organizational strengthening of productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices. FISHERIES
Jul-2019	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Verification visit from auditor team (first verification)

May-Jul 2022	Governance	Strengthening of Land-tenure Status and Forest Governance	Socialization of advances period 2018-2019.
			Socialization of the results of the second verification period -preauditoria
Jun-2022	Management and administration	Management and administration	Verification visits from auditor team (second verification)
Jul-2023	Management and administration	Management and administration	Updated version of the draft verification monitoring report 2 is open for public comment.

2.2.2 Methodology Deviations

No methodology deviations were applied during the monitoring and quantification of NERs for this monitoring period.

2.2.3 Minor Changes to Project Description (Rules 3.5.6)

Minor Changes to Project Description for this Monitoring Period

The PDD project document was checked again and minor changes were made. All of the minor changes proposed were related to spelling mistakes, minor errors, and other updates made for report accuracy. None of the changes made had any effect on the project's design or compliance with CCB requirements. Thus, all changes are still in conformance with the CCB Standards criteria and indicators.

Table 6. Minor Changes to Project Description

Corresponding Page to report	Suggested Correction/Minor Change	Justification/Other Notes
39	EP Carbon Remote Sensing, Land Use Change Analysis, GHG accounting, VCS/CCB verification support services Joel DeBoer Technical Manager jdeboer@ecopartnersllc.com	New entities involved in the Project period 2018-2019 Operating entities of USAID's Paramos y Bosques program.
39	Wildlife Works Carbon Project implementation support and MRV – Biodiversity component Enrique Díaz Director Colombia enrique.diaz@wildlifeworks.com	New entities involved in the Project period 2018-2019 Operating entities of USAID's Paramos y Bosques program.

2.2.4 Project Description Deviations (Rules 3.5.7 – 3.5.10)

Deviations During Monitoring Period 2

For the current monitoring period, the different entities involved in the project are reported as deviations of performance data, see table below. Entities involved in the current monitoring period.

The project since its formulation and implementation has had the support of international cooperation, specifically USAID and it is clear that the resources for the projects are not executed directly by the cooperation, but by different operators who apply to the calls periodically opened by USAID. For the period 2019 USAID was implementing the program called Páramos y Bosques which among its components included support for the implementation and monitoring of BioREDD+ projects. It should be recalled that the BioREDD+ program was the one that structured and accompanied the validation of 8 REDD+ initiatives including the current project. USAID's Paramos y Bosques program was implemented by Chemonics International and its allies EP Carbon and WildLife Works Colombia, hence they are new entities that were temporarily linked to the monitoring and implementation processes.

Entities involved in the current monitoring period

<u>Corresponding Page to report</u>	<u>Suggested Correction/Minor Change</u>	<u>Justification/Other Notes</u>
39	<u>EP Carbon</u> <u>Remote Sensing, Land Use Change Analysis, GHG accounting, VCS/CCB verification support services</u> <u>Joel DeBoer</u> <u>Technical Manager</u> jdeboer@ecopartnersllc.com	<u>New entitites involved in the Project period 2018-2019</u> Operating entities of USAID's Paramos y Bosques program.
39	<u>Wildlife Works Carbon</u> <u>Project implementation support and MRV – Biodiversity component</u> <u>Enrique Díaz</u> <u>Director Colombia</u> enrique.diaz@wildlifeworks.com	<u>New entities involved in the Project period 2018-2019</u> Operating entities of USAID's Paramos y Bosques program.

Deviations During the Previous Monitoring Period

During the previous verification process, adjustments were made to the monitoring plan validated by the community and for the current verification process, these are maintained as described in table 7.

The project proponents have decided to make small alterations to the data/parameters gathered under the validated community monitoring plan. These alterations mostly refer to variations as to the frequency and methods by which these parameters are collected and checked, and do not impact the applicability of the methodology, additionality, or the appropriateness of the baseline scenario.

The deviations of the project in the present monitoring period detailed below do not have an impact on the applicability of the methodology, additionality, or the appropriateness of the baseline scenario. The deviations listed in this section relate to changes to social investments, project benefits, and involvement of local stakeholders that have no impact on the project's VCS design or the applicability of methodology. The methodology's applicability criteria pertain to agents and drivers of deforestation as well as landscape configuration, none of which is affected by the deviations listed. The deviations listed also do not affect the project's compliance with the CCB standard requirements and indicators and are indicative of the project's implementation of adaptive

management in order to improve the project's implementation. Table 7 below describes these proposed changes and also provides an explanation/justification as to the change:

Table 7. Project Description Deviations from Prior Monitoring Period

Parameter	Description Category for Proposed Changes	Proposed Changes	Explanation/Justification
Involvement of the community in forest surveillance and patrolling of forests	Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied; Frequency of monitoring/recording	Rather than monthly frequency of recording, the project proponents propose doing it every three months	Change would be more in line with the current project MRV practices between the field and home office
Involvement of Corteros in the regeneration and maintenance of conservation areas	Data unit; Frequency of monitoring	Rather than specifically referring to "corteros", the unit should refer to all those persons who are dependent upon logging for their income; frequency of monitoring to be done every three months rather than monthly	New description would better capture those beneficiaries for which the project is trying to provide alternatives to logging; More in line with project MRV practices between the field and home office.
Trained and equipped people	Data unit; Description; Frequency of monitoring	rather than households receiving technical assistance, records will be kept for all individuals receiving assistance; frequency of monitoring to be done every three months rather than monthly	Change would help harmonize indicator monitoring with standardized benefit matrices; More in line with project MRV practices between the field and home office.
Establishment of new productive agricultural activities	Data unit; Description	"New and/or improved" hectares will replace "new" hectares	Change will better capture the number of hectares undergoing changes due to project activities and objectives.
Families benefitted from the social investments of the REDD+ projects	Sources of data; Description; Monitoring equipment	A Participatory Impact Evaluation Survey will be conducted to document community perception of changes in four aspects of the quality of life (income, technical capabilities, governance, conservation); These surveys will replace the originally proposed annual household surveys	Change would be more in line with the current project MRV practices between the field and home office.

Strengthened governance	Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied; Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Rather than monthly frequency of recording, the project proponents propose doing it every three months	Change would be more in line with the current project MRV practices between the field and home office
Effectiveness of the Grievance Redress Mechanism	Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied; Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Rather than monthly frequency of recording, the project proponents propose doing it every three months	Change would be more in line with the current project MRV practices between the field and home office
Women benefited from the Social investments of the REDD+	Data unit; Description; and Frequency of monitoring	In addition to number of beneficiary women, a Participatory Impact Evaluation Survey will be conducted, where subjective perception of the changes in four aspects of the quality of life of the communities (income, technical capabilities, governance and conservation): These surveys will replace the originally proposed annual household surveys	Change would be more in line with the current project MRV practices between the field and home office.
Involvement of women in the surveillance and patrolling of forests	Frequency of monitoring	Rather than monthly frequency of recording, the project proponents propose doing it every three months	Change would be more in line with the current project MRV practices between the field and home office

2.2.5 Grouped Projects

As this project is not considered a grouped project, this section is not applicable.

2.2.6 Risks to the Project (G1.10)

This project uses the VCS Non-Permanence Risk Tool as the basis for a comprehensive assessment of risk evaluation. The assessment is provided separately from this report (please see "Concosta Non-Permanence Risk Report M2 2018-2020.v1.1.doc" in the Risk Assessment folder of Annexes). The text provided in this section describes additional risk mitigation measures that have been taken beyond those considered by the VCS Non-Permanence Risk Tool.

The project was designed and has been developed in such a way that all of the risks identified via a participatory process with community members have been managed and/or mitigated against during the monitoring period. Specifically, members of the community first evaluated the possibility of natural risks such as fire, pandemic, climate, and geological risks, the results of which are reflected in the Non-Permanence Risk Tool developed for this reporting period. Similar to findings at the time of validation, the project's communities found that risks posed from fire, pest and disease outbreaks, extreme weather, and geologic events were insignificant. Data from the DesInventar system corresponding to the current monitoring period once more shows no reports of forest fires, significant pest or disease outbreaks, or significant seismic events within the region (please see "DesInventar_Concosta_2021.xlsx" in the Risk Assessment folder of Annexes). While flooding is a

form of extreme weather that does occur naturally within the region with a frequency of less than every 10 years, it poses a negligible risk to carbon stocks, affecting annual crops more than forests. DesInventar data supports this assertion. Further, the the forest protection that this project generates of natural forests from deforestation and degradation will also reduce the impact of flooding events, as a result one of multiple forest ecosystem services.

Beyond natural risks, community members also identified potential food safety risks. Forest conservation can sometimes conflict with food security by both limiting access to non-timber forest products and prohibiting the clearing of new land for agriculture. By incorporating measures specifically intended to mitigate this conflict in project design, project communities determined that this initiative would not generate such conflict. Specific incorporated measures were sustainably planned and improved agricultural production, including the expansion of crops to marginal non-forested areas (a central project objective), as well as the improvement of fish farming. In this way, it is expected that project activities will continue to improve food security and climate resilience, rather than hinder them.

As another potential risk, communities from the project area identified the possibility that income generated by socioeconomic alternatives to deforestation would not be sufficient to cover the opportunity cost of reduced logging. This applies both to families whose primary source of annual income was derived from wood, and to families that would use wood as a source of emergency income; and can even also apply to many stakeholders involved in the wood supply chain, beyond those who simply cut down trees. As a mitigation measure, when the communities agreed to participate in the REDD + project, they did so knowing that the use of wood for the sustenance of the families (i.e. wood for the construction of houses) and cultural traditions would not be limited; and that it was understood, and continues to be, that the project would continue to seek and promote the participation of community members in alternative livelihood options.

The productive alternatives and livelihoods proposed and executed during 2018 and 2019 have allowed the people who are part of the consejos comunitarios, whose income depended on the forest, to reduce logging and deforestation thanks to the actions of the project. Some have participated in the control and governance groups of the territory as REDD+ promoters.

The efforts and commitments to reduce the pressure on the forest have been a primary commitment of the council, the threat of people from outside the territory persists who illegally access the territory that is under the jurisdiction of the community, specifically, some peasants who they enter the community's forests to extract wood illegally.

Finally, there is the perceived risk that the communities implementing the project may have to bear the costs of implementing the project, including investing in the production of new crops and generating emission reductions on a constant basis. For example, communities perceive a risk by having to invest in materials for production (fertilizer, pest control, among others), without considering the expected productivity or the income that this activity can generate.

During the monitoring period corresponding to the second verification, the resources for the sale of the environmental service have not yet been received by the community. To meet this need, the project activities have been financially supported through the Sustainable Colombia Fund project and the Sustainable Colombia Fund project. Moors and Forests.

The risk associated with investments in productive activities has been mitigated through the financial support mechanism for activities, within the framework of the implementation of the Sustainable Colombia Fund programs and the Paramos and Bosques project during the 2018-2019 period. These actions have been key, because during this period the communities were still concluding the processes of the first audit and the resources for the sale of the VCUs, as indicated above, had not entered. Thus, the support of these programs was relevant to reduce uncertainty in the population with respect to productive initiatives. Likewise, within the framework of these programs, the achiote value chain was strengthened to guarantee the benefits derived from the sale of these crops.

For the current monitoring period, the project proponent, Consejo Comunitario de Concosta, implemented activities to comply with the leakage management plan described in section 5.2 of the PD, which involves the implementation and follow-up of actions in the following project components within the project area that impact neighboring areas:

- (a) Implementation of productive activities
- (b) Strengthening of governance
- (c) Establishment of forest patrols.

The expected result of implementing these types of activities throughout the project area is to mitigate leakage by providing economic alternatives and implementing other actions within the project area to prevent illegal logging in the surrounding areas.

Actions taken during the monitoring period to mitigate the risk of people entering and using the community forest illegally (e.g., to extract timber) focused on:

1. Strengthening territorial governance: where community members exercise control of the land through community monitoring tours and dissemination of REDD+ objectives.
2. Relationships with neighboring communities bordering the community council's project area: different spaces for dialogue and dissemination of the REDD+ project's objectives and scope.
3. Spaces for community participation: involve community council members in decision making and, in the planning, and/or projection of activities in the area.

These strategies developed in the 2018-2019 monitoring period coincide with what is described in the leakage management plan and the measures described in the project description document-PD, see MTC_IndSocociales CONCOSTA_V2 28032022.

In the face of potential risks related to the taking of services, covenants and/or agreements: the decision-making processes within the Community Council take place in the spaces created by Law 70 of 1993 and its regulatory decree 1745 of 1995, which defines the spaces for decision making are the general assemblies, the spaces of the Board of Directors who authorize the legal representative to sign any legal document and contracts related to the internal administration of the collective territory, in this way decisions such as the signing of agreements, contracts, loans, new projects, among others; are endorsed by the assembly and the board of directors generates respective authorizations for the legal representative to proceed on behalf of the communities.

In this context, potential risks in decision making are mitigated when the consultation procedures established in the internal regulations and decision making of the Governing Boards are complied with. The explanation of this type of agreement or loan and its conditions were socialized in different community participation spaces.

Regarding potential risks related to territorial boundary disputes, the project has developed dialogues with neighbors as part of the territorial control exercise that Concosta's REDD+ team periodically exercises in the border areas of the collective territory with neighboring communities; this does not mean that there is currently a territorial dispute, as land tenure is clearly defined in the land allocation resolutions for both CONCOSTA and the indigenous communities in this case the Orpua indigenous reserve.

Regarding the processes of benefit distribution mechanisms, these remain the same as for the first verification, which have been ratified by the community. The community has developed spaces for the coordination of the process and prioritization of the actions that will be financed within the benefit distribution mechanism, for when the resources of the VCU's sales are obtained.

2.2.7 Benefit Permanence (G1.11)

The project is minimizing risks to the expected climate, community, and biodiversity benefits in order to maintain those benefits beyond the lifetime of the project. Specifically, the VCS project crediting period is 30 years, starting in 2013 and ending in 2043. The VCS project lifetime is also 30 years, the period of time during which the project proponents and implementing partners are committed to maintain the designed activities that will protect previously issued credits. While the management plans, including the Implementation Plan, extend in some instances out to 60 years, the implementation of the project activities will occur during the 30 years of the project lifetime. However, the project benefits are expected to last far beyond this time frame.

The project is currently taking active measures to enhance the climate, community, and biodiversity benefits of the project beyond the project crediting period by implementing the following long-term activities now and throughout the project lifetime:

- Continuing to strengthen land tenure and forest governance. The communities will update internal by-laws every 10 years, taking into account requirements of the project.
- Continuing to develop and implement sustainable forest and land use management plans. The communities will continue to assess and update forest management plans, based on current priorities for sustainable land use.
- Developing alternative livelihoods. The communities will continue to increase household incomes, reducing the need for income from timber extraction, through the production, processing and marketing of agricultural and other projects, such as **acai and fish**.

The benefit distribution mechanism was updated for the first verification, this still remains unchanged, highlighting that it has not yet entered the implementation for the 2018-2019 period, because as indicated, the income from the sales of the VCU's have not entered this period.

2.3 Stakeholder Engagement

2.3.1 Stakeholder Access to Project Documents (G3.1)

Since project inception, and acting as the main implementing partner, Fondo Acción has established a stakeholder engagement and project management structure that ensures the active participation of all stakeholders in the planning and execution of project activities.

An integral component of this structure has been the accessibility of all project documentation (PDDs and other documents related to REDD+ activities) to the participating communities as well as other stakeholders. Since the beginning of the REDD+ project, different dissemination strategies have been employed to promote access to all of the project documentation with the aim of facilitating the holistic socialization of, and participation in, all REDD + activities by the Community Councils. The implicit end aim of this goal is to help strengthen Council capacities in sustainable management and territorial governance.

The shared documents have been the following:

- Project design document (PDD)
- Validation report
- Written communication: REDD+ Portfolio, REDD+ project information sheets

- REDD + Activities and Social Indicators (Theory of Change Matrix)
- Standard operating procedures (SOP) for all project activities
- Benefit-sharing mechanism -BSM
- First monitoring and verification report
- Sale agreement for Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)
- Due diligence conducted for companies interested in the purchase of VCUs

Information related to the REDD+ project has been made accessible to the communities through: community assemblies, meetings and different spaces for participation such as board sessions and workshops. Different spaces for participation have served as a platform to communicate to the communities the progress of REDD+ projects according to the oral tradition that the territories manage. The local REDD+ teams, government boards and other people involved in the project have been responsible for communicating and reporting results and progress. The local REDD+ teams and government boards belonging to the REDD+ projects have the project description documents and summaries in Spanish of the verified monitoring periods, which have been shared with the communities in the community spaces mentioned above.

For the monitoring period, the REDD+ project proponent interacted almost exclusively with the entities involved in the development of the projects, such as IDB-FCS, Fondo Acción, Chemonics WWC and EP Carbon; which have the documents related to the project for its implementation.

The FCS-Sustainable Colombia Fund is “a multi-donor fund with contributions from the Governments of Norway, Sweden and Switzerland, under the administration of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), which contributes to reducing deforestation, conserving biodiversity and increasing resilience and sustainable rural development to improve the living conditions of rural communities in areas affected by violence.”

For the 2018-2019 period, the REDD+ project was a beneficiary of FSC funding under the development of the Program “Support for the Portfolio of Community REDD+ Projects of the Biogeographic Chocó”. This agreement was executed by Fondo Acción, therefore no additional adjustments were made in section 2.1.4.

Other stakeholders were not contacted directly during the monitoring period, but information dissemination mechanisms open to the public were used, as can be seen in the following web page where you can find documents related to the project, videos, summaries of the PDD in simple language, among others.: <https://portafoliorreddmascomunitario.org/>

Brief summaries of these types of events, and the dates when they were held, are as follows. Please refer to “2.2.1 CronogramalImplementacionPortafolio_Concosta_2018_2019” and “[2.3.1 Report CONCOSTA REDD+ Project.xlsx](#)” for further details and evidence regarding the following mentioned events and activities:

- REDD + Training Workshops

Workshops to socialize the objectives and scope of the verification process, elements of the program, and concepts of climate change and adaptation.

- Summarized Documents from first verification

Summary booklets of the objectives, activities and benefits of each of the community, climate and biodiversity components of the project were elaborated in culturally appropriate language for their dissemination in communities. In addition, these booklets identified the responsibilities and functions of each of the strategic partners involved in the project, along with the agreed upon route and destination of the profits obtained from the sale of carbon credits at that time. These summary booklets were distributed in the Concosta project starting in November of 2016.

Following the VCS suggestions, a summary in Spanish was developed with the results of the first verification, which was shared and socialized to the community.

- Promotion of Community Appropriation of Project Activities

Community appropriation of REDD + projects was promoted through workshops, socialization events, implementation of activities, and through the elaboration of communication products. These appropriation activities have been ongoing since the beginning of the project.

- Promotion of Community Participation Spaces

The strengthening of community participation with stakeholders was promoted throughout the reporting period via Assemblies, Government meetings, cultural events, and tours and exchanges of experiences with other REDD+ ventures.

Socialization of monitoring activities and biodiversity.

Socialization spaces to define the investments in productive activities of the FCS and páramos and bosques projects.

2.3.2 Dissemination of Summary Project Documents (G3.1)

As mentioned earlier in this section of the report, an integral part of the project's implemented engagement and management structure has been the accessibility of all project documentation (PDDs and other documents related to REDD+ activities) to the participating communities and to other stakeholders. This has also included the dissemination of project documents in summarized versions. An example of the documents disseminated to the community are the results of the first verification, shared in December 2018 (activity that is part of this monitoring period). As well as the results of the first verification, culturally appropriate documents and material will be created to socialize the results obtained from the second verification.

Using a participatory approach, the project proponents drafted a "REDD + Plan" document to serve as a condensed version of the Project Design Document, which was ultimately presented and approved by the general Assembly before the project was validated.

Activities to promote further ownership of the projects by community stakeholders started at the end of 2015, when a local REDD+ team was formed. This team was later trained on aspects relating to project management, climate change, land appropriation, and communication strategies during an induction workshop. These teams, with a constant presence in the project area, have been in charge of bringing information and raising concerns relating to the REDD + project with the local government boards. These REDD + teams also designed and produced culturally appropriate materials to disseminate information in the project areas on issues of REDD +, territorial appropriation, organizational identity and community governance through workshops. This team has been in training process to disseminate project information using new culturally appropriate materials. When reference is made to "culturally appropriate documents and material" to disseminate the results, reference is made to the way the documents are written, the information is written in a simple, concrete way, "modismos" or expressions used in informal contexts or in the day-to-day life of the communities of the collective territory. For communication with neighboring indigenous communities, the dissemination of information is done in the same way as with those of the collective territory of Concosta, through visual resources, presentations and expressions that seek to transmit a message that is not very technical and understandable for the communities in general.

These materials varied in their formats, from primers, videos, musical pieces, and even didactic

games, whose objective was to inform stakeholders as to project benefits and to reach a wider audience, this same material is kept currently in the communication processes with the community and have been complemented with new elements produced between 2018 to 2020.

The community councils of CONCOSTA, the community was informed through the presentation of the technical and financial report, an activity that takes place every year. The REDD+ Unit and the board of directors prepare the technical report on the execution of the POA for presentation to the General Assembly in the last month of the year.

In the framework of the implementation of agreements signed between Fondo Acción and the community councils of CONCOSTA, with the objective of strengthening the community management of the REDD+ project in 2018 and 2019, activities were developed to socialize the progress of the REDD+ project in the communities, in the spaces of board meetings and governance spaces.

In general assembly's spaces, the most information is disseminated, and results are shown, copies of the year-end reports are passed on to the participating leaders so that they can replicate the information in their communities. The different community participation spaces developed in the reported monitoring period correspond to internal procedures of the Community Council and are established in the internal regulations; these include board sessions, assemblies, meetings, and other spaces for participation. The spaces for socialization and dissemination of the REDD+ project with other stakeholders and neighbors who do not belong to the collective territory of Concosta and its previously exposed organizational structure, were developed under the modality of meetings, socialization spaces, and other modalities as such. as they have been reported in the different sections of the monitoring report.

In late 2016 and early 2017, culturally appropriate PDD versions were further distributed via workshops in the project areas, addressing themes such as community responsibilities, benefits, and finances. For example, discussions with the following titles were presented: "And what do we gain from this?", "Our role as a community," "Tasks of the board of directors," and "What are the profits invested in?" This type of material continues to be disseminated to communities in order to maintain clarity and project objectives in focus. No adjustments or modifications have been made to existing materials during the second monitoring period, given the fact that overarching project aims remain the same and materials have been successfully received by community groups.

Finally, in February of 2019, a pedagogic summary of the same was designed and distributed to present the results of the first monitoring, reporting and verification process to all of the project communities. Please see "Lista de Productos de Comunicaciones" for reference and documentation. Additionally, a written monitoring report summary (see "[Resumen del Reporte de Monitoreo CONCOSTA v2 Plantilla Español.docx](#)")

https://fondoaccion-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/asierra_fondoaccion_org/EV7Tv_nvH0dLgJixDK6ULp0BjD4hMVdN_SfGYpwUF-2JpA?e=0Qm1x4) was drafted in Spanish and posted for public comment on the CCB website as well as made available for community review. The previous process will be carried out in the same way with the results of the second verification process. See <https://fondoaccion.org/2020/10/16/paisajes-conectados-pacifico/>

2.3.3 Informational Meetings with Stakeholders (G3.1)

Since the beginning of the project, the stakeholder engagement and project management structure put in place has allowed for a constant stream of communication and information sharing with communities and with local stakeholders through their interactions with the project's local MRV coordinators or liaisons, who reside within the project areas. Besides this, and under the framework of a larger information communication strategy related to the Concosta REDD + project, the following activities were carried out from 2018 to 2019, which included spaces for information updates to be shared with project stakeholders and to also receive feedback.

These meetings, workshops, assemblies and other spaces have been promoted through general

announcements and telephone calls made by the governments' boards and the legal representatives of each community council, addressed to the town councils, community leaders and other interested parties. At all these events supporting materials and deliverables (billboards, brochures, booklets, videos and audios) were made with the support of the Fondo Acción home office. A complete listing of all these communications materials produced, along with their corresponding evidence, can be found in "Lista de productos de comunicaciones.xlsx"¹⁴.

Concosta Community Council is specifically made up of black or Afro-descendant communities, as established by internal regulations and Law 70 of 1993. In this sense, the consultations mentioned in number 14.5 do not apply. The people belonging to the Concosta community council (black communities) are effectively consulted and have the right to participate in the decision-making and planning of the REDD+ project and other projects and/or proposals that affect or benefit their territories, life, culture and human rights as established in the internal regulations mentioned above.

The REDD+ Concosta project only interacts with the indigenous communities that are neighbors of the territory, to disseminate information about the REDD+ project and maintain a good relationship with them, and as a strategy of the measures adopted to reduce deforestation and degradation.

Table 8 below details communications with stakeholders.

Table 8. Communications with Stakeholders

Activity	Type of Communication Utilized
Community Assemblies	Audiovisual material and informational brochures
Workshops on Territorial Appropriation	Socialization meetings and discussions on REDD +, audio visual material, billboards, documents, game kits, booklets and banners
Fondo Acción Directive Meetings Boards	Presentation (slideshow)
Cultural Encounters	Visual material, booklets and brochures

2.3.4 Community Costs, Risks, and Benefits (G3.2)

The decision-making processes within the Community Council take place in the spaces created by Law 70 of 1993 and its regulatory decree 1745 of 1995, which defines the spaces for decision making are the general assemblies, the spaces of the Board of Directors who authorize the legal representative to sign any legal document and contracts related to the internal administration of the collective territory, in this way decisions such as the signing of agreements, contracts, loans, new projects, among others; are endorsed by the assembly and the board of directors generates respective authorizations for the legal representative to proceed on behalf of the communities. In this context, potential risks in decision making are mitigated when the consultation procedures established in the internal regulations and decision making of the Governing Boards are complied with. The explanation of this type of agreement or loan and its conditions were socialized in different community participation spaces. In this context, potential risks in decision making are mitigated when the consultation procedures established in the internal regulations and decision making of the Governing Boards are complied with. The explanation of this type of agreement or loan and its conditions were

Since the project's validation, all fundamental decisions regarding REDD+ project development have been made in coordination with the Community Councils, or by smaller groups designated via the authority of the Council. Throughout this monitoring period and to support such decision-making, Fondo Acción has provided relevant technical and organizational coaching to communities,

along with detailed information about the potential costs, risks, and benefits of each option

The loan mentioned in the MR2 refers to the agreement signed between Fondo Acción and Consejo Comunitario Concosta, signed in 2018 called "*Mutuo*". This agreement was made with the purpose of financing the initial activities proposed in the project PD, due to the fact that the financing managed with other sources such as international cooperation (USAID's moors and forests program) and the Sustainable Colombia Fund had delays in its initiation. The community council, through its legal representative and after consultation, as established in its internal regulations and other internal procedures, signed this agreement that ended in the year 2020.

The explanation of this type of agreement or loan made by Fondo Acción and its conditions were socialized in different community participation spaces, through its legal representative and governing board. Information on the costs, opportunities, risks and benefits of the project has been constantly communicated to communities, using both inclusive language and appropriate pedagogical materials. This has included the investments that would be developed within the framework of the Sustainable Colombia Fund project (Proyecto FCS) that began operations in 2018. The proposed activities and investments have followed the communication and approval channel by the community.

Since the project's inception, the project developed the "basic training in REDD +" workshop where the main aspects of the REDD + project, the carbon market, certificates, buyers, payment methods, prices, social, environmental, and cultural safeguards were explained, and where potential risks were also identified. The socialization activities regarding market behavior have continued, especially when for Colombia new enabling conditions have been established for the local market, defined under Decree 926 of 2017, in which the NO taxation of carbon is allowed, through the modality purchase of verified reduced emissions for national projects. This communication process in the face of market conditions has been decisive for the sales that have been developed due to the first verification.

The communication mechanisms regarding the benefits and risks of the project have been maintained following the model described during the first verification. These have been assumed since the closure of the BioREDD (USAID) program.

In the transition to the closing of the first verification (Dec 2017) and beginning of the period of the second verification (2018-2019), the activities related to the communication of the project have been complemented, the most relevant being all the actions related to the distribution of benefits derived from the sale of carbon credits.

In early 2018, the local MRV team initiated the final collection of information for this monitoring report. The team conducted days of information gathering and impact evaluations, where they also kept community members updated on the progress of the project and its next phases. In February 2018 a meeting was held with the Legal Representatives of the REDD + Project to tell them about the progress of the project, as well as the pending activities to reach verification and the associated costs. In April 2018, a meeting was held in Bogotá with the REDD + leaders to explain the verification process, its costs, and how these will be assumed by the Projects and paid for with the sale of future Carbon certificates. Pedagogical materials were once again produced to explain the functioning of the loan mechanism. Before accepting the loan, communities held an assembly to explain this process to the community and to make the decision on this together.

¹⁴ Verificación_02_Pacific/REDD+Concosta_2018_2019/2.Annexes/3.Community Monitoring & Administration Data/Lista de productos de comunicaciones

In June 2018, USAID's Paramos y Bosques Program held two meetings, the first in Bogotá on June 1 and the second in Cali on June 21 and 22, with community leaders to inform them of their support for continuing REDD + activities, mainly those of governance and of alternative productive projects.

The meetings held in areas outside the project zone, such as Cali and Bogotá, respond to the need to find a middle meeting point (place) between the different legal representatives of the REDD+ projects, leaders delegated by the communities and the entities involved in development. and implementation of REDD+ activities in the period 2008-2019 such as USAID, the Páramos y Boques program, Wildlife Works Col, Fondo Acción and the Sustainable Colombia Fund, to carry out consultations and report on topics of interest to the communities.

The way to guarantee the participation and acceptance of the communities to the topics discussed in these spaces is through their legal representatives and delegates, and their commitment to inform, socialize and consult the communities on the topics discussed, as established. the internal regulations.

Regarding the activities of Monitoring Reporting and Verification, Paramos y Bosques informed stakeholders that they would support the costs related to the monitoring of carbon and biodiversity benefits, the drafting of the monitoring report, as well as the verification audit and the issuance of certificates, which would be covered with donation resources. It was decided that the REDD + Project would repay, with carbon credits, the costs associated with the social monitoring and portions of the carbon monitoring of the project that utilized remote sensing.

2.3.5 Information to Stakeholder on Verification Process (G3.3)

Information regarding the VCS/CCBA verification process has been shared with the local communities and other relevant stakeholders through a series of communication channels, events, and gatherings, as expressed in various sections of this monitoring report.

Specifically, the project's main implementing partner has used a series of strategies and materials explicitly tailored to engage the project's particular communities and stakeholders on these topics. A complete listing of all these communications materials produced, along with their corresponding evidence, can be found in the document "Lista de Productos de Comunicaciones"¹⁵ Many of these materials developed in the period of the programs such as Paisajes Conectados of the Fondo Acción (2015-2017) are maintained, as well as those developed in the USAID BioREDD program (2011-2014). Some new materials are included but they are directly related to the implementation of the Fondo Colombia Sostenible program, such as the launch power point of the program and the activities in the territory.

Communication materials have included:

- Audio/visual communication materials (Video)
 - "REDD+: gana el clima, ganamos todos:" A summary of the carbon certificate generation process, their markets, and their distribution. Also briefly explained in this video (from the voices of the community itself) is a) what it means to be a REDD+ Project, b) how Monitoring, Reporting and Verification works, c) the process of selling certificates, and d) the mechanism of social benefit distribution.
 - "Toma Pacifica" Documentary: A documentary series on territorial appropriation workshops and issues related to REDD+ projects.
 - "Un Cambio Hacia la Carbono-Neutralidad:" A video summarizing what happened at the "Compañías y Conservación" event. Highlights the signing of the first memorandum of understanding between Prodeco, stakeholders of the REDD+ Community Portfolio, and Fondo Acción.
 - "Resultados Paisajes Conectados Pacífico:" An institutional video to raise awareness about deforestation in Colombia. Serves as a reminder that this program works in both of the strategic areas required to mitigate deforestation: by strengthening local governance and facilitating socioeconomic alternatives to logging.

- Graphic memories (Banners)
 - Role playing games, such as “El territorio desde los sentidos” and “What is REDD+?:” These materials were targeted at community-based events and aimed to catalyze a remembrance of the fundamental rights of each as black/indigenous communities, their history, and their cultural identity. Ultimately, these games aim to engender a greater appropriation of community territories, and to raise awareness about the conservation of forests and biodiversity.
 - Pedagogical materials on project verification and carbon credit marketing: Through diagrams and drawings, these materials illustrate the process of project implementation and monitoring, verification processes, and the acquisition of carbon credits.
- Community participation and decision-making spaces:
 - Elaboration of standard operating procedures (standardizing project activities).
 - Participative development of the Benefits-Sharing Mechanism (structuring investments)
 - Monitoring and evaluation of social parameters (data collection and interpretation).
 - Monitoring of activities established in PDD (evaluating progress)

According to information provided by the community councils: The communities were informed of the verification process through the directors of the governing boards and community leaders by direct personal messages making known the dates of each of the activities that would be implemented.

In the three zones there are directors and these in turn communicate with the leaders of the community leaders through “voice to voice”.

In the communities there is no mail or forms of information that flow, but this system of passing the word is the one that works best in the communities.

The entities involved in the development of the projects involved for this verification period, maintained continuous communication, informing about the verification schedule 2 of the REDD+ projects. The spaces in which information was shared were the virtual meetings for the COVID-19 health emergency.

The verification process was informed to the communities through a pre-audit where the implementing agent with the support of the technical unit, REDD+, explained the audit process to the governing board, local councils and technical team. In this space they explained the details of the year to be audited and the standards under which we were verified, as well as some recommendations to consider when attending the auditor. Taking this into account, the governing board and technical team planned in several spaces how to attend the verification, defined the sites to be visited, the different topics to be addressed and defined those responsible for each activity to be developed during days of the audit. Likewise, the governing board proceeded to invite leaders of the territories of both community councils to participate in the verification process, thus guaranteeing all the logistical issues required for this process.

The Páramos y Bosques Programme (financed by USAID) and the communities formulated a work route to meet all the requirements of this verification phase, one of the tasks agreed upon was to prepare the stage known as preparation for verification two. Meetings were held with the leaders and the community indicating that this process would require the hiring of an audit team (AENOR) that structured two blocks of work, one in the field and the other in the office, the first to carry out all the dialogues in communities and the second to review all the office documentation.

2.3.6 Site Visit Information and Opportunities to Communicate with Auditor (G3.3)

For the second verification, the MRV liaisons, through monthly reports and annexes, compiled information related to all project implementation activities, in order to contribute to the preparation of this verification. Along with the reports and evidence, the databases of those attending different participatory community spaces, governance spaces, productive activities and capacity building

were also consolidated.

Hand in hand with the communities, under the scheme of the interethnic agenda that brings together the Pacific REDD+ project portfolio, a meeting was held on May 12 and 13, 2021, in which the initiation of actions to the second verification of all REDD+ projects. Due to the global pandemic conditions, the restriction of field visits was recommended, while the contagion alerts continue.

Paramos y Bosques, who is in charge of contracting the auditing entity, recommends selecting an entity that knows the territory and the communities, in case a remote audit is required, as recommended by VERRA in its March 2020 statement. This information was shared with the legal

representatives of the communities that are part of the REDD+ projects, which in turn make up the interethnic agenda.

With the community, a communication mechanism has been established between Fondo Acción and community representatives to define the actions related to the field visit of the auditors, in the event that these should be replaced by virtual meetings. Finally, thanks to the continuous dialogue with the community representatives, any decision related to the audit will be communicated by Fondo Acción as implementing agent and the entity selected for the audit.

For the 2018-2019 monitoring period, the communities belonging to the REDD+ project only had limited contact and coordination with other entities outside of their territory regarding project implementation, and thus dealt almost exclusively only with entities involved in the development of the projects, such as BID-FCS, Fondo Acción, Chemonics WWC and EP Carbon.

The autonomy of the communities to make their own decisions on their participation in REDD+, project operation and decisions on their relationship with others governed this decision. The project proponent informed stakeholders such as project technical staff, government boards, local representatives, community members and other entities involved in the implementation such as Chemonics, EP_Carbon, WildLifeWorks Colombia and Fondo Acción about the arrival of the auditing entity and the purpose of their visit through the different strategies mentioned above: voice to voice, assemblies, meetings and board sessions. The information provided included the explanation of the objective of the auditor's visit through the different strategies mentioned: voice to voice, assemblies, meetings, board sessions, pre-audit workshops and other governance initiatives. These communication procedures were implemented within the framework of the autonomy requested by the community and the project owner and in accordance with the provisions of their internal regulations.

In June of 2019, pedagogical material was designed to help present the results of the monitoring, reporting and verification processes to communities in a summarized fashion. This was presented at publicized community meetings, to inform stakeholders with specifics about the visit of the auditing entity, the place, date, and purpose of that visit, and of their ability to interact freely with this verifying entity during the visit. A complete listing of all communication materials produced, along with corresponding evidence, can be found in "Lista productos comunicaciones.xlsx."

¹⁵ Verificación_02_Pacific/REDD+Concosta_2018_2019/2.Annexes/3.Community Monitoring & Administration Data/Lista de productos de comunicaciones

2.3.7 Stakeholder Consultation (G3.4)

Acting as the project proponents' main implementing partner since project inception, Fondo Acción has established a stakeholder engagement and project management structure that ensures the active involvement of all stakeholders in project planning and execution. This approach respects the existing community governance structure, where Afro-Colombian communities within the project area are organized as Community Councils, constituted by a General Assembly and a Governing Board, and with an appointed Legal Representative. The Community Council acts to enforce established government laws as well as the internal laws (*derecho propio*) specific to each community. In communities such as those of this project, with significant populations distributed over very large and often isolated areas, subordinate-level community-based organizations called Minor Councils (*consejos menores*) are formed to facilitate efficient governance. For example, when General Assemblies attended by all community members are logistically impossible, they can be substituted with a General Assembly of Delegates of the Minor Councils. Governing Board members are democratically elected every three years and provide guidance for the Legal Representative, who is also democratically elected. Elections for these officials are made at the General Assembly, which continues to be the widest and most representative governing body within the project area, as every member of age has a right to be present and to vote. The General Assembly approved the initial REDD+ Plan for the project with wide-spread representation among all community members, and has continued to work and decide upon the project's activities together with Fondo Acción during this initial monitoring period.

As part of adhering to the main project proponents' normal governance structures and processes, the project's on-going engagement process has involved both formal and informal exchanges between Fondo Acción personnel and the communities. This has been facilitated by the long-term, physical presence of Fondo Acción MRV liaisons (*enlaces*) who live and work in the project areas.

These liaisons receive continual professional support from Fondo Acción's central MRV unit, which provides comprehensive technical support and oversight for the entire REDD+ project from their Bogota office. This team is also supported by a REDD+ socialization team that functions as a bridge between the communities and the central MRV unit. Social engagement activities have included workshops, work sessions, and meetings. The entire effort is overseen by program management personnel from Fondo Acción's main office in Bogota.

Implementation of all project activities has also been coordinated through the administrative support and oversight of Fondo Acción. Personnel from this primary implementing partner have been in constant contact with the governing boards of the community councils and with the MRV coordinators, who in turn have been specifically trained to execute their roles on the ground. All fundamental decisions regarding REDD+ development have been made in coordination with the governing boards of the councils or by smaller delegated groups under the authority of the council. Throughout both the current and prior monitoring periods, Fondo Acción has provided technical support and coaching to communities, hiring outside technical experts for support in specific project activities where necessary.

1. How communities have influenced project implementation:

The main structural design of the project has not been affected by stakeholder input since the original validation, however the day-to-day implementation of the main activities of the REDD+ project (Alternative livelihood activities, MRV, governance and capacities) have been adjusted and contextualized by the project teams and community government representatives to the realities of their territory. This can be seen mainly in the preparation of their annual operational plans (POAs), where technicians and the community jointly define the future implementation of project activities and priorities. Evidence of such processes can be seen in the POA approval assemblies and in the minutes of the POA preparation committees.

2. How other stakeholders have influenced project implementation:

For the 2018-2019 monitoring period, the communities belonging to the REDD+ project only had limited contact and coordination with other stakeholders outside of their territory regarding project implementation, and thus dealt almost exclusively only with entities involved in the development of the projects, such as BID-FCS, Fondo Acción, Chemonics WWC and EP Carbon.

Under this context, the projects did not receive any project design and/or implementation input from stakeholders not directly involved in project implementation or from the communities themselves. The autonomy of the communities to make their own decisions on their participation in REDD+, project operation and decisions on their relationship with others governed this circumstance and decision.

By 2018, with the start of the USAID Paramos y Bosques program, promoting the activities of the REDD+ project, additional economic resources were obtained for all REDD+ activities, which allowed financing the process of audits, training and productive alternatives, among others. These new resources have generated a positive impact on the project, when the VCU's resources have not been received by the community, because the first verification process was still open.

The alliance between the Community, the Sustainable Colombia Fund (BID) project and the USAID Paramos and Bosques program, increased the confidence of the people linked to the project, future companies interested in buying the VCUs, and environmental institutions, among others.; since the 2018-2019 period began the closing of the first verification cycle of the REDD+ initiative after more than 5 years since its formulation and implementation.

2.3.8 Continued Consultation and Adaptive Management (G3.4)

As in the project's initial monitoring period, information sharing and stakeholder consultation has been carried out constantly during this second monitoring period, in inclusive language and using appropriate materials and pedagogies to ensure community participation and understanding.

As an implementing agent of the Project and representative of the communities, Fondo Acción has demonstrated the ability to establish adequate channels and means of communication using the culturally appropriate language for the community, as evidenced by the communication materials built to publicize and present the projects and activities, that have been developed within the framework of the REDD Project. It has been key to keep the same people linked as REDD liaisons for the project, who have been trained throughout the project, to communicate everything related to the initiative to the community. These REDD links have been linked to the Project for more than 4 years and are part of the community. By belonging to the community, the dialogue and interlocution with other members of the community and their representatives has been easier and continuous. The REDD+ links accompanied the process of the first verification and will also accompany the second verification.

As part of the communication actions and taking into account the prior free and informed consent of the community, the linking of new initiatives that support and finance the Project was reported.

Among these actions are:

- Agree on the financial support mechanism proposed by the action fund, at the beginning of 2018, to give continuity to the Project and the process of the first verification.
- In June of 2018, USAID's Paramos y Bosques Program accompanied by Fondo Acción, held two meetings, the first in Bogotá on June 1 and the second in Cali on June 21 and 22, with community leaders to inform communities of their pledged support for REDD + activities, mainly in the areas of governance and productive projects. Regarding the activities of Monitoring Reporting and Verification, Paramos y Bosques informed

communities that they would support the costs associated with the monitoring of carbon and biodiversity, the drafting of the monitoring report, as well as the audit and the issuance of certificates. In the second meeting, work was carried out with the community management teams to evaluate the results of the productive activities and define a plan for the continuation of said activities.

- On August 2018, Fondo Acción announces to the communities the beginning of the implementation of Fondo Colombia Sostenible project.

Communication and consultation between the project proponent(s) and the communities has been ongoing throughout the monitoring period via numerous community participation spaces, including:

- General assemblies
- Accountability spaces (virtual and in person).
- Inter-ethnic agenda
- Webinar for decision making: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EcXVxw8bn4>

The management and implementation of the REDD+ project within the territory and the challenges to its implementation are shared during these mentioned spaces.

Understanding that adaptive management is based on a learning process that improves management results in the long term, the information obtained and the agreements reached in each participation space have served as a reference for decision making regarding changes or adjustments in the execution of activities and management in the search for financing for REDD+ activities.

For the 2018-2019 monitoring period, the communities belonging to the REDD+ project only had limited contact and coordination with other stakeholders outside of their territory regarding project implementation, and thus dealt almost exclusively only with entities involved in the development of the projects, such as BID-FCS, Fondo Acción, Chemonics WWC and EP Carbon. Under this context, the projects did not receive any concerns or comments from stakeholders not directly involved in project implementation or from the communities themselves.

2.3.9 Stakeholder Consultation Channels (G3.5)

The Concosta REDD + Project is being implemented on the communal property of an Afro-Colombian community recognized by Colombian laws and characterized by legal certainty with respect to land possession. Likewise, their leaders and legal representatives are chosen according to the laws stipulated in the Colombian constitution and must be registered in the mayor's office and interior ministry before the ethnic affairs office. These legal conditions make it easier for the implementing partner to inform and consult directly with the legitimate representatives of the communities (in particular, see Law 70 of the 1993 decree number 1745). The interactions of the project's implementing partner with the communities have not been limited to these legal representatives; meetings have also been held with local governing boards and General Assemblies, which have been convened specifically to make critical decisions. Since the project's inception, widespread dissemination of relevant information and meetings for participatory processes throughout the territory has also been prioritized.

Another tool that Afro-Colombian communities have at their disposal for facilitating independent decision-making (and that has been employed in this project) are the "autonomous spaces" which may be convened within any meeting and by any community participant to make decisions or discuss issues specifically without the presence of outsiders. Most of the project meetings have had a designated autonomous space, which was always respected by the project's main implementing partner.

For the 2018-2019 monitoring period, the communities belonging to the REDD+ project only had limited contact and coordination with other stakeholders outside of their territory regarding project

implementation, and thus dealt almost exclusively only with entities involved in the development of the projects, such as BID-FCS, Fondo Acción, Chemonics WWC and EP Carbon. Under this context, the projects did not receive any concerns or comments from stakeholders not directly involved in project implementation or from the communities themselves.

The Common Inter-ethnic Agenda on REDD + and Pacific Climate Change represents another space for the facilitation of information sharing, consultation, and decision-making. Within these spaces, it was agreed that consultations and local participatory workshops would be used to determine the development priorities of interested communities, and to jointly develop plans for specific economic alternatives. More recent convenings of the Inter-ethnic Agenda (June 2018) have focused on: 1) socializing detailed information about the project's monitoring, reporting, and verification requirements, and 2) evaluating/planning production activities for economic alternatives under implementation, as stipulated by the Paramos y Bosques program articulated with Fondo Acción

Additionally, the project has had a permanent MRV liaison that is based within the territory. This person is part of the community and was democratically elected for the position. MRV liaisons have been present during the implementation of all key activities in the areas of governance, production, conservation and monitoring, reporting, and verification, acting to adjust activities according to local needs and based on community feedback. Two primary liaison responsibilities are to keep the local government boards informed of all project-related news and to lead spaces for community training and participation, where information has been disseminated using pedagogical and culturally appropriate material.

2.3.10 Stakeholder Participation in Decision-Making and Implementation (G3.6)

As stated earlier in this section of the monitoring report, all fundamental aspects of decision making and project implementation have been conducted in coordination with the governing boards of community councils or by smaller designated groups with the authority of the council. Throughout this monitoring period, Fondo Acción and USAID Paramos y Bosques have provided technical support, hired outside technical experts for support on the implementation of specific economic alternatives and MRV, wherever necessary.

This structure of decision making has respected the existing community governance structure, where communities within the project area are organized in indigenous councils, which in turn are led by a governing board, and represented by a legal representative. The board members are democratically elected every 3-4 years, and the Board normally appoints this Legal Representative. Elections for these officials are made at the General Assembly, which continues to be the widest and most representative governing body within the project area, as every member of age has a right to be present and to vote. The General Assembly approved the initial REDD+ Plan for the project with wide-spread representation among community members, and has continued to work and decide upon the project's activities together with Fondo Acción during this second monitoring period.

Specific project components designed to allow for effective and inclusive community participation during this monitoring period have been:

- Participation of men and women in general assemblies for decision making
- Selection of the beneficiaries of productive activities by means of pre-established criteria:

According to information provided by the Community Council: for the selection of beneficiaries, the vocation of each zone was taken into account, i.e. the lower part or zone of influence of the sea has defined that its power is fishing, that is why the fishing projects were prioritized in these communities, the communities of the river part its vocation is agriculture and that is why the largest beneficiaries of agricultural projects (banana) are in these communities. It is also important to say that an equitable distribution is made according to the number of inhabitants of each of the communities, ensuring that the

activities are members of each of the 16 communities.

The participation of the communities is guaranteed with activities dedicated especially for them. See the following evidence to beneficiary selection:

- [Protocolo para seleccion de beneficiarios.xlsx](#)
- [Seleccion de beneficiarios parte 1.xlsx](#)
- [Selección de beneficiarios.txt](#)

For the 2018-2019 monitoring period the productive activities strengthened in the project were naidi and fishing, the beneficiaries that are part of these activities are the same selected in the previous monitoring period.

- Equitable participation in territorial appropriation workshops
- Workshops on gender equity and environmental conservation: leaders with increased skills, recognition of different strengths, and differentiated care of natural resources
- Participation of men, women, boys and girls in strategies aimed at territorial appropriation and cultural identity: 1 exchange of experiences for musical training; 1 record production of 4 songs (Tambores del Tolo); and trainings in management of musical projects, musical production, audiovisual realization.
- Pedagogical materials appropriate for facilitating understanding in the entire population. Culturally appropriate communication kits in clear language, that are both didactic and inclusive.
- Training in specific productive activities and financial management

The communication strategies and materials employed for each of these activities were designed using local language, with culturally appropriate examples geared toward facilitating understanding in all of the local stakeholders affected by the project. The communication materials described below were elaborated with information provided by the communities themselves via neighborhood boards, important figures, and youth and children. Each of these segments of the populace actively participated in communication strategies by contributing their own experiences, knowledge of community process/REDD + objectives, hopes, and dreams. A complete listing of all these communications materials produced, along with their corresponding evidence, can be found in "Lista productos comunicaciones.xlsx."

(The communication aids and materials built throughout the implementation of the project and during the first verification, have continued to be used for this second verification and have been complemented with new materials and are listed below (see Lista de productos de comunicaciones):

- Educational games kit, "Play it for the Pacific." Designed in workshops with children and young people from the Concosta REDD+ projects, this kit was produced for all of the region's communities. Each kit contains 6 didactic games that teach native versus non-native species, medicinal plants, and animals in danger of extinction, the emblematic characters of ancestral territories, conservation of flora and fauna and other natural resources, and territorial and cultural appropriation. Generally speaking, the games kit is intended to promote youth education within community territories and facilitate the integration of communities through games.
- Appropriation fences. Fences were installed with the aim of demarcating key sites belonging to community territories and promoting the conservation of forests and biodiversity. Each appropriation fence contains images and messages targeted at raising conservation and project awareness amongst loggers and the community in general.

- Informative videos of the REDD + project. With the aim of keeping communities and stakeholders informed regarding project progress, videos were produced for dissemination. Subject areas included: REDD+ basics, project stages, the territorial appropriation workshop, and achievements of the Connected Landscapes (Paisajes Conectados) program.
- PDD cards. The Project Design Document was summarized using a didactics card to facilitate community member understanding of the fundamentals of this REDD+ project.
- Informative brochures and leaflets. Brochures produced for the project aimed to socialize the Connected Landscapes program, as well as REDD+ projects in general and data relevant to the Concosta project.
- Puppet kits and play cards. Puppets were created to depict important characters and animals (e.g. fisherman, midwife, tatabro and bass) representative of the communities' territory, accompanied by play cards that convey relevant information and poems about them. The aim of the puppet kits is to teach children about local culture and fauna in an engaging way.
- Appropriation CDs. Musical recordings of four songs were produced to draw attention to the importance of preserving local music, the environment, forests, and Afro Colombian culture and Indigenous culture through what has historically been a key medium for community-building and communication between generations. The ultimate aim of these CD's is to strengthen project management potential and catalyze greater territorial appropriation.
- Slide presentations. Slides were used as a visual aid to disseminate basic concepts about REDD+ and climate change, as well as specific project objectives and progress made.
- Banners. Banners were used to generate a community consciousness about territorial and project appropriation; approaches employed were messages from and images of local leaders, images of key locations for securing territorial appropriation, and inspirational ideas and phrases.
- Archives with REDD + content. All audio-visual materials and project-related documents produced for the project have been shared with community stakeholders, as mentioned above.

The respective documentation related to the dissemination of information and results of the project, can be viewed at the following hyperlink: [Taller Preauditoria concosta 27 05 2022.pptx](#)

2.3.11 Anti-Discrimination Assurance (G3.7)

Fondo Acción is an Equal Opportunity Employer which aims to include community members in its work regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or other characteristics. They have provided in-depth training for their own staff as well as for local community members involved in project implementation. In addition, Fondo Acción's employees and consultants are all selected through a competitive procedure that is part of their Quality Control System (ISO 9000 – 2008), based on predefined terms of reference. Terms of reference are generally published on Fondo Acción's web page or circulated among professional networks. Short list selection processes are also common. Only in cases where there is a strong reason, does Fondo Acción hire a person without a competitive process.

A key objective of the benefit sharing plans, which have not undergone changes or modifications with respect to the documents delivered in the first verification, is that they were created from the development plans, with broad community participation following the internal rules of the Community Assemblies. Once the key activities for the benefit distribution plans are agreed upon, the next key step will be to determine who will be directly involved in its implementation.

Additional procedures that guarantee equal opportunities for community members, including

women and vulnerable and/or marginalized people, to fill all positions, including management positions, are now developed, and the protocols in the following links also describe the measures taken in order to ensure that the project proponent and all other entities involved in project design

and implementation are not involved in harassment or discrimination, including discrimination based on gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or other habits:

<https://fondoaccion.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/POLITICA-SOBRE-IGUALDAD-DE-GENERO-Aprobada-CDCAIA-Suscrita.pdf>

<https://fondoaccion.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Codigo-de-Etica-October-2021-NA.pdf>

<https://fondoaccion.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Politica-de-Ni%C3%B1ez.pdf>

<https://fondoaccion.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Politica-Anticorrupti%C2%A6n-1.pdf>

To promote inclusion and non-discrimination within the projects developed under the program, P&B follows USAID guidelines referring to gender inclusion established in the "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy 2020" which has as one of the pillars:

- "to reduce disparities between women and men in access to control over and benefits from economic, social, political, educational, and cultural resources, as well as wealth, opportunities, and services", and

- the policy guidelines "To promote the rights of indigenous peoples" also applicable to the Afro-descendant population, ensuring "to strengthen the participation of peoples as meaningful partners in development processes, safeguarding them from harm and increasing their capacities to promote their rights, to determine their own priorities and to foster their self-reliance."

Under these guidelines, P&B has a gender and vulnerable populations strategy as a key pillar for project sustainability. The goal is gender mainstreaming and overcoming disparities between women and men in decision-making and in the access, ownership and management of resources. Each grant project financed under the program must contain, from its structuring, a chapter related to the gender and social inclusion strategy, promoting the inclusion of population groups that have been historically excluded, including the rural population, indigenous communities and Afro-Colombian communities. Within these groups, gender equity is promoted by involving men and women in the training and technical assistance processes, as well as in decision-making, considering the participation of young people in the various actions proposed.

The Community Council always takes into account the participation of all the people of the territory, promoting the participation of women, young people and other population in all the spaces we apply it and we can see it in the benefits that are reflected.

The gender policy and administrative processes manual mentioned above can be found at the following links: "[USAID GenderEquality Policy MT WEB single 508.pdf](#)" and "[Procedimientos y reglamento](#)".

2.3.12 Grievances (G3.8)

The project is supported by existing and emerging institutions to mediate any conflicts arising from project-related activities. Specifically, all project-related activities fall under the jurisdiction of the Concosta REDD+Project, which has the permanent presence of a REDD+ liaison who has accompanied the project since its implementation. This liaison is in turn accompanied by a team of forest rangers or "promoters," whose role it is to fulfill a series of relevant responsibilities and duties for the project. Their responsibilities include the operation of a complaint and grievance mechanism for REDD+ project activities.

At the time of project validation, each REDD+ Implementation Unit established a Grievance and Redress Mechanism in order to receive, respond to, and resolve inquiries, complaints, and potential claims in accordance with the guidelines established for a Grievance and Redress Mechanism.

For the 2018-2019 period, the continuous processes of interaction between the governing board and the REDD liaison, in addition to the technicians hired for productive activities, have allowed maintaining transparency with the community and no complaints have been evidenced or filed, resources, claims or other types of complaints against the project, by the community or external persons.

Fondo Acción, as an implementing agent and companion of the process, internally as an organization, has processes and procedures to receive and attend to any type of complaint or claim that may arise during the execution or implementation of the projects it develops or accompanies. These internal procedures continue to be implemented not only for the Concosta REDD+ project, but also for all the projects developed by the institution.

Complaints and Grievances Procedure of its own as part of its Quality Control System (ISO 9000 – 2008). Under this procedure, the Board of Directors receives all complaints and these are registered in Board Meeting Minutes.

As of the date of preparation of this report corresponding to the second verification, both the Fondo acción and the community have not received any complaints about the project's activities.

2.3.13 Worker Training (G3.9)

Over the course of the second monitoring period, Fondo Acción has provided a number of training and capacity building activities for both people working directly under the REDD+ project as well as for any other willing and able community members. These trainings have specifically focused on the following areas of professional development (please see “MTC_IndSocialesCONCOSTA2019” for supporting evidence/documentation):

- Training in Participatory zoning for governance strengthening: Use of cartography for zoning, social and biodiversity monitoring, verification processes
- Forest patrolling and community environmental promoters (promoters that help publicize the activities and objectives of the REDD + project, and who collect community comments to prioritize social investment).
- Agriculture: pest control, sexual and asexual reproduction of crops, fertilization and crop overview

When working with community members, the community itself has selected the people participating in the proposed activities. Contents and tools for capacity building activities have all been designed to be culturally appropriate. In the case of staff turnover, training has been passed on to new workers so that local capacity is not lost. In addition, all training and capacity building activities enacted during this monitoring period have been conducted with the vision of allowing community members to one day to take over the complete management of resources and implementation of the REDD+ project. This will ensure long-term ownership and sustainability of the project long after the crediting period.

The project will also continue to support ongoing workshops and campaigns to increase awareness about the project, specifically its scope and benefits. Community input will be intentionally included in such workshops as a means of defining the project's social investments, prioritized as per greatest community needs. By increasing community leadership and social investment in the project, these activities will lead to net positive community impacts. Training in the fundamentals of business and management is paramount in encouraging women and families to fully contribute to the project, and indeed, in the holistic economic development of the region. Without the project,

there would be no resources to implement these programs. These newly-developed skills have and will continue to lead to more resilient and self-sufficient communities within the project area.

Specific training modules given to all personnel working on REDD + project activities during this monitoring period are as follows (see "Concosta_SOPs" for comprehensive list/corresponding evidence of all relevant project trainings and other capacity-building for Standard Operating Procedures):

- Local REDD + teams
- Local coordinators:
 - Formats for presentation of monthly
 - Event evaluation formats.
 - Community monitoring
- Local promoters:
 - Zonification Workshops
 - Technical staff-productive activities
 - Forest and biodiversity monitoring formats
 - Formats progress reports activities
- MRV liaisons:
 - Preparation for verification: Report sections, review, classification of documents, important elements for auditing, activities planning
 - Collection of information for the construction of the theory of change matrices: Matrices theory of change - progress report and monitoring activities.
 - Collection of information for the construction of Monitoring parameters / indicators: Community, Climate and Biodiversity
 - Information collection formats social indicators (participatory impact evaluation)
 - Induction in administrative, legal and financial issues related to legalization processes of resources and agreements.

2.3.14 Community Employment Opportunities (G3.10)

As the project's main implementing partner, Fondo Acción has been, and continues to be, an equal opportunity employer, aiming for the equitable inclusion of community members in project work regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or other characteristics. Fondo Acción has also strived to provide in-depth training for their own staff as well as for local community members involved in project implementation.

For the 2018-2019 period, Fondo Acción, within the framework of the Sustainable Colombia Fund program, has respected the internal processes of the community for linking people to project

activities. Considering these community processes for the selection of the people to be hired, the TDRs are designed for each initiative or process of linking in project activities, in this way the community is the one who provides the profiles, considering the capacities between selected men and women who can perform the required tasks. All of the above is in accordance with the gender guidelines established by Fondo Acción, for which the REDD liaisons have been trained. For this verification period, on November 20, 2019, a workshop on gender guidelines was held, which included with the participation of the project liaison.

A key component of the benefit sharing mechanism, which remains as presented in the first verification, is to ensure that benefits (including employment opportunities) reach women and the most vulnerable or marginalized members of the community. For this purpose, the benefit distribution plans for the REDD projects were built with the communities, and during the execution of the project, the observations, comments and decisions of the group of women formed within the community have been linked. It is important to highlight that the benefit distribution mechanism has remained unchanged because the resources from the sale of the VCU have not yet been received by the community and this mechanism will continue to be implemented, evaluated and modified at the time in which the resources of the sales are received.

2.3.15 Relevant Laws and Regulations Related to Worker's Rights (G3.11)

During this second monitoring period, the project has ensured compliance with all existing laws regarding workers and their rights. As the project's main implementing partner, Fondo Acción has informed all workers of their employment rights during community meetings and in other participatory spaces. Documents explaining Colombian laws regarding worker's rights and the obligations of both contracting parties have also been made available in local languages when useful.

At the time of the closure of this monitoring period (2018-2019), no laws or regulations related to labor rights that affect the implementation of the project have been included or modified, for which reason, Fondo Acción continues to operate under the umbrella employment law of 1950 titled "Codigo Sustantivo del Trabajo", beneath which all worker rights in Colombia are established. Since 1950, several by-laws have been approved to further regulate, complement, or modify the "Codigo". The following is a list of some of the laws which include provisions regarding worker's rights: Law 100 of 1993, Law 1496 of 2011, Law 962 of 2005, Law 1280 of 2009, Law 1468 of 2011, Law 789 of 2002, Law 1429 of 2010, Law 50 of 1990, National Decree 089 of 2014, National Decree 2264 of 2013, National Decree 535 of 2009, and Law 584 of 2000.

Workers are informed of their rights through contracts with Fondo Acción. Fondo Acción contracts (staff and consultants, including community members) are governed by all worker-rights-related laws. In contracts with staff there is a clause that explicitly mentions these laws and by signing the two parties acknowledge these relevant laws. In contracts with consultants, a clause lists all of Fondo Acción's obligations to the consultant, according to these same laws and regulations. All workers are allowed enough time to carefully read and comment on the content of their contracts before signing.

To ensure that the project meets or exceeds all applicable laws and/or regulations covering worker rights, the technical teams of Fondo Acción conduct a startup workshop called Preparation for Project Management (PGP for its name in Spanish) with all project implementers. During this workshop there is a session devoted to explaining the formal engagement of workers in the project. Staff and consultant contracts are reviewed and the requirements of each type of contract are presented. During regular project evaluations, Fondo Acción supervisors examine the contracting details of all people hired with project funds and may suspend further project disbursements if there is any evidence that legal worker rights are not being respected, according to the law.

In summary, the worker's rights policy of Fondo Accion, implemented as an integral part of project activities since its inception, not only ensures compliance with all existing national employment laws, but exceeds many of these national regulations.

2.3.16 Occupational Safety Assessment (G3.12)

Colombia has strong legislation regarding worker safety. Decree 1295 of 1994 establishes the general conditions regarding professional risk, and sets the basis for preventing and addressing these. This decree was modified in 2012, by Law 1562. Accordingly, all workers under contract are required to be affiliated with the General Work Risk System. The law enables companies specialized in worker risk prevention to administer training workshops at places of business. These regulations have grown strong in Colombia and help companies to pursue best practices in relation to work safety and occupational health¹⁴.

Fondo Acción has complied with all relevant Colombian law regarding worker safety, as have all occupational activities created under the project. All staff members are covered with insurance for work-related risks. There is also a risk assessment for each person based on the kind of work they are performing. According to national regulation (Resolución 2013 de 1986), all institutions that have 10 or more workers are required to set up an internal Committee for Occupational Safety (COPASO for its name in Spanish), and to produce a Risk Management Plan. Fondo Acción has both of these structures in place, and adheres to the following sequence of procedures:

- Comprehensively assess occupational situations that might arise through the implementation of the project and pose a substantial risk to worker safety.
- Describe measures needed to inform workers of occupational safety risks and to explain how to minimize such risks.
- Where worker safety cannot be guaranteed, project proponents must demonstrate how risks are being minimized using best work practices that are in line with the culture and customs of each community.
- In areas where there are security issues for field teams, Fondo Acción has developed best-practice security protocols specifically for project staff. Additionally, Fondo Acción implements a system entitled "Sistema de Gestion de la Seguridad y Salud en el Trabajo" (SGSST). Through this Occupational Health and Safety Management System, employers receive appropriate trainings and learn how to identify potential risks in the workplace:
- <https://fondoaccion.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/202105POLITICA-DE-LA-SALUD-Y-SEGURIDAD-EN-EL-TRABAJO.pdf>

The document "Safety protocol for field work activities" compiles activities/processes to be implemented by field collaborators and local work teams. This document was prepared in 2019 by Fondo Acción and shared with local REDD+ teams, with the purpose of minimizing risks in the work carried out in the field. (see "[Protocolo de seguridad para actividades de CAMPO oficial.pdf](#)")

The document includes a risk matrix where recommendations to follow according to the level of risk, protocols for travel in the field, protocol in case of boarding or illegal detention and other safety recommendations are identified. Ongoing communication between employees, contractors, and project governance boards allows us to know what is happening in the territory and when it is safe or unsafe to carry out activities in the field. Information is handled discreetly and verbally.

The project proponent has identified potential risks in the execution of the activities of the people hired for the different tasks for which they were hired; the risks are especially related to the activities carried out in the field and the measures taken to reduce them.

See [Matriz de riesgos labores Poyecto REDD+ CONCOSTA MP2.xlsx](#)

2.4 Management Capacity

2.4.1 Required Technical Skills (G4.2)

The coalition of organizations involved in this project has a large amount of experience in international forest carbon projects and other development projects, both in Colombia and elsewhere. Each organization contributes different areas of expertise to the initiative, working collaboratively as an integrated team to ensure that the project is implemented using best practices, and monitored using rigorous and accurate measures.

2.4.1.1 Management an implementation

Fondo Acción, or The Fund for Environmental Action and Children, is a private, non-profit entity of the Special Tax Regime, subject to rules set forth in the Civil Code and other pertinent provisions. This fund was created in 2000 under the framework of a bilateral agreement between the governments of Colombia and the United States of America. Its stated missionary objective is to promote activities aimed at preserving, protecting, or managing natural and biological resources in a sustainable and ecologically-viable manner, and to promote the survival and development of children via a sustainable development approach.

Fondo Acción supports the design and implementation of participatory, innovative and high-value solutions, aimed at changing behavior in our society and producing positive and lasting results in the following thematic areas: sustainable rural development, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and biodiversity, ecosystem services, adaptation, mitigation and finance of climate change, green growth, and the protection and development of children through sustainable development. Additionally, it stimulates the circulation of knowledge through its Knowledge Management and Advocacy Program in Public Policy and strengthens the professional capacities of community leaders and high-performance teams through the HARMOS Program (executive coaching for local leaders and high-performance teams) and the outline of accompaniment to trainers.

To date, Fondo Acción manages a system of multiple accounts constituted with financial resources that have been contributed by its clients and donors. Its USD \$ 49 million asset portfolio provides long-term financial sustainability to the organization, as well as to a set of strategic programs. Dividends from the portfolio cover the fund's basic operation costs (including a set staff of 22 people), as well as some recurring costs. The fund's main offices in Bogota are also a Colombian heritage asset.

The technical and operational structure of Fondo Acción has developed during its 18 years of program activities, allowing it to cultivate and offer different options to clients for the execution of programs and products in mission areas. These activities are intended to achieve basic social transformation and support the effective use of public policy. In recognition of its solidity, transparency, and technical and administrative capacity, Fondo Acción was accredited as Colombia's Green Climate Fund implementing agency in October of 2018. The Green Climate Fund is the United Nations' main financial tool for activities under the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

When necessary, Fondo Acción may act as a decisive governing body or a specific supervisory committee for a program, the details of which are chosen in a manner agreed upon in each respective agreement or contract. Each of these tailored arrangements is bound within the framework of the agreements or contracts signed for the administration of third-party funds. Management of individual accounts may be different and independent of that stipulated for the Americas Initiative Account, and shall be carried out according to the terms and conditions agreed upon in each corresponding agreement or contract.

The business model of Fondo Acción is structured around three modalities for executing the resources managed in the multi-account system: (i) traditional modality, (ii) operator modality, and (iii) direct execution modality. In each of these options, execution is performed in accordance with the certified processes and procedures of the Quality Management System, the Internal Control System, and the Environmental and Social Management Framework, but tailored to the particular conditions and requirements to each donor. Fondo Acción makes available to this call the three modalities of execution described below, in the case of being chosen as executing entity of resources. However, these will be specified at the time when the resources of the VCU's were reduced, since for the period 2018-2019 the process of the first verification was underway.

In the traditional modality, Fondo Acción exercises technical and fiduciary tasks (as a second-tier entity). The technical component includes the competitive selection of projects that are executed in the field by grassroots organizations and NGOs, and the realization of subgrants, in accordance with the conditions agreed upon with donors. The follow-up to the execution of the subgrants is done by Fondo Acción in the field, with a team composed of technical, administrative, financial, and legal personnel, so that the donor is guaranteed compliance with the quality of the products and agreed objectives, as well as the development of capacities with beneficiary entities (sub-beneficiaries). This structure also guarantees quality in financial administration and facilitates timely reports to clients about execution. In this modality, Fondo Acción has worked with more than 900 organizations in Colombia, in different geographies of the country.

In the direct execution modality, Fondo Acción designs innovative and high-impact intervention modes for complex social realities, based on its learning in the previous modalities, and executes projects in the field with its own capacity. For this operation, the Fund maintains two principles: (i) the design of the interventions with the direct and active participation of the people who inhabit the intervention areas and (ii) the execution of tasks supported by the base organizations in each region. Although this modality does not correspond to what is required in the tender, the work carried out by land-use planning models, incentives to rural producers, forest conservation schemes and sustainable production systems is relevant.

Fondo Acción also currently manages sinking accounts and endowments created with funds contributed by the US Government (debt-for-nature swaps under the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative and the Tropical Forest Conservation Act), The Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, Conservation International, The Global Environment Facility, the Forest Carbon Partnership Fund, The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, and the private sector.

In addition to this, The Forest Carbon Capacity Building Program was designed and developed by Fondo Acción and several international and local partners. The majority of Colombia's remaining tropical forests are under some form of communal ownership, such as the reserves of Indigenous communities and Afro-Colombian territory lands. The program was therefore originally conceived for Indigenous and afro-descendent community leaders tied to communities from the Amazon region and the Chocó Biogeographic Region. Due to growing demand, it was adapted to include participants from regional and local public environmental authorities and professionals interested in climate change, ecosystem services, and payment for environmental services (PES) or REDD/REDD+. Grassroot organizations participate in a three-step program: 1) the first level introduces basic technical, legal and policy contents; 2) the second level supports internships and exchanges between organizations; and 3) the third level develops a practical exercise geared at strengthening stakeholder understanding of PES/REDD+ projects. For both local authorities and regional professionals, a technical training on climate change, PES and REDD/REDD+ was designed and developed.

Fondo Acción was also selected by ARD to systematize and communicate the community forest management model implemented by four local grassroots organizations in the Chocó Biogeographic region of Colombia. This model laid the groundwork for the development of REDD+ projects nationally.

Fondo Acción has also implemented a capacity-building program for the community-based organization COCOMASUR of Acandí, Chocó. COCOMASUR, a local Afro-Colombian organization, owns and manages the Chocó-Darién Conservation Corridor Project, the first VCS-validated REDD+ project to take place in a communal territory in Colombia. In collaboration with

COCOMASUR and Anthroctect, Fondo Acción designed and implemented a financial mechanism to facilitate funds administration in said project.

Fondo Acción has also successfully managed a grant from the Forest Carbon Partnership Fund (FCPF) for the formulation of the first phase of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) for Colombia. In order to become eligible for this task, Fondo Acción was carefully screened by the World Bank and the FCPF administrator. The World Bank and the Colombian Ministry of the Environment have ratified Fondo Acción as manager of the second phase of the R-PP (\$3.4 million), which is scheduled to start by mid-2014.

The Fund is an active stakeholder of the REDD+ National Roundtable, a forum created by NGOs for the purpose of carrying out joint actions and stimulating policy dialogue around REDD+ with national public authorities. The Forest Carbon Capacity Building Program is an example of an initiative implemented under the REDD+ Roundtable framework.

The Fondo Acción team already has proven capacity as an implementation partner in another gold-certified CCBA- and VCS-registered Colombian project in Colombia. This project was in a similar setting both geographically and culturally, that of the Chocó Biogeographical Region with Afro-Colombian territorial community-owned lands. In this parallel scenario, Fondo Acción has been leading community engagement, coaching, and socialization processes. With their level of financial and administrative capacity, Fondo Acción offers the required institutional and human resources to administer a financial mechanism for the Concosta REDD+ Project. Of particular relevance are its strengths in community engagement, the strengthening of governance, and institutional development, both in terms of its qualified staff and ISO-certified procedures and protocols.

Finally, in the month of October 2018, comprehensive biodiversity efforts have been established. Taking advantage of the activities of the carbon plots, through the P&B Program, two professionals from WWC, experts in monitoring, trained the CONCOSTA community members in Biodiversity Protocols and Censuses. In total, 8 Biodiversity “Monitors” were trained in biodiversity guidelines, transects, opportunistic records and fauna recognition. Based on this training, two monitoring transects were installed: Transect in Carrizal and Guapagra. See CONCOSTA Monitoring Report. These efforts were supported by the extensive Biodiversity Monitoring experience of Wildlife Works Carbon, a conservation company that is part of the coalition of organizations supporting CONCOSTA, and which has developed a Biodiversity Plan and Protocols for the REDD+ Project since late from the 2000s on REDD+ Projects such as Kasigau in Kenya and Mai Ndombe in Congo through its Kenya-based Biodiversity and Society Division.

As follow details and supporting documentation of the skills in biodiversity and monitoring brought forward through capacity building and learning by doing actions in the field during the period of the Monitoring Report. As indicated before, taking advantage of the carbon plot activities, thru the P&B Program, during the reporting period CONCOSTA community members were trained on Biodiversity Protocols and Censuses. In total, 8 Biodiversity “Monitors” were trained in biodiversity guidelines, transects, opportunistic records and fauna recognition to maintain key technical skills. Based on this training, two monitoring transects were installed: Transect in Carrizal and Guapagra. The documentation related with such efforts is compiled in the attached files

[CENSO FAUNA CONCOSTA.xlsx](#)

[CENSO FAUNA PDF.pdf](#)

[OBSERVACIONES CONCOSTA PDF.pdf](#)

As registered in the documentation, the biodiversity assessment and monitoring skills instructed by WWC on behalf of P&B, were planned and undertaken during the second semester of 2018.

2.4.1.2 Climate Monitoring and Emission Quantification

Key technical skills were provided by EP Carbon with regards to the monitoring and quantification of project GHG emissions reductions. EP Carbon LLC is a forestry-based company that works with project developers, forest owners and verification bodies to build successful carbon offset projects. EP Carbon possesses expertise in the technical aspects of project design, planning and development including biometrics, accounting methodologies and remote sensing. EP Carbon has extensive experience developing projects for validation and verification under multiple carbon standards, including both VCS and CCB. During this monitoring period, EP Carbon has provided technical input with remote sensing, land use change analysis and project documentation as well as guidance support through verification. This included the development of an inventory protocol and the necessary training of local people to carry out this inventory in collaboration with Wildlife Works Carbon. This contributed, alongside the LiDAR analysis, to updating carbon stocks for degraded areas. The involvement of these specialized partners ensures that the carbon quantification was completed using the most up-to-date data approaches and measurement techniques.

The implementation partners involved in this initiative are well-qualified within their respective fields and capable of fulfilling the technical requirements needed to complete project implementation and monitoring. This has allowed for successful project implementation to date, fulfilling all VCS and CCB rules and requirements.

2.4.2 Management Team Experience (G4.2)

Fondo Acción's track record in the fields of climate change adaptation and mitigation began in 2010 when Columbia University's Center for Environment, Economy, and Society (CEES) (NY, USA) and Fondo Acción led an initiative to design an international standard for REDD projects in the Amazon region.

This work was carried out with the participation of four other Environmental Funds in the region (Funbio from Brazil, FAN from Ecuador, PROFONANPE from Peru and PUMA Environmental Fund from Bolivia), the entities with which the Amazon Forest Carbon Partnership was later established. Implemented from 2010 through 2012, this project both strengthened and prepared Fondo Acción with the technical, administrative, and legal skillset that ultimately led to the creation of the Climate Change specialization within the organization.

In the last four years, Fondo Acción has consolidated its work on climate change into three levels of intervention: capacity building, trusteeship and public policies. Evidence of an institutional track record in these areas is presented below:

Capacity building of community based organizations and other climate change actors, PES, REDD+, leadership and performance.

Capacity building Program in community based organizations

- a. **Community forestry and REDD.** In 2011, the MIDAS/ARD Program of USAID selected Fondo Acción to design and implement a project oriented to the Capacity Building in Community Forestry, Climate Change and REDD, in the Colombian Pacific region.
- b. **BioREDD+ Portfolio.** In 2014, Fondo Acción was selected by Chemonics/BioREDD+ to work with 20 communities that participate in the preparation of a portfolio of REDD+ Projects in the Pacific region. USAID cooperation resources are funding the designing process of the eight projects of BioREDD+ Portfolio. Through a Memorandum of Understanding signed by USAID, BioREDD+ and Fondo Acción, Fondo Acción has been in charge of receiving and administrating this portfolio from the first semester of 2015. Fondo Acción has signed memoranda of understanding with potential investors of international private funds interested in the portfolio.
- c. **HARMOS Program.** In 2013, Fondo Acción started the HARMOS Program, which aims at

capacitating leaders and high performance teams in community based organizations. HARMOS is based on high level coaching and the strengthening of practices prioritized by the communities themselves. In 2013, the team of the Community Council of Black Communities from the Tolo River and the South Coastal Area (Cocomasur) (REDD+ Chocó-Darién Conservation Corridor Project) participated actively in HARMOS. The Program is being developed with the communities that are currently finishing the design of the BioREDD+ Portfolio.

- d. **Chocó-Darién Conservation Corridor.** Fondo Acción is a key ally in the first and one-off community REDD+ project that has been validated and verified by VCS and CCB. The REDD+ Chocó-Darién was designed and is being executed by Cocomasur and the firm Anthroct. Fondo Acción has played the role of trustee of the project resources, coming from third party grants and from forest carbon certificates. As part of the trusteeship, Fondo Acción has built administrative and accounting capacities in Cocomasur.

Support to the design of public policy

1. **REDD Readiness Preparation R-PP– Phase 1.** In 2010, Fondo Acción was selected by the National Planning Department (DNP for its name in Spanish), the Agency for Social Action and International Cooperation of the Presidency of the Republic (Acción Social) and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS for its name in Spanish), to administrate a grant for the formulation of the Readiness Preparation Proposal for the REDD+ National Strategy of Colombia. Fondo Acción performed an efficient role as trustee of this grant from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). The World Bank acts as trustee.
2. **REDD Readiness Preparation R-PP – Phase 2.** In 2014, DNP, Presidential Agency for International Cooperation (APC) and MADS confirmed Fondo Acción as the selected entity to be the trustee of the second phase of R-PP, with an additional contribution of US\$3.6 million from FCPF.

The objective of this project is to develop a participatory and inclusive process with stakeholders for the preparation of the national REDD+ strategy in Colombia. The project will implement activities for the strengthening of the institutional capacities of the MADS, consultation and participation of stakeholders, design and implementation of the communications strategy, design of a mechanism for addressing and resolving complaints, environmental and social strategic evaluation, and formulation of a framework for environmental and social management to implement the REDD+ mechanism.

3. **UN-REDD Program.** In 2013, Fondo Acción was selected to perform technical support to the Environmental Ministry (MADS) in order to finish the R-PP document, under the modality of targeted support, by conducting a process of consultation and participation at national level. The results of this process were key to assign US \$ 4 million to the government of Colombia in the form of a national program. In 2014, Fondo Acción was selected by the UNDP in Colombia to implement activities of the component “consultation and participation” of the REDD national program, which will be implemented between the end of 2015 and 2016.
4. **Green Climate Fund Readiness Plan.** In September 2014, Fondo Acción was selected by DNP and UNDP Colombia to execute the readiness resources associated to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), coming from the German Government. The project aims to support the Colombian government in preparing the country for the access and management of climate funding, especially resources from the Green Climate Fund.

Fondo Acción will be responsible for activities to strengthen national capacities to access and manage climate funding. In particular, Fondo Acción supports the country's Financial Management Committee of SISCLIMA (an inter-institutional coordination and public-private dialogue on finance and climate change) to increase its effectiveness through a strategy of positioning, consolidation and knowledge management. Additionally, Fondo Acción seeks to build capacity in the central and regional governments for budgetary and

fiscal management related to climate change.

5. **Climate Finance 2015, Art and climate change.** Fondo Acción supported planning, implementation and evaluation of the event *Climate Finance 2015*, which is an annual event organized by the Committee on Financial Management SISCLIMA to share the results achieved by the country and to identify the main challenges to be addressed.

In this event in 2015, held as an innovative element to generate a transformational change in citizens towards climate change, Fondo Acción, in partnership with the French Development Agency (AFD Colombia), developed two cultural elements to bring climate change closer to citizens. The first was a contest, in which three ideas were rewarded to raise awareness about the challenges and opportunities of climate change. The second was the performance "Recreating Vivaldi, because your change sounds", performed by the Symphony Orchestra of Bogota, combining performing and visual arts in the form of chamber orchestra to represent climate change from the perspective of art, with the 4 Seasons by Antonio Vivaldi.

6. **AFD Program – Climate Change.** In 2015, Fondo Acción and the French Development Agency (AFD Colombia) signed a cooperation agreement to carry out activities aimed at the integration of strategies for climate change adaptation in strategic sectoral territorial development projects for Colombia, as well as strengthening national capacity to achieve sustainable funding for climate change.
7. **Technical advice to the MADS for the REDD+ readiness from the NGO and Environmental Funds table.** Fondo Acción is part of the REDD+ table, where it performs technical contributions related to normative processes, safeguards, consultation and participation.
8. **Connecting Landscapes Program.** In two distinct geographies, this program seeks to address challenges associated with the agents and drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, through the strengthening of local governance arrangements, promotion of sustainable livelihoods, and the creation of enabling conditions for payment schemes based on results
9. Within the framework of the implementation of the Sustainable Colombia Fund project during 2018 to 2019, Fondo Acción has developed investments in REDD+ Concosta project, activities. Specifically in the components of: 1. Governance activities 2. Alternative productive activities 3. MRV and 4. Administration and management of the project. These actions are aligned with the Colombian policies and regulations derived from the peace agreements and the post-conflict, which seek transformations in rural development and democratic spaces aimed at seeking the construction of a stable and lasting peace
10. In 2018, Fondo Acción, with the technical and legal team, developed contributions for the structuring of resolution 1447 related to the national registry of greenhouse gas emission reductions RENARE.

Fondo Acción has constituted an MRV unit for this REDD + project that has been operating since 2016. It is made up of foresters, professionals in remote sensing, and experts in the formulation, validation and verification of CDM, VCS and CCB projects in the AFOLU sector.

2.4.3 Project Management Partnerships/Team Development (G4.2)

Since the validation of the projects and with the completion of the BioREDD program (year 2014-2015) funded by USAID, Fondo Acción assumed all functions to implement the REDD + activities for the project. In the period between 2015 and 2018, activities were developed with funds from the Pacifico Connected Landscapes Program, USAID (<http://fondoaccion.org/proyecto/paisajes-connectados-pacifico/>), which included strengthening governance, promoting alternative productive activities, training and education.

Continuing with the Connected Landscapes program and with international cooperation resources destined to support the activities derived from the peace process in Colombia, the implementation of the project Sustainable Colombia Fund Technical cooperation agreement No. ATN / CM-17084-CO, whose objective is to continue supporting REDD + activities in the portfolio of community projects in the Pacific corridor. These projects are implemented and supported by Fondo Acción

By 2018, and as a response to the continued implementation and development of the project, the work has once again been strengthened by the implementation of a new USAID program, this time entitled, Paramos y Bosques, which has designated resources to provide continuity to the implementation of the REDD+ activities and to achieve their verification. This program is now executed by Chemonics International, with partners Wildlife Works and EP Carbon, both entities with extensive experience in the formulation and verification of REDD + projects at the international level.

With the linkage of these new actors, and with Fondo Acción still acting as the main implementing partner of the REDD + project, a new cooperation agreement with Chemonics International was signed at their Colombia Branch in August of 2018, with the firm objective of joining forces to jointly carry out the activities required for the successful the implementation and verification of project. In this manner, the new consortium of cooperating entities is now strengthened more than ever in the technical, social and financing spheres needed for the implementation, monitoring and verification of the REDD + project.

In addition to this new alliance, Fondo Acción also has a mechanism in place for hiring and linking suitable personnel to carry out other tasks within the framework of the REDD + project. This mechanism, when implemented as a policy of the entity, remains in force and is transmitted to each of the projects that it accompanies and develops as a framework for quality management.

Likewise, SOPs have been created to develop the internal calls for personnel that will work in the communities and within the framework of REDD projects and that have knowledge in the project proposals.

Regarding the accompaniment to improve the monitoring, reporting and verification processes, two specific consultancies have been developed with professionals with extensive experience in AFOLU projects under international standards such as CDM, VCS and CCB (contracts and products can be made available upon request from Fondo Acción).

2.4.4 Financial Health of Implementing Organization(s) (G4.3)

As the main implementing partner of the project, Fondo Acción's original Investment Plan for 2017-2020 contemplated the implementation of \$14.6 million in projects and \$1.9 million in operation (all funding sources), for a total budget of \$16.5 million (annual average \$4.1 million). Because of successful fundraising during 2017 and 2018, the budget has increased by \$15.8 million to \$32.4 million (annual average \$8.1 million).

Fondo Acción has extensive experience managing successful programs in environmental governance and private sector work. The main examples include: (1) a partnership with Corporación PBA to promote technological development and transfer for clean production in smallholder agriculture; (2) the EcoGourmet program, jointly implemented with Conservation International, artisanal fisheries and restaurants, to stimulate sustainable fisheries and responsible consumption; and (3) a USAID-funded project to strengthen clean production in value chains in the Pacific coast (agricultural products, fisheries, ecotourism and forest carbon), involving 19 Afro Colombian and ethnic community organizations and private sector agents. Please refer to "Financial Health and Administration" for supporting and further information regarding the financial health and administrative capacities of the project's main implanting partner.

2.4.5 Avoidance of Corruption and Other Unethical Behavior (G4.3)

As the project's main implementing partner, Fondo Acción has a very clear-cut process, protocol, and policy to ensure that any entity involved with the project is not involved in or complicit in any form of corruption such as bribery, embezzlement, fraud, favoritism, cronyism, nepotism, extortion, and collusion:

The specifics of this policy can be found here:

<https://fondoaccion.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Politica-Anticorrupci%C2%A6n-1.pdf>

These policies provide guidelines for the proper management of resources, generate organizational strengthening and transparency and control in the execution of projects. The construction of the manuals and procedures of the organizations is carried out with the support of the P&B Program's socio-business team, seeking to articulate them to the USAID and Chemonics management principles and adjusted to the dynamics of each organization.

Additionally, it is worth mentioning that the organizations have their own internal regulations or life plans, which provide for various mechanisms for control and accountability before the Assembly or governing or supervisory body of each organization.

The entities related to the implementation of REDD+ projects correspond mainly to USAID, which finances the resources and through its guidelines, regulations and principles determines the codes of ethics and conduct for the management of projects and resources, which flow and are applied to project implementers and beneficiaries. Chemonics / P&B Program, in its capacity as project implementer, additionally has its own policies, which involve the ethical standards defined by USAID and has an Office of Ethical Conduct that allows stakeholders and beneficiaries to denounce and process any event against the established principles. Additionally, under the framework contract between USAID and Chemonics International, the company implementing the Paramos y Bosques Project, and in the clauses of each donation agreement, anti-corruption policies are included (see list below).

On the other hand, REDD+ projects, beneficiaries of the Program, to whom the regulations of the other actors flow and apply; with the acceptance of the donation agreement, its "Mandatory Standard Provisions" and the signature of the "certifications and assertions" (see list and link below), commit themselves not to promote or participate in anti-corruption practices such as embezzlement, fraud, favoritism, cronyism, nepotism, extortion and collusion, according to the provisions and to denounce them.

As additional actions and with the purpose of guaranteeing good practices, P&B foresees the obligation on the part of the executing organizations to constitute operational and oversight committees for the implementation of the projects. The operating committee is an instance of monitoring and control that guarantees the technical and financial transparency of the project and has the participation of P&B and the oversight committee is an instance that promotes social control from within the organizations and is constituted by representatives of the beneficiaries of the project elected by the community. In addition, the program trains organizations, legal representatives, boards of directors and project teams on procedures, regulations and requirements for the administrative and financial management of resources, and provides information on standards of conduct and complaint procedures. To date, P&B has not been notified and has not been required to take any action regarding cases of corruption.

According to information provided by the community councils: At present, no person from the Community Council is in any legal process of investigation and to make the selection processes we have been governed by the SOPs that were approved by the Council assembly, also internally the communities play an important role in this process of selection of people who are linked to the activities (see "[Procedimientos y reglamento](#)").

At present we do not have an anti-corruption policy as such, we only rely on being able to apply the agreements of the regalement's interns.

2.4.6 Commercially Sensitive Information (Rules 3.5.13 – 3.5.14)

All documentation related to the financial health of the implementing organizations and the projects is considered commercially sensitive information. These documents have been provided to auditors in a separate confidential annex. There is no commercially sensitive information related to the monitoring of GHG emissions and removals.

Additionally, all the information on the financial statements of Fondo Acción, as it is a mixed public/private entity, is available to the public on its website: <https://fondoaccion.org/estados-financieros/>

2.5 Legal Status and Property Rights

2.5.1 Recognition of Property Rights (G5.1)

During this monitoring period the project proponents have made sure that the project has continued to comply with all applicable laws, statutes, property rights and other regulatory frameworks. The main project proponents, the communities themselves, are still the legal owners of the land and forests in the project areas. Through the laws and policies detailed in Section 3.1 of the PDD, specifically the Colombian Constitution and several additional pieces of legislation—including Law 70 of 1993 (Consejos Comunitarios)—these lands still belong to the communities and cannot, be sold, transferred, or have liens set upon them. The community lands continue to be autonomous, and continue to have their own governance structure. Specific titling is still formalized through resolution bills issued by INCODER, the national agency in charge of land title issuance in Colombia; and the REDD+ territories are still governed by Community Councils.

ILO Convention 169, article 15 still provides a legal safeguard for the communities on their right to use, manage, and conserve the natural resources present in their territories. The government has recognized that the last right to use or not use the forests in the REDD+ territories belong to the communities. Therefore, it is still commonly understood that all carbon rights derived from the use or non-use of the natural resources pertain to the holders of the rights of use of the natural resources. Nonetheless, the Government is developing a new decree to clarify the carbon rights, tenure, and accounting, which is expected in the months to come. Since the project inception, the project proponents have patrolled and protected their boundaries in order to protect their Right of Use from outsiders and these conditions and practices have not changed since validation.

2.5.2 Free, Prior and Informed Consent (G5.2)

The main project proponents continue to be the project area communities themselves, who have been granted property rights on their lands by means of INCORA resolutions, and that plan to remain in their territory. Forced resettlement was never a component of the project design nor would it be acceptable under Colombian Law. None of the project activities carried out by the project have required any relocation, voluntary or involuntary.

Consultations and agreements that relate to encroachment on private property, community property or government property, free, prior and informed consent of those whose property rights will be or are affected by the project and consultations on restitution or adequate compensation to parties whose lands have been or will be affected by the project; were provided at the validation stage, as mentioned in the validation document named PROJ_DESC_1400_10APR2015, in section 3.1; where it emphasizes " The project proponents commit to comply with all laws, statutes, property rights and other regulatory frameworks. The extensive stakeholder consultation process will ensure compliance."

For the 2018-2019 verification period the project proponents did not evidence changes in the conditions of the territory related to property rights since the time of validation; for such reason no new consultations are presented.

The entire project is framed by the territories granted by INCORA (Instituto Colombiano de la Reforma Agraria, actual INCODER) for the ethnic communities, which means that there has been no encroachment and no territories other than those of the communities themselves have been affected.

Articles 63 and 330 of the Political Constitution of Colombia and Article 6 of Law 70 of 1993 (Community Councils) recognize "the right of **the black communities** as a whole to own and occupy their ancestral lands" and to direct the use of the land. Specifically, the communal lands of ethnic groups are "inalienable, imprescriptible and unseizable". INCORA's resolutions establish the following for each of the Community Councils:

- RESOLUTION 01123 16/05/2001 whereby the vacant lands collectively occupied by the Black Community, organized in the Community Council of the Coast, CONCOSTA, located in the jurisdiction of the municipalities of Bajo Baudó and Litoral del San Juan, department of Chocó, are adjudicated as lands of the Black Communities.

Through a broad socialization process, the communities themselves agreed to receive support to develop their own REDD+ projects; and signed Hojas de Ruta documents, which stated the will of the communities to advance in the preparation of REDD+ projects have remained, and are still, valid, thus, showing that the communities are freely pursuing the los program que han apoyado los procesos de la actividad REDD validada, para este period de monitoreo, programa Paramos y Bosques y Programa Fondo Colombia Sostenible, opportunities at their own will.

Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) criteria has been met precisely through the free and unfettered participation of the communities in the all the REDD+ activities carried out to date, which, as has been shown in the preceding stakeholder engagement section of this report, and which has followed a thorough process of internal consultation and community approval, reflecting the communities own institutional governance structure and by-laws.

The people to the Concosta community council, are effectively consulted and have the right to participate in the decision-making and planning of the REDD+ project and other projects and/or proposals that affect or benefit their territories, life, culture and human rights as established in the internal regulations mentioned above.

The REDD+ Concosta project interacts with the indigenous communities that are neighbors of the territory, to disseminate information about the REDD+ project and maintain a good relationship with them. The spaces for socialization and dissemination of the REDD+ project with other stakeholders and neighboring communities that do not belong to the collective territory of Concosta, were developed under the modality of meetings, socialization spaces, and other modalities such as voice to voice and territorial governance tours.

The project worked on ways to mitigate negative offsite actions through engagement with neighboring communities, socializing the goals of their REDD project, or, or seeking to avoid potential land disputes. Progress achieved during the monitoring period is as follows:

- Dialogue with indigenous neighbors -- This was held in Pizarro, Bajo Baudo on 2/20/2020, with the participation of directors and leaders of Concosta, and the representatives of the indigenous associations of AISBA and ASAIBA.
- Dialogue on Governance – Discussion space to define boundaries with the indigenous community of Puerto Gálvez. This was held in Guineal on 9/16/2019, where the Concosta REDD+ team and indigenous authorities participated.
- Dialogues with the neighboring indigenous communities of (Puerto Mango and Bajo Grande): it was agreed to form a commission with the participation of the Belén de Docampado and Puerto Mango communities and with the mediation of the REDD+ unit to study border cases and conduct governance tours with the REDD+ CONCOSTA unit and members of the Bajo

Grande indigenous reservation to verify timber extraction in the Valeriana Creek border zone.

The community, fully aware of the processes and dynamics of the carbon market, has granted the Acción Fund the power to negotiate on its behalf in an articulated manner and under the supervision of the communities (under conditions of exclusivity and confidentiality), as well as the sale of emission reductions generated by the project (See representation agreement letters)

2.5.3 Property Right Protection (G5.3)

The main project proponents continue to be the communities themselves, who have been granted property rights on their lands by means of INCORA resolutions, and that plan to remain in their territory in perpetuity. Forced resettlement was never a component of the project design nor would it be acceptable under Colombian Law. None of the project activities carried out by the project have required any relocation, voluntary or involuntary; nor have any rights holders been forced to relocate activities important to their culture and livelihood. These conditions have not changed since the project's validation

2.5.4 Identification of Illegal Activity (G5.4)

Within the collective territory in the 2018-2019 period, due to the implementation of the project, the most predominant illegal activity is associated with the illegal extraction of wood for consumption and commercialization in the local and regional market, this activity has been significantly reduced, especially for the internal work with the people of the community who depended economically on the illegal extraction of wood and today have been linked to the alternative productive activities and to the groups that protect the territory and the forests, within the framework of the REDD+ project.

The investments to achieve the objectives of the project for the period 2018-2019, come from international cooperation, such as Sustainable Colombia Fund (Fondo Colombia Sostenible17), this program is financed by the international community to support the execution of projects and implementation of programs that allow to consolidate peace. in Colombia with environmental sustainability within the framework of the peace agreement, and the Paramos y Bosques18 program of USAID, which supports the Colombian government in the gradual implementation of policies and objectives related to the post-conflict. The cooperating entities carry out due diligence evaluation procedures, prior to the execution of the investments, in order to guarantee that people or communities related to illegal activities are not linked.

All project advances have been undertaken in accordance with the Colombian Interior Ministry regulations pertaining to projects that involve communities of Afro-Colombian descent. As a result, none of the project benefits have or will be derived from illegal activities.

2.5.5 Ongoing Disputes (G5.5)

Through various socialization seminars and participatory workshops, all community members and other stakeholders have received all of the relevant information regarding the REDD+ project and have been given a space where disputes and differences of opinion have been aired out with regards to the development and implementation of the project. At present, no disputes have been identified between the communities or with any other relevant stakeholders as they pertain to the REDD+ project. As reinforcement to this process, the project proponents make sure that all other types of complaints that can be reported through the complaints and claims mechanism are dealt with in an efficient, fair, and transparent manner.

The REDD+ Concosta project interacts with the indigenous communities that are neighbors of the territory, to disseminate information about the REDD+ project and maintain a good relationship with them. The spaces for socialization and dissemination of the REDD+ project with other stakeholders and neighboring communities that do not belong to the collective territory of Concosta, were developed under the modality of meetings, socialization spaces, and other modalities such as voice to voice and territorial governance tours.

The project worked on ways to mitigate negative offsite actions through engagement with neighboring communities, socializing the goals of their REDD project, or seeking to avoid potential land disputes. Progress achieved during the monitoring period is as follows:

- Dialogue with indigenous neighbors -- This was held in Pizarro, Bajo Baudo on 2/20/2020, with the participation of directors and leaders of Concosta, and the representatives of the indigenous associations of AISBA and ASAIBA.
- Dialogue on Governance – Discussion space to define boundaries with the indigenous community of Puerto Gálvez. This was held in Guineal on 9/16/2019, where the Concosta REDD+ team and indigenous authorities participated.
- Dialogues with the neighboring indigenous communities of (Puerto Mango and Bajo Grande): it was agreed to form a commission with the participation of the Belén de Docampado and Puerto Mango communities and with the mediation of the REDD+ unit to study border cases and conduct governance tours with the REDD+ CONCOSTA unit and members of the Bajo Grande indigenous reservation to verify timber extraction in the Valeriana Creek border zone.

The actions taken by the REDD+ project in these cases are based on the socialization of the project objectives, socialization of the degradation and deforestation mitigation actions implemented, spaces and dialogue with neighbors, and control and surveillance tours in the project area boundaries.

2.5.6 National and Local Laws (G5.6)

The project has remained in compliance with all of the relevant national and local laws listed at time of validation. All of these laws were, and are still, applicable at the end of the second reporting period. Multiple new decrees and resolutions have come into effect since project validation. The project is in compliance with all of these new relevant regulations.

The table below details each of the new regulations and highlights how the project is in compliance with them, when applicable. In some instances, the new laws touch on larger themes, such as that of climate change and national-level monitoring systems, which have yet to affect or alter any of the project activities or procedures.

Table 9. Below lists new legislation and regulations as well as project compliance.

New Applicable Legislation/Regulation	Description and Compliance (if directly applicable)
Decreto 298 Año: 2016	Topic: Climate Change Responsible Entity: MADS Description: By which the organization and operation of the National System of Climate Change is established, and other provisions are dictated.
Decreto 1655 Año: 2017	Topic: National Forest Information System Description: By means of which book 2, part 2, title 8 chapter 9 of Decree 1076 of 2015 is added, five new sections in the sense of establishing the organization and functioning of the National Forestry Information System, the National Forest Inventory and the Monitoring System of Forests and Carbon that are part of the Environmental Information System for Colombia and other provisions are dictated.
870 Año: 2017.	Topic: Payment for environmental services. Responsible Entity: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. Description: By which the Payment for Environmental Services and other incentives for conservation are established.
Decreto 1007 del 2018	By which Chapter 8 of Title 9 of Part 2 of Book 2 of Decree 1076 of 2015 is modified. Sole Regulatory Decree of the Environment and Sustainable

	Development Sector, in relation to the regulation of the general components of the payment incentive for environmental services and the acquisition and maintenance of properties in strategic areas and ecosystems that deal with Decree Law 870 of 2017 and articles 108 and 111 of Law 99 of 1993, modified by articles 174 of Law 1753 of 2015 and 210 of Law 1450 of 2011, respectively.
Decreto 2613 Año 2013	Topic: Prior Consultation Responsible Entity: Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Agriculture and MADS Description: By which the Inter-institutional Coordination Protocol is adopted for prior consultation. This decree is of strict compliance when the projects are not submitted by the community and generate impacts on the community. Compliance: In the case of this REDD + project, it has been proposed by the community and by their authorities, and has already gone through a process of free and informed prior consent, which serves as a prior consultation.
Resolución 1447 de 2018	Whereby the monitoring, reporting and verification system for mitigation actions at the national level referred to in article 175 of Law 1753 of 2015 is regulated, and other provisions are issued. Compliance: - Article 2 provides a general disposition for initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which in the full scope of the law resolves for the due consideration of both public programs and private projects. - Article 6 specifies that Validation and Verification Bodies in conformance with Decreto Unico 1074 de 2015 and ISO14065, respective accreditation requirements are eligible to realize activities of Validation and Verification. (WWC has analyzed these requirements and received the verbal confirmation from the lead authority, ONAC, that these VCS projects can be validated or verified by internationally accredited auditing firms. - Articles 10 through 17 that define various requirements for a project proponent/owner to register within the RENARE platform and follow its Technical Guideline, and provide necessary documentation on project design and implementation, as well as to report results, are all dependent upon RENARE platform and accounting system being functional. This registry that REDD+ projects will need to inscribe, is not yet functional. As of January 30, 2019, it remains in a beta / testing phase. - Article 54 is clear that projects have a period of 3 months to register their initiative within the RENARE platform, once it is operational. - Article 39 starts those related to REDD+ project accounting. This is important with respects to acceptance of VCS programs and requirements, as Article 39 establishes the characteristics for project methodologies. It is evident that VCS methodologies and programmatic requirement meet all of these criteria. - Article 40, in the first bold paragraph, it is established that projects with validated baselines may use these, at a minimum, through January 1, 2018 if there is not an applicable NREF for the area of the project and furthermore that the Maximum Mitigation Potential accepted will be that of the validated project baseline. In addition, with the support of USAID, various actors in the carbon market convened on November 27, 2018 an event that included the MADS, DIAN, and ONAC, among other key authorities for the very purpose of validating that the BioREDD+ projects are eligible to participate in the existing domestic and international voluntary carbon markets without prejudice or

	penalty respective of the new legislation. In early 2019, WWC joined a newly-formed association of carbon market organizations and businesses, ASOCARBONO for the expressed objective that this association would be able to facilitate understanding, improvement, and implementation of the resolution 1447 and other existing laws, for the intent of assisting members with project compliance.
Ley 1931 de 2018	Through which guidelines are established for the management of climate change.

3 CLIMATE

3.1 Monitoring GHG Emission Reductions and Removals

The major Changes to climate monitoring of GHG reductions and removals came from updated LULC classification imagery. It was not required to update the carbon baseline and field data for this monitoring period; however, we have included the sections from the previous monitoring period that describe how the data, parameters, and associated methods were achieved. Thus, the information in sections 3.1.1 and 3.1.3.3 through 3.3.4.1 were previously validated, and will be updated in the next monitoring period as required.

3.1.1 Data and Parameters Available at Validation

Data / Parameter [EA1]:	CF
Data unit	[Mg C (Mg DM) ⁻¹]
Description	Carbon fraction of dry matter in wood
Source of data	Default value of 0.5 (IPCC GPG-LULUCF 2003) Conservative value of 0.485 (Annex AA GeoEcoMap Task 8 & 9)
Value applied	0.485
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	According to the IPCC, the default value of 0.5 Mg C (Mg DM) ⁻¹ is applicable for all three tiers when remaining forest land, forest land or biomass carbon is a key or non-key category. However, for this project a more conservative value of 0.485 was used as per (Annex AA GeoEcoMap Task 8 & 9).
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions

Data/parameter [EA2]:	E
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Average combustion efficiency of the aboveground tree biomass
Sources of data (*):	Project-specific measurements Regionally valid estimates Estimates from Table 3.A.14 of IPCC GPG LULUCF If no appropriate combustion efficiency can be used, use the IPCC default of 0.5
Value applied:	0.3
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	IPCC 2006 gives this value for tropical moist primary forest types.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Any comment:	The value of 0.40 is provided as an average combustion efficient for aboveground tree biomass in tropical moist secondary forests.

Data/parameter [EA3]:	P
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Average proportion of mass burned from the aboveground tree biomass.
Sources of data:	GPG-LULUCF Table 3A.1.13
Value applied:	83.9
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	83.9 is the mean provided by the IPCC for the average proportion of mass burned from the aboveground tree biomass in primary tropical forests which is the forest type the project for the most part, aligns with.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Any comment:	For secondary tropical forests, 8.1 is provided as an average value for young secondary tropical forests, 41.1 for intermediate secondary tropical forests, and 46.4 for advanced secondary tropical forests. These are provided here because some of growth within the project area is secondary but as a majority, it is still primary forest.

Data/parameter [EA4]:	GWP _{CH4}
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Global Warming Potential for CH4
Sources of data:	IPCC default value of 25
Value applied:	25
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	IPCC 2007 Fourth Assessment Report: Climate Change 2007 states that over a 100 year time horizon, the GWP for CH4 is 25.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions

Any comment:	
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Data/parameter [EA5]:	ER _{CH4}
Data unit:	Proportion
Description:	Emission ratios for CH ₄
Sources of data:	Table 3A.1.15 in IPCC GPG-LULUCF 2003
Value applied:	0.012
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	IPCC default value of 0.012 provided.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Any comment:	(0.009-0.015) Delmas, 1993 asterisked in IPCC table

Data/parameter [EA6]:	SC ₁
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	First shape factor for the forest scarcity equation; steepness of the decrease in deforestation rate (greater is steeper).
Sources of data:	Statistical fitting procedure. Using remotely sensed forest cover data in heavily deforested areas close to the project area such as neighboring provinces, states or countries. Methods detailed in PD Annex "Spatial Modelling Report v1.11.pdf".
Value applied:	-0.286
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	The Land Change Modeler of IDRISI was used to model baseline transitions between LULC classes. See PD Section 5.3.5.3 and PD Annex AS: Spatial Modeling Report for additional information on this analysis and how this value was derived.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [EA7]:	SC ₂
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Second shape factor for the forest scarcity equation; relative deforested area at which the deforestation rate will be 50% of the initial deforestation rate.
Sources of data:	Statistical fitting procedure. Using remotely sensed forest cover data in heavily deforested areas close to the project area such as neighboring provinces, states or countries. Methods detailed in PD Annex "Spatial Modelling Report v1.11.pdf".
Value applied:	28.31
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	The Land Change Modeler of IDRISI was used to model baseline transitions between LULC classes. See PD Section 5.3.5.3 and PD Annex AS: Spatial Modeling Report for additional information on this analysis and how this value was derived.

Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [EA8]:	wwf(ty)
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Fraction of carbon in harvested wood products that are emitted immediately because of mill inefficiency for wood class ty. This can be estimated by multiplying the applicable fraction to the total amount of carbon in different harvested wood product category.
Sources of data:	The default applicable fraction is 24% and 19% respectively for developing and developed countries (Winjum et al. 1998).
Value applied:	24%
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	Winjum et al. 1998 states that the default fraction is 24% for developing countries.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Any comment:	Any new updates from locally generated results can be used instead of the default values.

Data/parameter [EA9]:	slp(ty)
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Proportion of short lived products
Sources of data:	Default values are 0.2, 0.1, 0.4 and 0.3 respectively for wood class ty, i.e., sawnwood, wood-based panel, paper and paper boards and other industrial round woods as described in Winjum et al. (1998).
Value applied:	0.2
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	Winjum et al. provides the above values for sawnwood, wood-based panel, paper/paper boards and industrial roundwood
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Any comment:	Any new updates from locally generated results can be used instead of the default values. The methodology assumes that all other classes of wood products are emitted within 5 years.

Data/parameter [EA10]:	fo(ty)
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Fraction of carbon that will be emitted to the atmosphere between 5 and 100 years of harvest for wood class ty.
Sources of data:	See (Winjum et al. 1998).
Value applied:	0.84, no change from validation
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	Winjum et al. provides these values for the fraction of carbon that will be emitted into the atmosphere between 5 and 100 years after harvest for tropical wood classes.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Any comment:	Any new updates from locally generated results can be used instead of the default values.

Data/parameter [EA11]:	$\rho_{wood,j}$
Data unit:	[Mg DM m ⁻³]
Description:	Average basic wood density of species or species group j
Sources of data:	Wood densities derived from project-specific inventory measurements.
Value applied:	No change from validation
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	Project specific wood densities reflect more accurately the site specific factors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [EA12]:	BEF ₂
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Biomass expansion factor for converting volumes of extracted round wood to total aboveground biomass (including bark).
Sources of data:	IPCC GPG LULUCF Table 3A.1.10 or published data from scientific peer reviewed literature
Value applied:	Broadleaf = 3.4 (2.0 – 9.0)
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	BEF2 value for tropical broadleaf trees values according to IPPCC LULICF table 3A.1.10.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [EA13]:	$EF_{\text{rice,max}}$
Data unit:	[kg CH ₄ ha ⁻¹ day ⁻¹]
Description:	Maximal emission factor for methane
Sources of data:	By default, an emission rate of 36 kg CH ₄ ha ⁻¹ day ⁻¹ must be used, which is 25% greater than the maximal value found in a review study comparing 23 studies of CH ₄ fluxes in rice fields (Le Mer and Roger, 2001). Project proponents may use a smaller emission rate if it can be demonstrated from empirical data or other CONCOSTAorting information such as published data that the rate remains conservative for the project conditions.
Value applied:	36
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	Default provided by Le Mer and Roger, 2001.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Any comment:	Only to be included if rice production is increased as a leakage prevention measure. Currently this project activity is not planned and thus this parameter is not applied.

Data/parameter [EA14]:	NCV_{biomass}
Data unit:	[TJ (Mg DM) ⁻¹]
Description:	Net calorific value of non-renewable biomass that is substituted.
Sources of data:	0.015 TJ (Mg DM) ⁻¹ IPCC default value.
Value applied:	0.015
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied:	IPCC default provided
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Any comment:	Currently livestock grazing is not planned and thus this parameter is not applied.

3.1.2 Data and Parameters Monitored

3.1.2.1 Sizes, areas, and transitions

Data/parameter [MN1]:	$size_{\text{projectArea}}$, $size_{\text{leakageArea}}$, $size_{\text{referenceRegion}}$, $size_{\text{referenceForest}}$
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Data unit:	[ha]
Description:	Size of project area, leakage area, reference region, and forest area in the reference region
Sources of data:	Project design
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Coverage and demarcations will be monitored and created through the use of satellite imagery.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	size _{projectArea} and size _{leakageArea} may be adjusted during crediting period per the rules for grouped projects and updated at verification, but only for the additional instances that were added after the project start date.
Value applied:	<i>size_{projectArea}</i> : 54,623 ha <i>size_{leakageArea}</i> : 16,826 ha <i>size_{referenceregion}</i> : 251,050 ha <i>size_{referenceForest}</i> : 178,426 ha
Monitoring equipment:	GIS software, Landsat imagery
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Double check area sizes used for verification accounting with original validated shapefiles and Project Description
Purpose of the data	Calculation of leakage
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	Values remain unchanged from the previous monitoring period.

Data/parameter [MN2]:	$\Delta \text{area}_{\text{projectAreaEAH,ProjectScenario}}(t, i)$
Data unit:	[ha yr-1]
Description:	Hectares undergoing transition i within the project area, excluding ANR and harvest areas, under the project scenario during year t. [ha yr-1].
Sources of data:	Remote sensing analysis
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	The final output of the LULC classification process, as outlined under the "Post-processing" subheading in Section 3.1.3.3., is a transition raster that shows transitions from the monitoring period start LULC class to the monitoring period end LULC class. The pixel counts of each transition within the project area are calculated and copied and pasted from the LULC transition raster into the "LULC Data" tab of the accounting model "VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post_v2.6.xlsm".
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before verification
Value applied:	See Table 18 for the total area of transitions that LULC happened within the project area during the monitoring period, and also see the "LULC Data" tab in the accounting model "VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post_v2.6.xlsm".
Monitoring equipment:	GIS software, Landsat imagery
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	Activity data from classified images at project start and end of project monitoring period based on VM0006 Methodology criteria
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN3]:	$\Delta \text{area}_{\text{projectAreaEAH,baselineScenario}}(t, i)$
Data unit:	[ha yr-1]
Description:	Hectares undergoing transition i within the project area, excluding the ANR area, and harvest areas, under the baseline scenario for year t.
Sources of data:	Land-use change modeling
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	The spatial modeling procedure is described in PDD section 5.3.5.3 "The Spatial Model". Pixel counts for the validated LULC baseline transition raster data within the project area were input to the "LULC Data" tab of the accounting model "VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post_v2.6.xlsm". Since ANR and harvesting are not project activities, there are no ANR or harvest areas. Therefore, no modification to the validated baseline spatial modeling transition data is necessary
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before every baseline. For added instances, may be recalculated at verification.
Value applied:	Values for each baseline transition in the project area can be generated on the 'Report - LULC Change' of the accounting model, "VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post_v2.6.xlsm". Baseline transition areas remain unchanged since validation. See PD Section 5.3.5.4 for more information on methods for estimating transition rates and results of this analysis
Monitoring equipment:	GIS software, Landsat imagery
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	Activity data from classified images across historical baseline based on VM0006 Methodology criteria
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN4]:	$\Delta \text{area}_{\text{projectAreaWithANR, baselineScenario}}(t, i)$
Data unit:	[ha yr-1]
Description:	Hectares undergoing transition i within the project area under the baseline scenario with ANR for year t.
Sources of data:	Not applicable
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Not applicable
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Not applicable
Value applied:	Not applicable
Monitoring equipment:	Not applicable
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Not applicable
Purpose of the data	Calculation of leakage
Calculation method:	None
Any comment:	No ANR activities included for the project

Data/parameter [MN5]:	$\Delta \text{area}_{\text{leakageArea, projectScenario}}(t, i)$
Data unit:	[ha yr-1]
Description:	Hectares undergoing transition i within the leakage area under the project scenario for year t
Sources of data:	Remote sensing analysis
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	The final output of the LULC classification process, as outlined under the "Post-processing" subheading in Section 3.1.3.3., is a transition raster that shows transitions from the monitoring period start LULC class to the monitoring period end LULC class. The pixel counts of each transition within the leakage area are calculated and copied and pasted from the LULC transition raster into the "LULC Data" tab of the accounting model "VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post_v2.6.xlsm"
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before verification
Value applied:	See Table 21 for the total area of transitions that happened within the leakage area during the monitoring period, and also see the "LULC Data" tab in the accounting model "VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post_v2.6.xlsm".
Monitoring equipment:	GIS software, Landsat imagery
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of leakage
Calculation method:	Activity data from classified images at project start and end of project monitoring period based on VM0006 Methodology criteria
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN6]:	$\Delta \text{area}_{\text{leakageArea, baselineScenario}}(t, i)$
Data unit:	[ha yr ⁻¹]
Description:	Hectares undergoing transition i within the leakage area under the baseline scenario during year t
Sources of data:	Land-use change modeling
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	The spatial modeling procedure is described in PDD section 5.3.5.3 "The Spatial Model". Pixel counts for the validated LULC baseline transition raster data within the leakage area were input to the "LULC Data" tab of the accounting model "VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post_v2.6.xlsm".
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Once every baseline update. May also be updated at the time of instance inclusion that requires new leakage area.
Value applied:	Same values applied as validation. The values applied can be found in the "LULC Data" tab of the accounting model, or in Table 40 of the validated PDD on the Verra registry
Monitoring equipment:	GIS software, Landsat imagery
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of leakage
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN7]:	$\Delta \text{area}_{\text{historical}}(\text{CS}_1 \rightarrow \text{CS}_2, t_1 \rightarrow t_2)$
Data unit:	[ha yr ⁻¹]
Description:	Area of transition from LULC class or forest stratum 1 to 2 from time 1 to 2 during the historical reference period
Sources of data:	Remote sensing analysis
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	See Section 5.3.5.1 of the PDD
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before every baseline update
Value applied:	Values remain unchanged since validation. See Table 42 of the PDD.
Monitoring equipment:	GIS software, Landsat imagery
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN8]:	$\text{RFRGrate}(\text{CS}_1 \rightarrow \text{CS}_2)$
Data unit:	[yr ⁻¹]
Description:	Relative annual forest cover increase and regeneration factor for the transition from class or stratum 1 to 2.
Sources of data:	Remote sensing analysis
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Not applicable
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Not applicable
Value applied:	Not applicable
Monitoring equipment:	GIS software, Landsat imagery
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	

Any comment:	Not applicable – this project is not a grouped project, and the main use of this parameter in VM0006 is for producing baseline transition matrices for new instances to be added to a grouped project.
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Data/parameter [MN9]:	$area_{historical}(CS_1, t_1)$
Data unit:	[ha]
Description:	Total area of LULC class or forest stratum 1 at time 1
Sources of data:	Remote sensing analysis
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Procedures should be described in the Monitoring Report
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before every baseline update
Value applied:	No change since validation, see Table 41 and Section 5.3.5.1 of the PDD for relevant values and the application of this parameter.
Monitoring equipment:	GIS software, Landsat imagery
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN10]:	$area_{biomssLos}(i)$
Data unit:	[ha yr ⁻¹]
Description:	Total annual area of LULC class that was cleared for creating firebreaks
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No fire breaks were applied for this project.

Data/parameter [MN11]:	$area_{fireBiomassLoss}(i)$
Data unit:	[ha yr ⁻¹]
Description:	Annual area of forest stratum that was cleared by using prescribed burning
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied::	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No fire breaks were applied for this project.

Data/parameter [MN12]:	$area_{fireBiomassLoss,ANR}(t, i)$
Data unit:	[ha]
Description:	Area of biomass removed by prescribed burning within ANR stratum i during year t
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	No prescribed burning was applied for this project.
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No prescribed burning was applied for this project.

Data/parameter [MN13]:	$area_{projectAreaWithANR,projectScenario}(t, i)$
Data unit:	[ha]
Description:	Amount of land on which ANR activities are planned under the project scenario for year t and in stratum i
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculations of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No ANR activities were applied for this project.

Data/parameter [MN14]:	$area_{harvest}(t, i)$
Data unit:	[ha]
Description:	Area of forest in harvest stratum i that is harvested at time t.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No harvesting activity in project area.

Data/parameter [MN15]:	$area_{projectAreaWithHarvest,projectScenario}(t, i)$
Data unit:	[ha yr-1]
Description:	Size of strata i within the project area with harvest activities during year t under the project scenario.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No harvesting activity in project area.

Data/parameter [MN16]:	$\Delta area_{projectAreaWithHarvest,baselineScenario}(t, i)$
Data unit:	[ha yr-1]
Description:	Hectares undergoing transition i within the harvest areas under the baseline scenario during year t.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No harvesting activity within project area.

Data/parameter [MN17]:	BetaReg _{DF} (t) and BetaReg _{DG} (t)
Data unit:	[ha yr ⁻¹]
Description:	Beta regression model describing the relationship between time and deforestation/degradation rate in the reference region during the historical reference period.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	Not applicable to original baseline estimates.

3.1.2.2 Locations, Descriptions, Qualitative and Social Data

Data/parameter [MN18]:	Area under agricultural intensification
Data unit:	[ha]
Description:	Size of the area of agricultural intensification separated for each agricultural intensification measure
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No agricultural intensification activities were applied within the project area.

Data/parameter [MN19]:	Yields under agricultural intensification
Data unit:	[Mg ha-1]
Description:	Harvested yield for agricultural intensification practices
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No agricultural intensification activities were applied within the project area.

Data/parameter [MN20]:	NTPF harvest rate
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1] or [kg yr-1]
Description:	Annual volumes of non-timber forest products extracted
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No major NTFP harvesting occurred within the project area.

Data/parameter [MN21]:	Local NTFP price
Data unit:	Local currency
Description:	Price of non-timber forest products on local markets
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No major NTFP harvesting occurred within the project area.

3.1.2.2 Dates on Drivers and Actions

Data/parameter [MN22]:	CFW _{baseline}
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1]
Description:	Annual volume of fuel wood gathering for commercial sale and charcoal production in the baseline scenario
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No major fuel wood collection activities occurred in the baseline scenario for commercial sale and charcoal production.

Data/parameter [MN23]:	DFW _{baseline}
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1]
Description:	Annual volume of fuel wood gathered for domestic and local energy in the baseline scenario
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	

QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No major fuel wood collection activities occurred in the baseline scenario domestic and local energy.

Data/parameter [MN24]:	DFW _{project}
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1]
Description:	Biomass (dry matter) of fuel wood collected by project participants under the project scenario.
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No major fuel wood collection activities occurred in the project scenario.

Data/parameter [MN25]:	DFW _{allowed}
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1]
Description:	Biomass (dry matter) of allowed fuel wood collection in the project area under the project scenario. This amount is typically fixed in a management plan. [m3 yr-1]
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No major fuel wood collection activities occurred in the project scenario.

Data/parameter [MN26]:	VG _{baseline}
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1]
Description:	Biomass (dry matter) of understory vegetation extraction by project participants under the baseline scenario. [Mg DM yr-1]
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No biomass from understory vegetation was predicted to be extracted in the baseline scenario.

Data/parameter [MN27]:	VG _{project}
Data unit:	[Mg DM yr-1]
Description:	Biomass (dry matter) of understory vegetation extraction by project participants under the project scenario.
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before verification
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	Not applicable in baseline or project scenarios.

Data/parameter [MN28]:	VG_{allowed}
Data unit:	[Mg DM yr-1]
Description:	Biomass (dry matter) of allowed as understory vegetation extraction under the project scenario. This amount is typically fixed in a management plan
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	Not applicable in baseline or project scenarios.

Data/parameter [MN29]:	$CT_{\text{baseline}}(h, j, ty, t)$
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1]
Description:	Annually extracted volume of harvested timber round-wood for commercial on-sale under the baseline scenario during harvest by species j and wood product class ty during year t
Sources of data (*):	Timber Study from validated baseline.
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before every baseline update
Value applied:	See Section 5.6.2 of the PDD for methods on estimating timber extraction in baseline as well as 'Harvested Wood Products Data' tab of supporting accounting model.
Monitoring equipment:	None
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	Calculated using EQ4 of VM0006 v2.1
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN30]:	$CT_{allowed}$
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1]
Description:	Annually allowed volume of harvested timber round-wood for commercial on-sale under the project scenario
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No harvesting activity in project area.

Data/parameter [MN31]:	$CT_{project}(h, j, ty, t)$
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1]
Description:	Annually extracted volume of harvested timber round-wood for commercial on-sale inside the project area under the project scenario during harvest h by species j and wood product class ty during year t.
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No harvesting activity in project area.

Data/parameter [MN32]:	$DT_{baseline}(h, j, ty, t)$
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1]
Description:	Annually extracted volume of timber for domestic and local use, round wood under the baseline scenario during harvest h by species j and wood product class ty during year t.
Sources of data (*):	Timber Study from validation data
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before every baseline update
Value applied:	See Section 5.6.2 of the PDD for methods on estimating timber extraction in baseline as well as 'Harvested Wood Products Data' tab of supporting accounting model.
Monitoring equipment:	None
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	Calculated using EQ5 of VM0006 v2.1
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN33]:	$DT_{allowed}$
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1]
Description:	Annually allowed volume of harvested timber round-wood for domestic and local use under the project scenario
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No harvesting activity in project area.

Data/parameter [MN34]:	$DT_{\text{project}}(h, j, ty, t)$
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1]
Description:	Annually extracted volume of timber for domestic and local use, round wood inside the project area under the project scenario during harvest h by species j and wood product class ty during year t .
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No harvesting activity in project area.

Data/parameter [MN35]:	$\text{contribution}_{\text{DF}}(d)$ and $\text{contribution}_{\text{DG}}(d)$
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Relative contribution of driver d respectively to total deforestation and forest degradation.
Sources of data:	Use procedure from VM0006 v2.1
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Remote sensing LULC analysis and emissions factors
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before baseline update.
Value applied:	No changes since validation. See Table 28 in Section 5.3.3.1 of the PDD for parameter values for each driver category d .
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	VM0006 v2.1 8.1.3.2
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN36]:	RelativeDriverImpact _{DF} (t, d) and RelativeDriverImpact _{DG} (t, d)
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Relative impact of the geographically unconstrained driver d at time t of the crediting period respectively on deforestation and forest degradation.
Sources of data:	Use procedure from VM0006 v2.1
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Remote sensing LULC analysis and emissions factors
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before baseline update.
Value applied:	No changes since validation. See Table 28 in Section 5.3.3.1 of the PDD for parameter values for each driver category d.
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	VM0006 v2.1 8.1.3.2
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN37]:	leakage _{unconstrained} (d)
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Leakage cancellation rate for avoiding deforestation/degradation from geographically unconstrained drivers.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	NA
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before baseline update.
Value applied:	No change from validation. See Section 5.5.2.2 of the PDD.
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of leakage
Calculation method:	NA
Any comment:	Unless a lower rate can be justified, a default rate of 100% must be used.

Data/parameter [MN38]:	effectiveness(a, d)
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Effectiveness of every project activity a in decreasing any deforestation driverd relative to that driver's contribution to deforestation and forest degradation,
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	NA
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before baseline update.
Value applied:	No change from validation. See Sections 5.4.1.9 (Table 50) and 5.4.1.11 (Table 52) of the PDD for applied values.
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	NA
Any comment:	The effectiveness(a, d) factor represents the maximal effectiveness during the crediting period.

Data/parameter [MN39]:	$\Delta A_{\text{rice}}(t)$
Data unit:	[ha]
Description:	Annual increase in harvested area of rice due to leakage prevention measures.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No rice cultivation was practiced as part of project activities.

Data/parameter [MN40]:	$t_{\text{flooded,max}}$
Data unit:	[days yr-1]
Description:	Maximal period of time a field is flooded
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No rice cultivation was practiced as part of project activities.

Data/parameter [MN41]:	GR_{baseline}
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Number of grazing animals of type g within the project boundary baseline
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No estimation of grazing animals was included in the baseline, was estimated to be de minimis at validation and conservatively excluded.

Data/parameter [MN42]:	GR _{allowed}
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Number of grazing animals of type g allowed for grazing within the project boundary in the project scenario
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	Increased grazing activities are not allowed in the project area.

Data/parameter [MN43]:	Fuelwood(t), Fuel(t)
Data unit:	[m3 yr-1 HH-1]
Description:	Average annual volume of biomass fuel consumed by households in the absence of the project activity in year t for cooking purpose.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of leakage
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No fuel wood activity in project area. Cook stoves not included as activities in project area.

Data/parameter [MN44]:	$HH_{\text{non-CFE}}(t)$
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Total number of households in the project area that collect biomass fuel from the project area and do not use CFE in year t.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of leakage

Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No fuel wood activity in project area. Cook stoves not included as activities in project area.

Data/parameter [MN45]:	η_{old}
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Efficiency of the project cook stoves or appliances.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of leakage
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No cook stove activity in project area.

Data/parameter [MN46]:	η_{new}
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Efficiency of the baseline cook stoves or appliances.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of leakage
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No cook stove activity in project area.

Data/parameter [MN47]:	$U_{CFE}(t)$
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Fraction of cumulative usage rate for technologies in project scenario in year t. [-]
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	Not applicable to project.

Data/parameter [MN48]:	$DF_{LeakageCFE}(t)$
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Leakage discount factor applicable to GHG emissions reduction benefits from CFE activities [-]
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of leakage
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No leakage discount factor included in project area.

Data/parameter [MN49]:	$EF_{\text{non-CO2,fuel}}, EF_{\text{CO2,fuel}}$
Data unit:	[t CO2 TJ-1]
Description:	Respectively, non-CO2 emission factor of the fuel that is reduced and CO2 emission factor for the substitution of non-renewable woody biomass by similar consumers.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	Not included in project emissions estimates, no relevant project activities.

Data/parameter [MN50]:	EF_{forest}
Data unit:	[t CO2e]
Description:	Emission factor related to leakage.
Sources of data:	Derived from project specific carbon stock data, estimated through field measurements and LiDAR data collection.
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before verification
Value applied:	Emissions factors for the project can be found in the accounting model: VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post "Report – Emissions Factors" Tab
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of leakage
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

3.1.2.3 Data on Organic Matter and Carbon Densities

Data/parameter [MN51]:	OM _o (i)
Data unit:	[Mg DM ha-1]
Description:	Plant-derived organic matter of LULC class or forest stratum in pool o. [Mg DM ha-1]
Sources of data:	Estimates using Lidar data
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before every baseline update
Value applied:	Updated within degraded area class based on LiDAR and carbon inventory field measurements
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Follow uncertainty deduction procedures described in methodology. Ensure calibrated Lidar data.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN52]:	proportion _{DF} (d) and proportion _{DG} (d)
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Proportion of the gradual carbon loss that leads to deforestation or forest degradation, respectively, due to driver d
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	LULC and emissions factors
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before every baseline update
Value applied:	No changes since validation. See Table 28 in Section 5.3.3.1 of the PDD for parameter values for each driver category d.
Monitoring equipment:	NA
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN53]:	C(t, i)
Data unit:	[Mg C ha-1 yr-1]
Description:	Carbon stock density at time t in stratum i.
Sources of data:	Estimate using calibrated Lidar data
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Carbon stocks measured using Lidar and field based measurements in degraded forest class.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Once before verification and before every baseline update
Value applied:	See Accounting model: VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	Used in estimating change in carbon stock density

Data/parameter [MN54]:	$f_{\text{allometric}}(y)$
Data unit:	Equation
Description:	Allometric relationship to convert a tree metric such as DBH or tree height into biomass
Sources of data (*):	Derived from project-specific destructive sampling measurements and field data.
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	May be updated at baseline update
Value applied:	Allometric equations remain unchanged since validation and are reported in Section 5.3.4.3 (Table 36) of the PDD.
Monitoring equipment:	NA
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN55]:	$f_{\text{belowground}}(y)$
Data unit:	Equation
Description:	Relationship between aboveground and belowground biomass, such as a root-to-shoot ratio
Sources of data (*):	Standard root-to-shoot ratios as found in Table 4.A.4 of the IPCC GPG-LULUCF 2003
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	NA
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	May be updated at baseline update
Value applied:	No change since validation, allometric equation is reported in Section 5.3.4.3 of the PDD.
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	NA
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	NA
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN56]:	$C_{\text{Harvest}}(t, i)$
Data unit:	Mg C ha ⁻¹
Description:	Biomass carbon stock density at time t in stratum i in harvested areas.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No harvesting activity in project area.

Data/parameter [MN57]:	$CE_{inventory, harvest(t,i)}$
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Combined error in estimate of average biomass stock density in harvest areas in stratum i at time t .
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	NA
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before verification
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	NA
Any comment:	No legal harvesting activity allowed in project area

Data/parameter [MN58]:	$CE_{inventory, ANR(t,i)}$
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Combined error in estimate of average biomass stock density in ANR areas in stratum i at time t .
Sources of data (*):	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	NA
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	No ANR activities in project area

Data/parameter [MN59]:	$u_{\text{classification}}$
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Discounting factor for NERs from avoided deforestation, based on the accuracy of classification, i.e. dividing land into broad land use types.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	VM006 v2.1, 8.1.2.7
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before verification
Value applied:	0.9 (No change since validation)
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	NA
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN60]:	$u_{\text{stratification}}$
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Discounting factor for NERs from avoided degradation, based on the accuracy of stratification, i.e. dividing forest into individual forest biomass classes.
Sources of data:	
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	0.75 (No change since validation)
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	
Purpose of the data	Calculation of baseline emissions
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter [MN61]:	$u_{\text{transition}(i)}$
Data unit:	[-]
Description:	Discounting factor for the emission factor for the transition from LULC class or forest stratum 1 to class 2 according to the uncertainty of the biomass inventory.
Sources of data:	LULC analysis, classification
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	At least once before verification
Value applied:	Uncertainty calculated in the accounting model: VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Data is to be entered into internal archive. Archive is accessed by qualified, authorized technical experts. All documents for monitoring, validation, verification and certification are reviewed and signed off by several team members. Data will be reported to project proponents and stakeholders. Discrepancies or disagreements will be justified by explanation or by visitation of the activities in question. All available satellite data for monitoring, validation, verification and certification will be archived and made available to auditors.
Purpose of the data	Calculation of project emissions
Calculation method:	NA
Any comment:	All measurements within allowed threshold Analysis must be completed in order to fill this section in.

3.1.3 Monitoring Plan

In the context of the Concosta project in Colombia, the purpose of the monitoring plan is to measure and record data and indicators used to measure the effect on climate indicators of the project compared to the baseline, or without project scenario. In accordance with project verification standards, EP Carbon has set up the necessary follow-up mechanisms in order to ensure monitoring of all relevant variables and indicators, especially forest cover, forest degradation, and the intensity of any deforestation or degradation activities. Methodologies used to estimate and model values correspond to those proscribed by VM0006 v1.1, with more detail provided in section 8 of the PD.

The climate impact on the project and other areas was monitored using remote sensing and updated satellite imagery data, along with a suite of monitoring strategies to climate-related activities within the leakage belt and the project area itself.

All project activities within the Project Area and Project Zone monitored during this reporting period were consistent with the project activities discussed in the Project Description Document. If any project activities are to be phased out or incorporated at a later date due to adaptive management, the monitoring and implementation plans for this project will be updated accordingly.

Each parameter measured has an associated measurement SOP for each monitoring period, created by the Director for each sector. If an SOP is adapted from one monitoring period to the next, the documents shall be versioned and archived and the monitoring report references the version and title of the SOP used for that monitoring period. All updates to SOPs shall be approved

by the sector director in the national office. The sector directors are responsible for ensuring that all relevant SOPs are adhered to by the regional directors and staff.

The main monitoring component required for quantification of GHG emission reductions and removals during this monitoring period was calculating transitions within each LULC class type. This was done by creating a new LULC map using various types of remote sensing imagery in order to calculate transitions within each LULC class type. These calculations are what EP Carbon used to quantify the GHG emissions reductions and removals for this 2018-2019 monitoring period.

3.1.3.1 Organizational Structure and Responsibilities

For the current monitoring period, the climate monitoring team focused primarily on remote sensing and LULC analysis. The organizations involved in the management of climate monitoring activities for this project are Fondo Accion, EP Carbon, and Wildlife Works Carbon. The technical skills and oversight for the project's climate monitoring were provided by EP Carbon. EP Carbon is a forestry-based company that works with project developers, forest owners, and verification bodies to build successful carbon offset projects. They possess expertise in the technical aspects of project design, planning and development including biometrics, accounting methodologies and remote sensing. Additionally, they have extensive experience helping projects achieve validation and verification under multiple carbon standards, including both VCS and CCB. During this monitoring period, EP Carbon provided technical input with remote sensing, land use change analysis and project documentation as well as guidance support through verification.

During the previous monitoring period's quantification of carbon field data, the WWC team was responsible for the implementation of the field activities, which included the collection of inventory data. The field coordinator for WWC has extensive experience in forestry, implementing and auditing REDD+ projects, and field-based data collection. The field coordinator assisted with the training of field crew leads, QAQC checks, and the management of the field teams as a whole. The field team leads were individuals with previous field experience in forestry or biology, who received special training from the Field Coordinator and the MRV expert. The role of the team leads was to direct the community field crews and conduct occasional QAQC checks. The community field crews were made up of community members from in and around the project area who showed interest in being involved in project activities and who often have had previous experience working in forest-based monitoring or activities related with logging.

The implementation partners are well-qualified within their respective fields and community members involved in climate monitoring have received extensive training and have demonstrated their capacity to carry out monitoring activities with a high degree of accuracy.

3.1.3.2 Monitoring of Activity Data

3.1.3.3 LULC Image Classification

Creating an updated LULC classification map is an essential part of monitoring, especially for quantifying GHG emission reductions. This updated map allows for estimates of the amount of area that transitioned to each other class during this monitoring period. This data, calculated in units of hectares, can then be multiplied by the emissions factors (tC/ha) in order to calculate total GHG emissions during the monitoring period. As a result, an accurate LULC map is a crucial part of monitoring for any forest carbon project.

The project and leakage areas for all BioREDD projects were monitored for LULC change using remote sensing techniques that meet the requirements of the VM0006 methodology. The final LULC map was produced by EP Carbon, which mostly followed procedures noted in the monitoring

plan developed at project validation. However, new data sources in the years since the initial classification allowed for improved data to be used for this classification. This data was then processed and analyzed by updating the procedures discussed in the monitoring plan to accommodate updates in technology since the initial LULC map was created.

Two primary sources of remote sensing data were used during the production of this final map. The first source was spectral satellite imagery collected by the Sentinel-2 satellite. This imagery has 20m resolution and is freely available through the European Space Agency (ESA), allowing for reduced monitoring costs.

The final map product consists of eight Sentinel-2 scenes covering the eight BioREDD project and leakage areas (Table 10: List of Sentinel-2 images processed and analyzed for final LULC map). These eight Sentinel-2 scenes were selected based on image quality and rates of cloud cover in the areas of interest, allowing for the production of a product with optimized coverage of the project and leakage areas. Each image was classified independently, but the final map product consisted of the classified images mosaicked in order of image date starting with the most recent imagery on top.

Table 10. .List of Sentinel-2 images processed and analyzed for final LULC map

Sentinel-2 SceneID included in Classification	Acquisition Date	Applicable Project(s)
S2A_MSIL2A_20200112T153611_N0213_R068_T18NTM_20200112T194333.SAFE	12/01/2020	Concosta
S2A_MSIL2A_20200211T153611_N0214_R068_T18NTL_20200211T194219.SAFE	11/02/2020	Concosta
S2A_MSIL2A_20200322T153621_N0214_R068_T18NTL_20200322T193833.SAFE	22/03/2020	Concosta
S2A_MSIL2A_20200322T153621_N0214_R068_T18NTM_20200322T193833.SAFE	22/03/2020	Concosta
S2A_MSIL2A_20200531T153631_N0214_R068_T18NTL_20200531T212643.SAFE	31/05/2020	Concosta
S2A_MSIL2A_20200630T153621_N0214_R068_T18NTL_20200630T212526.SAFE	30/06/2020	Concosta
S2B_MSIL2A_20200506T153619_N0214_R068_T18NTL_20200506T213751.SAFE	06/05/2020	Concosta
S2B_MSIL2A_20200804T153619_N0214_R068_T18NTL_20200804T210348.SAFE	04/08/2020	Concosta

To classify degraded forest areas, it was necessary to supplement the spectral imagery with radar data capable of providing information on forest density underneath the canopy cover. The original classification utilized Phased Array type L-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (PALSAR) data collected by the now retired Advanced Land Observing Satellite (ALOS-1). Since the ALOS-1 satellite was retired in 2011, this classification used data collected by its successor, the ALOS-2.

One PALSAR-2 scene was processed as part of this analysis. This imagery was purchased from the broker recommended for foreign buyers by the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), the PASCO Corporation. Data available within this region of Colombia is mostly at the SM3 level, which covers an area of 70km x 70km at a 10m resolution. This scene was identified as the

minimum number of scenes required to provide complete coverage of all eight project and leakage areas. PASCO allows for scenes that were taken on the same day along the same path to be shifted either north or south along the path, which allows for only one scene to be purchased and processed when an area of interest falls within two scenes. This was done for several areas of interest, resulting in fewer scenes being purchased and processed.

PALSAR-2 uses an L-band microwave, which has a long wavelength that is largely unaffected by clouds and other weather patterns. This allowed for the most recent data available for each scene to be selected, without needing to take into consideration data quality. Data was acquired in March 2020.

Table 11. List of PALSAR-2 scenes classified for Degradation analysis

ALOS2-SceneID	Acquisition Date	Applicable Project(s)
ALOS2312803520-200308	08/03/2020	Concosta

Pre-Processing

Both types of imagery, Sentinel-2 and PALSAR-2, were pre-processed separately in order to standardize the data before analyzing them together in the processing steps.

Sentinel 2 Imagery

Sentinel 2 Level 1-C data products were downloaded from the ESA data hub Copernicus and transformed to Sentinel 2 Level 2-A data products using the Sen2Cor atmospheric processor available through the Sentinel Application Platform (SNAP Desktop). The Level 2-A data products were then exported from the Sentinel 2. SAFE format to individual .tif files at 20 meter resolutions. A single mask file was created for each satellite image, and this mask was used to standardize all image bands and classification layers created from that image. The mask was also used to extract the baseline 2012 LULC data matching the extent of that satellite image.

Next, the Level 2-A data scene classifications for each image were extracted into individual layers. The bands comprising the image were also extracted into individual layers. These individual layers generated from each Sentinel image were then all matched to the same extent and resolution using the mask image. The Sentinel-2 images were used to determine non-forest classes.

PALSAR-2 Imagery

Before the two PALSAR-2 images could be included in the final classification, it was necessary to complete pre-processing steps, especially in order to orthorectify the data to correct for any topographical distortions. These corrections were completed using the Sentinel Application Program (SNAP) Desktop as produced by the European Space Agency, which provides a straightforward approach to terrain correction. The following pre-processing steps were completed on the Horizontal Receive Polarisation (HH) and Vertical Receive Polarisation (HV) bands for each image:

- Calibration: Calibrates the bands using the calibration factors and equations released by JAXA for PALSAR-2 products. This step corrects for range spreading, antenna pattern, and the incidence angle.
- Multi-looking: Improves the radiometric resolution of the products.

- Speckle reduction: Removes much of the ‘salt and pepper’ from the product by resampling the data using the Refined Lee filter.
- Terrain Correction: This step employs a DEM for the product area and corrects for SAR geometric effects. The SRTM 3Sec DEM was used for this analysis along with a Bilinear-Interpolation resampling method.

The outputs of these steps are terrain corrected products for both the HH and HV bands. These bands could then be converted to dB units through an export step in SNAP. The Radar Forest Degradation Index (RFDI) was calculated using band math as previously calculated by GeoEcoMap using the equation $RFDI = \frac{HH-HV}{HH+HV}$. Finally, each PALSAR-2 image loaded in the SNAP software was exported as three separate ENVI img files using the SNAP software’s export tool: the HH_db band, the HV_db band, and the RFDI band.

The final pre-processing steps used ArcGIS to create an additional data layer and ensure consistent alignment of the data products. The PALSAR-2 .jp2 data products were loaded into ArcMap, and an ArcGIS model was used to perform three steps. First, we created extracts of the 2012 baseline LULC reference layer that matched the extent, cell size, and alignment of the PALSAR2 imagery. Second, this LULC data layer and the PALSAR-2 .jp2 products were resampled to a 30 meter spatial resolution, using the extent, cell size, and alignment of the PALSAR2 masks to standardize the outputs. These resampled GeoTIFF products were then saved and manually checked to ensure consistent alignment, cell size, and extent of the products. The PALSAR-2 images were used to determine between intact and degraded forest.

Processing

Sentinel and PALSAR data were classified with a Bayesian MAP classifier. This classifier is concerned with estimating the parameters of a posterior distribution conditional on observed data and prior distributions. Using conventional statistical notation in the context of the present classification problem, we define the posterior distribution $p(\omega_i|x, y, \hat{\theta}_i) \propto p(x|\omega_i, \hat{\theta}_i) \times p(\omega_i|y)$ where ω_i indicates the prior detection of degraded forest for a particular pixel, $\hat{\theta}_i$ are the estimated class parameters by training, x are the pixel elements of an image at a particular pixel and y is an indicator vector on prior class labels of the benchmark map in the neighborhood of a particular pixel for the i^{th} class. We assume x are normally distributed while ω_i follow a binomial (two classes, not degraded and degraded) distribution conditional on the values of a $m \times m$ spatial window centered at the pixel coordinate of x in the benchmark map.

Following from the selected model, its discriminant function is

$$g_i(x) = -\frac{1}{2} \ln |\hat{\Sigma}_i| - \frac{1}{2} (x - \hat{\mu}_i)^T \hat{\Sigma}_i^{-1} (x - \hat{\mu}_i) - \ln w_i^T y$$

where $\hat{\theta}_i = (\hat{\mu}_i, \hat{\Sigma}_i)$, $\hat{\mu}_i$ is the estimated class mean and $\hat{\Sigma}_i^{-1}$ is the estimates class variance-covariance matrix and w_i is the neighborhood weight vector whose elements sum to one (see Figure 1). Discriminant functions as they relate to classification models are thoroughly described in Richards 2013 As g_i is a function $\hat{\theta}_i$, these parameters must be estimated by training prior to pixel discrimination.

Figure 1: The $m \times m = 3 \times 3$ neighborhood weight vector w arranged in a spatial window.

0.05	0.1	0.05
0.1	0.4	0.1
0.05	0.1	0.05

Training

Prior to pixel discrimination, class parameters $\hat{\theta}_i$ were estimated using standard maximum likelihood techniques conditional on training data. Training data were obtained by labeling a subset of the pixels in a scene as observed in the benchmark map (2018 LULC). An additional layer of training data was generated by manually comparing 2018 and 2020 satellite imagery and digitizing areas of deforestation. A generative k-means process was applied to each subset to automatically segment pixel elements into similar classes each sharing the label of the training subset.

This generative process minimizes the risk of violating the normality assumption of x by using the subset as a Gaussian mixture. Each subclass comprising the mixture was tested for divergence from the whole subset using a chi-squared test on the likelihood ratio of $\hat{\theta}_i$ and its equivalent for the subset (Richards 2013). Where the test was statistically significant, inference was that the subclass was not of the same class as the subset and was therefore dropped from the training process. Depending on the result of the test and presence of available, labeled subsets in a scene, a total of 210 possible subclasses could be trained for each scene.

Implementation

The discriminant function was applied to all pixel elements in each scene (including both Sentinel bands and PALSAR data layers) for up to 210 times per pixel corresponding to the number of trained subclasses for each scene. The label associated with that particular subclass giving the highest value of g_i was assigned to each pixel in the scene to produce the updated LULC map for that particular scene. In the cases of cloud and cloud shadow where no prior information existed, the term $\ln w^T y$ in the discriminant function was simply set to zero. The training process and discriminant function were implemented using custom software written in a combination of C#, C++ and CUDA. Compiled CUDA implementations ran on a Quadro GPU to accelerate classification as compared to CPU-based software (approximately 10 minutes per scene versus 10 hours per scene). All parameterized classes were checked for sufficient sample size, singularity in Σ_i and rationality of $|\hat{\Sigma}_i|$. Insufficient class distributions were dropped from the classification processes.

Some additional measures were added to the classification process to deal with the extremely high cloud cover in this batch of Sentinel 2 imagery. A neighborhood window filter was added to better detect and prevent erroneous LULC identifications at or near cloud edges.

Post-Processing

The statistical classification process described above produced twenty-three raster files indicating LULC classification. These twenty-three rasters were processed to standardize reference extents and set pixel alignment before being mosaicked together into a single raster file.

A final set of post-processing adjustments were made to the classified 2020 image to generate a final map product. Areas of the output classification that lacked PALSAR or Sentinel 2 data coverage were converted to the cloud class. Due to the high amount of cloud cover in the Sentinel imagery, any transitions that occurred over clouds, cloud shadows, or cloud haze were manually converted to clouds. Additionally, single or double pixel 'salt-and-pepper' deforestation transitions were filtered and converted to cloud using a pixel size filter. Finally, any areas of regeneration from non-forest to forest or degraded forest to primary forest observed in the project or leakage areas from 2018 to 2020 were conservatively reverted to the 2018 LULC class. This was done by applying a raster calculator equation with the logic shown in Table 12 such that all areas of deforestation or degradation observed in 2018 were retained and any areas of regeneration were conservatively removed prior to accounting. Maps then were created for each project using this updated 2020 thematic classification; see Appendix A.

Table 12. Post-processing adjustments to 2018 LULC Classification

2012 Classification	2018 initial Classification	2018 Final classification	Adjusted
Primary Forest	Degraded Forest	Degraded Forest	
Primary Forest	Any Non-Forest Class	Any Non-Forest Class	
Primary Forest	Wetland	Primary Forest	
Degraded Forest	Any Non-Forest Class	Any Non-Forest Class	
Degraded Forest	Primary Forest	Degraded Forest	
Degraded Forest	Wetland	Degraded Forest	
Pastureland	Primary Forest or Degraded Forest	Pastureland	
Cropland	Primary Forest or Degraded Forest	Cropland	
Wetland	Primary Forest or Degraded Forest	Wetland	
Settlement	Primary Forest or Degraded Forest	Settlement	
Other	Primary Forest or Degraded Forest	Other	
Water	Any Class	Water	

Figure 1: LULC Classification in Project Area and Leakage Area

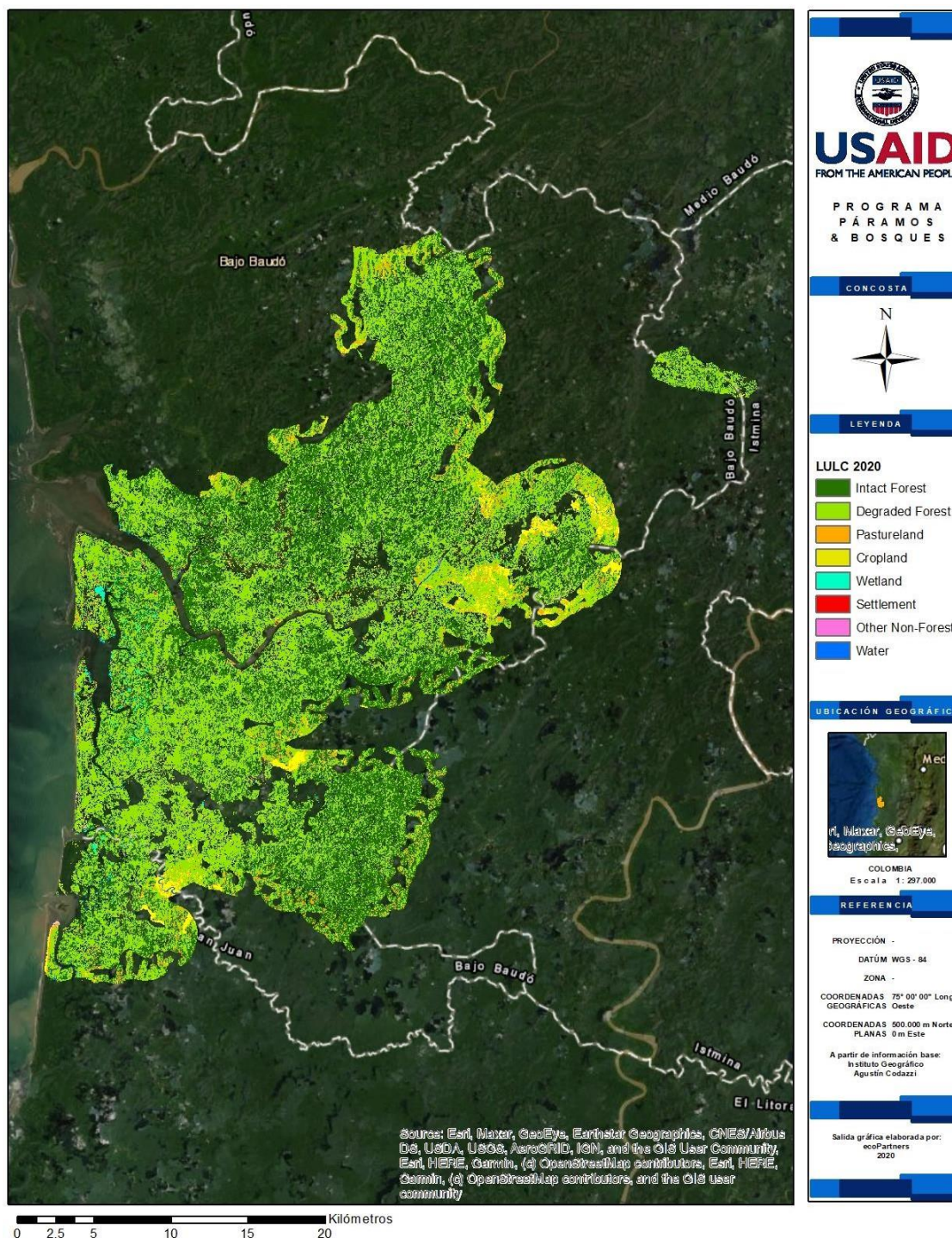
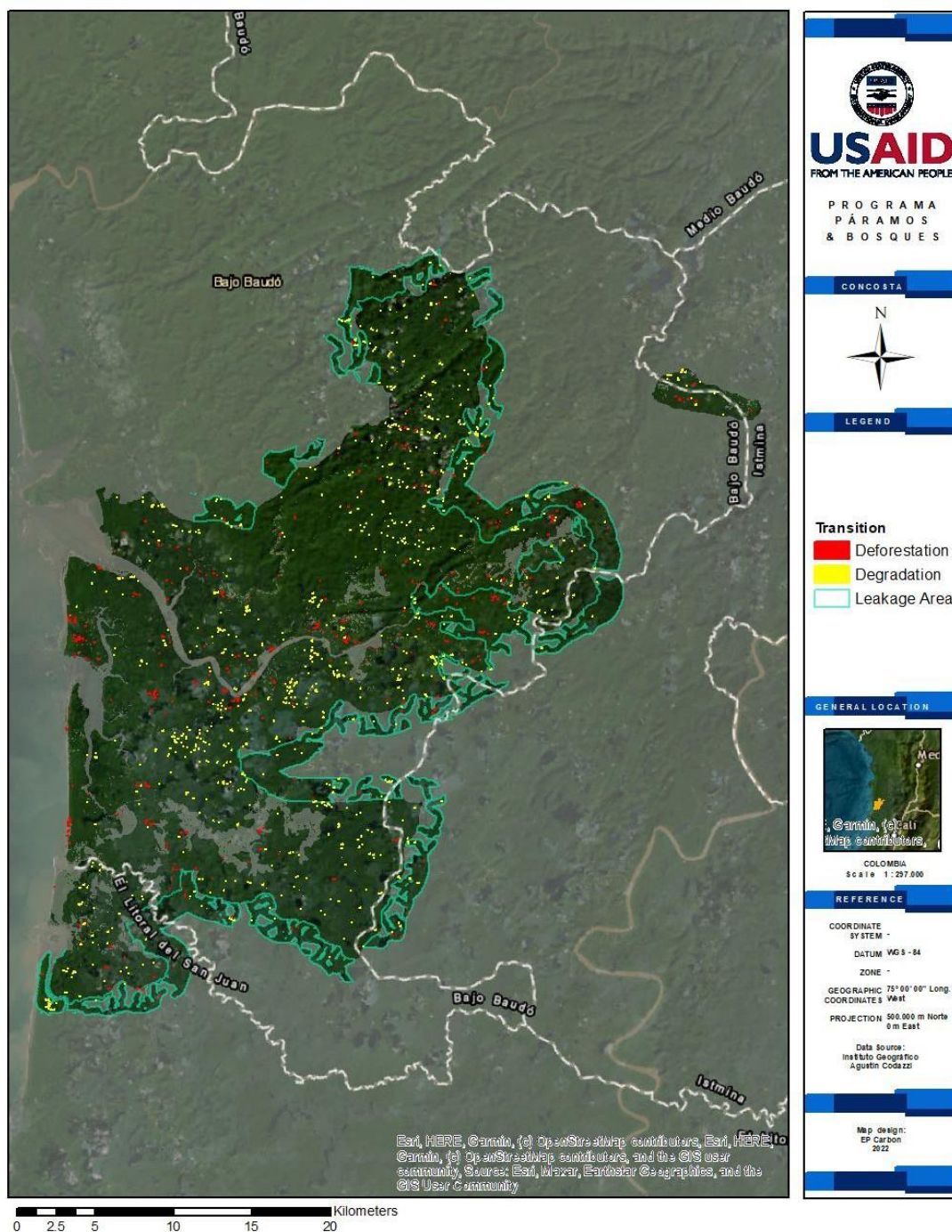


Figure 2: LULC Transitions 2018-2019 in Project Area and Leakage Area



3.1.3.4 QA/QC LUC Classification

To ensure that the 2018 LULC classification map produced for this monitoring period met the accuracy thresholds of VM0006, a thematic accuracy assessment was conducted by comparing the results of the classification against reference data. The accuracy assessment completed used similar methods as those utilized for the project's validation.

A total of 467 accuracy assessment points were randomly assigned to forest and non-forest classes within the union of the project, leakage, and reference areas, following similar accuracy assessment procedures used for the initial project validation by GeoEcoMap. In keeping with the VM0006 methodology requirements, a minimum of 75 points were allocated to each class that was greater than 50,000 ha. Each point was then buffered by 50m and then clipped down again to the respective forest or non-forest class so that only the pixels of the class of interest were assigned classifications. Each of these points was manually assigned a classification of either forest or non-forest using reference remote sensing imagery, including Sentinel-2, Landsat-8, or Google Earth. After assigning a class to each grid point, a confusion matrix was created in order to assess the accuracy for each class. The accuracy achieved across the projects was 91% (see Table 13).

Table 13. Results of Accuracy Assessment

CLASS ASSIGNED BY LULC CLASSIFICATION					
	ALL PROJECTS	Forest	Non-Forest	Total Points Classified	Classified Correctly (%)
CLASS ASSIGNED BY ACCURACY ASSESSMENT	Forest	359	32	391	92%
	Non-Forest	12	64	76	84%
	Total Reference Points	371	96	Total Correct:	423
	Classified Correctly (%)	97%	67%	Total Accuracy (%):	91%

3.1.3.5 Carbon Stocks Field Data

The carbon stock field inventory data was gathered and analyzed to establish the emission factors for each LULC class at project validation. The inventory data and these emissions factor remain unchanged since validation, except for the degraded forest classes, which were updated during the first monitoring period (2013-2017). For the current 2018-2019 monitoring period, the project will continue using the finalized emission factors described in Table 14 of this report. For information regarding previous carbon stock field inventories, please refer to the 2013-2017 monitoring report and the validated PD.

3.1.3.6 Internal Audit and QA/QC Procedures

Before the dissemination of data, releasing of monitoring reports, or submission of other data, a series of internal QA/QC checks are always completed by qualified staff. QA/QC is always completed by independent persons, and revisions to data and reports are submitted if necessary. These checks by various staff help to prevent errors in final climate monitoring results and ensure the most accurate data possible.

Internal auditing and QAQC checks include:

- Review of LULC classification by experts to ensure proper match-up of data and pixel sizes
- Audit checks of the carbon accounting model through the creation of independent manually calculated accounting models and checks to ensure conformance with VM0006 requirements
- Checking for and correcting any errors in equations and calculations in carbon stock data or models
- The submission of errors to technical managers and the application of corrective actions to ensure compliance with the VM0006 methodology

Through these QAQC and internal auditing processes, we are able to ensure the accuracy of data and confidently assess the project's climate benefits.

3.1.4 Dissemination of Monitoring Plan and Results (CL4.2)

The project proponent recognizes the importance in ensuring that both the monitoring plan and the results of monitoring be communicated to communities. The monitoring activities were divided between organizations in Support of the proponents for social (community), carbon (climate), and biodiversity. The plan for completing the monitoring report as related to biodiversity was discussed in community meetings in Bogota (June 1), Cali (June 21-22), and during visits from Fondo Accion, Wildlife Works, and members of Paramos y Bosques (July – August 2018).

The project's MRV liaisons conducted workshops in the project area communities to report on the results and evaluations of the project activities to date, as well as provide descriptions and a timeline for the verification audit activities that are to follow (preparation of final monitoring reports, public comment period, auditor visits and possible interviews, verification report and results.)

In November 2018, once the Implementation and Monitoring Report was finalized, pedagogical material was designed to help present the results of the monitoring, reporting and verification process to the communities in a summarized fashion. This report was presented at publicized community meetings, which informed stakeholders about the visit of the auditing entity, the place, date, and purpose of that visit, and of the possibility of stakeholders' ability to interacting freely with this verifying entity during the visit (see "Lista de Productos de Comunicaciones" for references).

Per the CCBA rules, this monitoring report will also be made available online one month before the start of the verification site visit for a period of public comments.

Fondo Accion and the partners accompanying the project have an agenda to be implemented during the current verification period (second verification) for the dissemination of the monitoring results.

The results obtained and presented in the current monitoring report will be compiled and shared with the community during the public comment period. A virtual meeting was held with the participation of the boards of directors of CONCOSTA, technical team of the RED+ unit, action fund and paramos and Bosques where the results and progress of the verification were socialized: Results monitoring period 2018-2019.

Wildlife Works Colombia, socialized the Biodiversity Results Monitoring and Verification Report and Fondo Acción, socialized the results of the emissions reduction and the participatory evaluation of social impacts.

3.2 Quantification of GHG Emission Reductions and Removals

Project, baseline and leakage emissions were estimated by parameterizing the VM0006 equations EQ107-EQ113 in a new form that is equivalent to EQ106, though these values are never directly applied in accounting. Rather in accounting EQ107-EQ113 are applied to determine NERs per EQ106. The document “VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post” is the underlying accounting model, in which baseline emissions remain unchanged from the validated accounting model. Project, baseline and leakage emissions at time t as presented in the Project Description are based on the following parameterizations not equivalent to EQ106:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{ProjectEmissions}_t &= \sum_{i=1}^{nr} \Delta \text{area}_{\text{projectAreaEAH,projectScenario}(t,i)} \times (\text{EF}_{\text{AGL}}(i) + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{AGD}} \\
 &\quad + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{BG}} + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{SOM}}) \\
 \text{BaselineEmissions}_t &= \sum_{i=1}^{nr} \Delta \text{area}_{\text{projectAreaEAH,baselineScenario}(t,i)} \times (\text{EF}_{\text{AGL}}(i) + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{AGD}} \\
 &\quad + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{BG}} + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{SOM}}) \\
 \text{LeakageEmissions}_t &= \sum_{i=1}^{nr} \Delta \text{area}_{\text{leakageArea,projectScenario}(t,i)} \times (\text{EF}_{\text{AGL}}(i) + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{AGD}} \\
 &\quad + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{BG}} + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{SOM}})
 \end{aligned}$$

Conversely, project, baseline and leakage emissions at time t are presented in the monitoring report based on the following parameterizations that sum exactly to EQ106:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{ProjectEmissions}_t &= \sum_{i=1}^{nr} \Delta \text{area}_{\text{projectAreaEAH,projectScenario}(t,i)} \times (\text{EF}_{\text{AGL}}(i) + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{AGD}} \\
 &\quad + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{BG}} + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{SOM}}) \times u^* \times u_{\text{transition}}(i) \\
 \text{BaselineEmissions}_t &= \sum_{i=1}^{nr} [\Delta \text{area}_{\text{projectAreaEAH,baselineScenario}(t,i)} \times (\text{EF}_{\text{AGL}}(i) + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{AGD}} \\
 &\quad + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{BG}} + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{SOM}}) \times u^* \times u_{\text{transition}}(i) + \text{EQ113}] \\
 \text{LeakageEmissions}_t &= \sum_{i=1}^{nr} \Delta \text{area}_{\text{leakageArea,projectScenario}(t,i)} \times (\text{EF}_{\text{AGL}}(i) + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{AGD}} + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{BG}} \\
 &\quad + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{SOM}}) \times u^* \times u_{\text{transition}}(i) \\
 &\quad - \sum_{i=1}^{nr} \Delta \text{area}_{\text{leakageArea,baselineScenario}(t,i)} \times (\text{EF}_{\text{AGL}}(i) + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{AGD}} \\
 &\quad + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{BG}} + \text{EF}(i, t - \text{tt})_{\text{SOM}}) \times u^* \times u_{\text{transition}}(i) - \text{EQ111}
 \end{aligned}$$

Where u^* is $u_{\text{classification}}$ or $u_{\text{stratification}}$ for deforestation or degradation emissions, respectively. The sum of these equations and EQ115 are mathematically equivalent to EQ106 and therefore the values presented in this monitoring report differ slightly by approximately the amount of $u^* \times u_{\text{transition}}(i)$ as compared to values in the validated Project Description. These parameterizations are required for the VCS monitoring report template but for which equations are not explicitly provided in VM0006. Though the values presented here vary from those presented in the Project Description, the underlying baseline scenario has not changed as demonstrated by the ex-post accounting model, “VM0006_CONCOSTA_Ex_Post”.

3.2.1 Baseline Emissions

As mentioned in Section 3.2 above and in the 2013-2017 monitoring period, the baseline activity data has remained unchanged since validation, however, two updates were verified in the first 2013-2017 monitoring period that resulted in differences in the emissions from the original baseline data, and that continue to be used now during the 2018-2019 monitoring period. The update described here is replicated from the 2013-2017 monitoring report for convenience. The first change was the use of the equations detailed in Section 3.2, due to the fact that the VM0006 methodology calculations did not provide equations to estimate baseline emissions. The format in which the baseline emissions were calculated was updated to a more accurate reflection of the overall baseline emissions from the validation baseline data. Second, baseline emissions changed slightly due to the use of updated carbon stocks in the degraded forest class collected during this monitoring period. No change in emissions factors occurred for any LULC classes other than degraded forest, as shown in Table 14. All data and calculations can be found in the accounting model in the attached climate monitoring annex folder "VM0006_Concosta_Ex_Post.xlsx".

Table 14. Carbon stock estimates at Validation (Val) and updates due to monitoring for this Verification (Ver). See VM0006 for pool designations

LULC Class	AGT (tC/ha)		AGNT (tC/ha)		BG (tC/ha)		LDW (tC/ha)		SDW (tC/ha)		DTS (tC/ha)		Total (tC/ha)	
	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver
Primary Forest	153.38	153.38	3.18	3.18	43.12	43.12	16.82	16.82	3.65	3.65	2.02	2.02	0.00	0.00
Degraded Forest	81.77	139.11	2.16	2.16	24.43	38.80	24.34	13.22	4.72	3.00	2.34	2.34	0.00	0.00
Pastureland	15.76	15.76	0.77	0.77	8.74	8.74	5.15	5.15	1.17	1.17	0.82	0.82	0.00	0.00
Cropland	22.16	22.16	1.41	1.41	10.65	10.65	9.43	9.43	2.48	2.48	1.51	1.51	0.00	0.00
Wetland	23.51	23.51	0.71	0.71	8.06	8.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Settlement	3.27	3.27	0.10	0.10	1.39	1.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	16.48	16.48	0.49	0.49	5.87	5.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Table 15. Standard errors of carbon stock estimates at Validation (Val) and updates due to monitoring for this Verification (Ver). See VM0006 for pool designations.

LULC Class	AGT (tC/ha)		AGNT (tC/ha)		BG (tC/ha)		LDW (tC/ha)		SDW (tC/ha)		DTS (tC/ha)		Total (tC/ha)	
	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver
Primary Forest	2.17	2.17	0.48	0.48	2.69	2.69	0.76	0.76	0.38	0.38	0.63	0.63	0.00	0.00
Degraded Forest	4.34	13.64	0.49	0.49	3.31	3.49	1.30	2.64	0.77	0.62	1.09	1.09	0.00	0.00
Pastureland	3.18	3.18	0.36	0.36	2.62	2.62	0.96	0.96	0.42	0.42	0.78	0.78	0.00	0.00

Cropland	3.14	3.14	0.35	0.35	2.50	2.50	0.94	0.94	0.47	0.47	0.78	0.78	0.00	0.00
Wetland	2.84	2.84	0.32	0.32	2.37	2.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Settlement	0.32	0.32	0.04	0.04	0.34	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	1.71	1.71	0.19	0.19	1.48	1.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

These new carbon stock estimates have led to changed emissions factors for each transition involving a degraded forest (Table 16, which were established during 2013-2017). Furthermore, new standard errors have changed the uncertainty involved in each transition, which has led to changes in the uncertainty deduction attributed with each transition.

Table 16. Emissions factors and uncertainties for LULC transitions over one year of decay (see VM0006 for pool designations).

LULC Transition	AGL(tCO ₂ e/ha)		AGD (tCO ₂ e/ha)		BG (tCO ₂ e/ha)		CE_transition		U_transition	
	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver	Val	Ver
Primary Forest to Primary Forest	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	0
Primary Forest to Degraded Forest	266.31	56.07	-3.27	1.44	6.85	1.58	0.16	1.24	0.84	0
Primary Forest to Pastureland	513.45	513.45	5.63	5.63	12.6	12.6	0.06	0.06	1.00	1
Primary Forest to Cropland	487.65	487.65	3.33	3.33	11.91	11.91	0.06	0.06	1.00	1
Primary Forest to Wetland	485.29	485.29	8.25	8.25	12.86	12.86	0.05	0.05	1.00	1
Primary Forest to Settlement	561.72	561.72	8.25	8.25	15.3	15.3	0.03	0.03	1.00	1
Primary Forest to Other	511.83	511.83	8.25	8.25	13.66	13.66	0.04	0.04	1.00	1
Primary Forest to Water	574.08	574.08	8.25	8.25	15.81	15.81	0.03	0.03	1.00	1
Degraded Forest to Primary Forest	-266.31	-56.07	3.27	-1.44	-6.85	-1.58	0.16	1.24	0.84	0
Degraded Forest to Degraded Forest	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	0
Degraded Forest to Pastureland	247.14	457.37	8.89	4.19	5.75	11.02	0.13	0.18	1.00	0.82
Degraded Forest to Cropland	221.34	431.58	6.59	1.89	5.05	10.32	0.15	0.19	0.85	0.81
Degraded Forest to Wetland	218.98	429.21	11.5 1	6.8	6	11.27	0.13	0.18	1.00	0.82
Degraded Forest to Settlement	295.41	505.64	11.5 1	6.8	8.45	13.72	0.08	0.15	1.00	1
Degraded Forest to Other	245.52	455.75	11.5 1	6.8	6.8	12.07	0.10	0.16	1.00	0.84
Degraded Forest to Water	307.77	518	11.5	6.8	8.96	14.23	0.08	0.14	1.00	1

			1							
Pastureland to Primary Forest	-513.45	-513.45	-5.63	-5.63	-12.6	-12.6	0.06	0.06	1.00	1
Pastureland to Degraded Forest	-247.14	-457.37	-8.89	-4.19	-5.75	-11.02	0.13	0.18	1.00	0.82
Pastureland to Pastureland	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	0
Pastureland to Cropland	-25.8	-25.8	-2.3	-2.3	-0.7	-0.7	0.78	0.78	0.22	0.22
Pastureland to Wetland	-28.16	-28.16	2.62	2.62	0.25	0.25	78.18	78.18	-	0
Pastureland to Settlement	48.27	48.27	2.62	2.62	2.69	2.69	0.31	0.31	0.69	0.69
Pastureland to Other	-1.62	-1.62	2.62	2.62	1.05	1.05	1.00	1	-	0
Pastureland to Water	60.63	60.63	2.62	2.62	3.2	3.2	0.26	0.26	0.74	0.74
Cropland to Primary Forest	-487.65	-487.65	-3.33	-3.33	-11.91	-11.91	0.06	0.06	1.00	1
Cropland to Degraded Forest	-221.34	-431.58	-6.59	-1.89	-5.05	-10.32	0.15	0.19	0.85	0.81
Cropland to Pastureland	25.8	25.8	2.3	2.3	0.7	0.7	0.78	0.78	0.22	0.22
Cropland to Cropland	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	0
Cropland to Wetland	-2.36	-2.36	4.92	4.92	0.95	0.95	0.72	0.72	0.28	0.28
Cropland to Settlement	74.07	74.07	4.92	4.92	3.39	3.39	0.19	0.19	0.81	0.81
Cropland to Other	24.18	24.18	4.92	4.92	1.75	1.75	0.38	0.38	0.62	0.62
Cropland to Water	86.42	86.42	4.92	4.92	3.9	3.9	0.17	0.17	0.83	0.83
Wetland to Primary Forest	-485.29	-485.29	-8.25	-8.25	-12.86	-12.86	0.05	0.05	1.00	1
Wetland to Degraded Forest	-218.98	-429.21	-11.51	-6.8	-6	-11.27	0.13	0.18	1.00	0.82
Wetland to Pastureland	28.16	28.16	-2.62	-2.62	-0.25	-0.25	78.18	78.18	-	0
Wetland to Cropland	2.36	2.36	-4.92	-4.92	-0.95	-0.95	0.72	0.72	0.28	0.28
Wetland to Wetland	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	0
Wetland to Settlement	76.43	76.43	0	0	2.44	2.44	0.27	0.27	0.73	0.73

Wetland to Other	26.54	26.54	0	0	0.8	0.8	0.91	0.91	0.09	0.09
Wetland to Water	88.79	88.79	0	0	2.95	2.95	0.23	0.23	0.77	0.77
Settlement to Primary Forest	-561.72	-561.72	-8.25	-8.25	-15.3	-15.3	0.03	0.03	1.00	1
Settlement to Degraded Forest	-295.41	-505.64	-11.51	-6.8	-8.45	-13.72	0.08	0.15	1.00	1
Settlement to Pastureland	-48.27	-48.27	-2.62	-2.62	-2.69	-2.69	0.31	0.31	0.69	0.69
Settlement to Cropland	-74.07	-74.07	-4.92	-4.92	-3.39	-3.39	0.19	0.19	0.81	0.81
Settlement to Wetland	-76.43	-76.43	0	0	-2.44	-2.44	0.27	0.27	0.73	0.73
Settlement to Settlement	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	1.00	1
Settlement to Other	-49.89	-49.89	0	0	-1.64	-1.64	0.25	0.25	0.75	0.75
Settlement to Water	12.36	12.36	0	0	0.51	0.51	0.19	0.19	0.81	0.81
Other to Primary Forest	-511.83	-511.83	-8.25	-8.25	-13.66	-13.66	0.04	0.04	1.00	1
Other to Degraded Forest	-245.52	-455.75	-11.51	-6.8	-6.8	-12.07	0.10	0.16	1.00	0.84
Other to Pastureland	1.62	1.62	-2.62	-2.62	-1.05	-1.05	1.00	1	-	0
Other to Cropland	-24.18	-24.18	-4.92	-4.92	-1.75	-1.75	0.38	0.38	0.62	0.62
Other to Wetland	-26.54	-26.54	0	0	-0.8	-0.8	0.91	0.91	0.09	0.09
Other to Settlement	49.89	49.89	0	0	1.64	1.64	0.25	0.25	0.75	0.75
Other to Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	0
Other to Water	62.25	62.25	0	0	2.15	2.15	0.20	0.2	0.80	0.8
Water to Primary Forest	-574.08	-574.08	-8.25	-8.25	-15.81	-15.81	0.03	0.03	1.00	1
Water to Degraded Forest	-307.77	-518	-11.51	-6.8	-8.96	-14.23	0.08	0.14	1.00	1
Water to Pastureland	-60.63	-60.63	-2.62	-2.62	-3.2	-3.2	0.26	0.26	0.74	0.74
Water to Cropland	-86.42	-86.42	-4.92	-4.92	-3.9	-3.9	0.17	0.17	0.83	0.83
Water to Wetland	-88.79	-88.79	0	0	-2.95	-2.95	0.23	0.23	0.77	0.77
Water to Settlement	-12.36	-12.36	0	0	-0.51	-0.51	0.19	0.19	0.81	0.81
Water to Other	-62.25	-62.25	0	0	-2.15	-2.15	0.20	0.2	0.80	0.8

Water to Water	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	1.00	1
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Table 17 compares the baseline emissions for this monitoring period at validation with the updated emissions as a result of these changes to baseline calculations described in Section 3.2 and updated carbon stock estimates. Leakage emissions in the baseline scenario were not calculated separately at validation, so this information is currently unknown. The baseline itself has not been updated since validation. It should also be noted that validation data in Table 17 has been included to clarify the changes from what was provided in the PD. However, this validation data is not used in any credit calculations, and in all instances the updated verification baseline emissions are used.

Table 17. Estimated emissions or removals in the baseline scenario for the project area and leakage area both at time of validation and updated for this verification. For all credit generation calculations, the updated values for verification are used

Year	Baseline Emissions in Project Area (tCO ₂ e)		Baseline Emissions in Leakage Area (tCO ₂ e)	
	Validation	Verification	Validation	Verification
2013	226,101	110,433		36,459
2014	330,989	247,233		81,110
2015	226,428	256,077		82,772
2016	206,051	268,479		83,954
2017	187,974	279,908		86,727
2018	168,385	284,952		86,695
2019	149,784	288,761		87,409
TOTAL	1,495,712	1,735,843		545,126

3.2.2 Project Emissions

Ex-post project emissions for this verification period were calculated by summing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation transitions observed during this monitoring period. Per Section 5.4 of the PD, all project activities are meant to reduce these two emissions types. No emissions estimates outlined in VM0006 are included in this project since they are not part of the project activities (i.e. cookstoves, ANR, etc.). Calculating project emissions required primarily two data sources. First, the latest monitored carbon stock data for LULC classes, as discussed in section 3.1.3, was also used for updated emissions factors for each transition. Secondly, an updated land cover classification map for the project area was created in order to calculate areas of transition and emissions factors for each transition (see Section 3.1.3).

The project activities do not include any timber harvesting that produces LLWPs and the project conservatively estimates that none of the deforestation or degradation observed within the project area in the project scenario generates LLWPs. This is conservative because all emissions are assumed to occur at time of deforestation and degradation, when likely unplanned deforestation and degradation would result in the use of extracted timber as LLWP. Thus, there are no avoided emissions from LLWPs modelled when accounting for project emissions. The calculation of LLWPs can be found in the carbon accounting model under the tab "WP Report - EQ102 and EQ113", which will confirm that there are no LLWPs in the project scenario.

Project deforestation and degradation emissions were calculated following the guidelines of section 9.3.2 of the VM0006 methodology. These guidelines require that an annual rate of change, $\Delta area_{projectAreaEAH,(t,i)}$, be calculated for each transition. This rate of change is then used in the calculations for final NERs as discussed in section 3.2.4 below. The updated LULC class map completed for this monitoring period was used to generate results for this rate of change for each transition over the entire monitoring period,

t_period ($\Delta area_{projectAreaEAH,projectScenario}(t_period,i)$). These results can then be divided by the length of the monitoring period in order to convert this rate to an annual rate. Both these values can be found in Table 18 below.

While the VM0006 methodology does not calculate project emissions separately, instead requiring the calculation of NERs on category by category basis such as avoided deforestation or degradation (the method utilized in section 3.2.4 (Net GHG Emission Reductions and Removals), it is possible to calculate project emissions separately by using the following equation adapted from equation 106 of the methodology:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ProjectEmissions}_t &= \sum_{i=1}^{nr} \Delta area_{projectAreaEAH,projectScenario}(t,i) \times (EF_{AGL}(i) + EF(i, t - tt)_{AGD} \\ &+ EF(i, t - tt)_{BG} + EF(i, t - tt)_{SOM}) \times U^* \times U_{transition}(i) \end{aligned}$$

Table 18. Total area of transitions that happened within the project area during the monitoring period and the associated emissions accounted for in each transition.

LULC Transition	$\Delta area_{projectAreaEAH,projectScenario}(t_period,i)$ (ha)	GHG Emissions (Project t_period) (tCO ₂ e)
Primary Forest to Degraded Forest	120.9	0.0
Primary Forest to Pastureland	4.2	8,757.4
Primary Forest to Cropland	0.5	2,304.8
Primary Forest to Wetland	0.0	2,369.7
Primary Forest to Settlement	0.0	87.0
Primary Forest to Other	2.1	1,050.1
Primary Forest to Water	0.0	0.0
Degraded Forest to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Degraded Forest to Pastureland	28.9	15,625.6
Degraded Forest to Cropland	9.0	7,966.9
Degraded Forest to Wetland	0.0	1,475.3
Degraded Forest to Settlement	2.6	1,493.2
Degraded Forest to Other	8.5	3,252.0
Degraded Forest to Water	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Cropland	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Wetland	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Settlement	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Other	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Water	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Pastureland	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Wetland	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Settlement	0.0	0.0

Cropland to Other	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Water	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Pastureland	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Cropland	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Settlement	0.0	0.2
Wetland to Other	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Water	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Pastureland	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Cropland	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Wetland	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Other	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Water	0.0	0.0
Other to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Other to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Other to Pastureland	0.0	0.0
Other to Cropland	0.0	0.0
Other to Wetland	0.0	0.0
Other to Settlement	0.0	0.0
Other to Water	0.0	0.0
Water to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Water to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Water to Pastureland	0.0	0.0
Water to Cropland	0.0	0.0
Water to Wetland	0.0	0.0
Water to Settlement	0.0	0.0
Water to Other	0.0	0.0

Project emissions were calculated for both deforestation and forest degradation. The specific values for transition specific emissions factors and $u_{transition(i)}$ are found in Table 19 since the same values are used for calculating baseline and project emissions. Total project emissions were equivalent to **44,382 tCO₂e** during this monitoring period. They have been divided between the years as shown in table **19**. based on the fraction of days that each year takes over the total monitoring period.

Table 19. Total annual GHG emissions within the project area during the current monitoring period.

Project Year	Degradation Emissions within Project Area (tCO ₂ e)	Deforestation Emissions within Project Area (tCO ₂ e)	Total Annual GHG Emissions in Project Area (tCO ₂ e)
2013	4,659	31,382	36,041

2014	10,676	71,208	81,884
2015	11,108	73,415	84,522
2016	11,544	75,650	87,194
2017	11,970	77,822	89,793
2018	1,923	20,096	22,018
2019	1,923	20,442	22,364
Total	53,803	370,015	423,816

As required by the methodology, Table 20 below displays the LULC class specific land transition areas for the project area under the baseline scenario and compares these values to the LULC class specific land transition areas for the project area in the project scenario.

Table 20. Comparison of total area of transitions that happened within the project area during the monitoring period with total area of transitions that happened within the project area during the corresponding period of the baseline.

LULC Transition	Transition Area in project area in project scenario (ha)	Transition Area in project area in baseline scenario (ha)	Difference between Project and Baseline Scenario (ha)
Primary Forest to Degraded Forest	120.9	2,738.7	-2,617.8
Primary Forest to Pastureland	4.2	309.3	-305.1
Primary Forest to Cropland	0.5	203.4	-202.9
Primary Forest to Wetland	0.0	0.1	-0.1
Primary Forest to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Primary Forest to Other	2.1	0.0	2.1
Primary Forest to Water	0.0	0.1	-0.1
Degraded Forest to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Degraded Forest to Pastureland	28.9	617.7	-588.8
Degraded Forest to Cropland	9.0	146.2	-137.2
Degraded Forest to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Degraded Forest to Settlement	2.6	0.0	2.6
Degraded Forest to Other	8.5	0.0	8.5
Degraded Forest to Water	0.0	0.3	-0.3
Pastureland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Cropland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0

Pastureland to Other	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Pastureland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Other	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Pastureland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Cropland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Other	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Pastureland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Cropland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Other	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Pastureland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Cropland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Pastureland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Cropland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Other	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	176.7	4,015.6	-3,838.9

3.2.3 Leakage

Leakage GHG emissions were estimated from LULC transition data and calculated using the adapted equation referenced below. The results for each transition are separated out in Table 18. Table 19 compares baseline and project scenario activity data, while Table 20 provides degradation, deforestation, and total GHG emissions.

$$\text{LeakageEmissions}_{nr}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{nr} \Delta area_{leakageArea,projectScenario(t,i)} \times (EF_{AGL}(i) + EF(i, t - tt)_{AGD} + EF(i, t - tt)_{BG} \\
 &+ EF(i, t - tt)_{SOM}) \times u^* \times u_{transition}(i) \\
 &- \sum_{i=1}^{nr} \Delta area_{leakageArea,baselineScenario(t,i)} \times (EF_{AGL}(i) + EF(i, t - tt)_{AGD} \\
 &+ EF(i, t - tt)_{BG} + EF(i, t - tt)_{SOM}) \times u^* \times u_{transition}(i) - EQ111
 \end{aligned}$$

Table 21. Total area of transitions within the leakage area and associated emissions during the monitoring period

LULC Transition	$\Delta area_{leakageAreaEAH,projectScenario}(t_period,i)$ (ha)	GHG Emissions (leakage_t_period) (tCO2e)
Primary Forest to Degraded Forest	26.6	0.0
Primary Forest to Pastureland	2.0	2,351.2
Primary Forest to Cropland	0.3	573.8
Primary Forest to Wetland	0.0	11.2
Primary Forest to Settlement	0.0	0.0
Primary Forest to Other	1.8	846.5
Primary Forest to Water	0.0	0.0
Degraded Forest to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Degraded Forest to Pastureland	7.4	3,645.9
Degraded Forest to Cropland	2.0	2,192.1
Degraded Forest to Wetland	0.0	36.4
Degraded Forest to Settlement	0.3	140.7
Degraded Forest to Other	1.4	523.7
Degraded Forest to Water	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Cropland	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Wetland	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Settlement	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Other	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Water	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Pastureland	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Wetland	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Settlement	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Other	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Water	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Pastureland	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Cropland	0.0	0.0

Wetland to Settlement	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Other	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Water	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Pastureland	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Cropland	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Wetland	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Other	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Water	0.0	0.0
Other to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Other to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Other to Pastureland	0.0	0.0
Other to Cropland	0.0	0.0
Other to Wetland	0.0	0.0
Other to Settlement	0.0	0.0
Other to Water	0.0	0.0
Water to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0
Water to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0
Water to Pastureland	0.0	0.0
Water to Cropland	0.0	0.0
Water to Wetland	0.0	0.0
Water to Settlement	0.0	0.0
Water to Other	0.0	0.0

The market leakage calculation was completed, in compliance with Section 5.5.5 of the PD, by applying a market leakage discount factor of 0.2 to the net change in carbon stocks within the project area in order to estimate the market leakage emissions reported in Table 22.

Table 22. Total leakage emissions during the monitoring period.

Project Year	Baseline Leakage (tCO ₂ e)	Ex-Post Activity Shifting Leakage (tCO ₂ e)		Market Leakage (tCO ₂ e)	Total Ex-Post Leakage (tCO ₂ e)
		Degradation	Deforestation		
2013	36,459	50	6,220	15,246	15,246
2014	81,110	114	14,105	33,876	33,876
2015	82,772	118	14,535	35,117	35,117
2016	83,954	123	14,970	37,069	37,069
2017	86,727	128	15,392	38,840	38,840
2018	86,695	24	5,087	53,401	53,401
2019	87,409	24	5,186	54,090	54,090

Total 2018-2019	174,104	48	10,273	107,491	107,491
Total Lifetime	545,126	673	84,930	267,639	267,639

As required by the methodology, Table 23 below displays the LULC class specific land transition areas for the leakage area under the baseline scenario and compares these values to the LULC class specific land transition areas for the leakage area in the project scenario.

Table 23. Comparison of total area of transitions that happened within the leakage area during the monitoring period with total area of transitions that happened within the leakage area during the corresponding period of the baseline.

LULC Transition	Transition Area in leakage area in project scenario (ha)	Transition Area in leakage area in baseline scenario (ha)	Difference between Project and Baseline Scenario (ha)
Primary Forest to Degraded Forest	26.6	843.8	-817.2
Primary Forest to Pastureland	2.0	60.8	-58.8
Primary Forest to Cropland	0.3	69.4	-69.1
Primary Forest to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Primary Forest to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Primary Forest to Other	1.8	0.0	1.8
Primary Forest to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Degraded Forest to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Degraded Forest to Pastureland	7.4	167.2	-159.8
Degraded Forest to Cropland	2.0	96.1	-94.1
Degraded Forest to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Degraded Forest to Settlement	0.3	0.0	0.3
Degraded Forest to Other	1.4	0.0	1.4
Degraded Forest to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Cropland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Other	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pastureland to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Pastureland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Other	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cropland to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0

Wetland to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Pastureland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Cropland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Other	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wetland to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Pastureland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Cropland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Other	0.0	0.0	0.0
Settlement to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Pastureland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Cropland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other to Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Primary Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Degraded Forest	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Pastureland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Cropland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Wetland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water to Other	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	41.8	1,237.2	-1,195.4

3.2.4 Net HG Emission Reductions and Removals

Net GHG emission reductions and removals are calculated using equation 105 of the methodology. This project only credits project and leakage area emissions for avoided deforestation and degradation as explained in the above sections. Thus, equation 105 for calculating NERs can be simplified for this project:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Net Emission Reductions (NERs)} \\
 &= \Delta\text{GHG from avoided deforestation (EQ107)} \\
 &+ \Delta\text{GHG from deforestation due to leakage (EQ108)} \\
 &+ \Delta\text{GHG from avoided degradation (EQ109)} \\
 &+ \Delta\text{GHG from degradation due to leakage (EQ110)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Equations 107-110 from the methodology (Figure 3) were used to respectively calculate each of these emissions types. All the parameters for these equations have been explained in the preceding sections, including area transitioned, emissions factors, and uncertainty.

Figure 3: Required step equations for calculating NERs (Source: VM0006 Methodology v2.1)

ΔGHG from avoided deforestation:

$$\text{①} = \sum_{i=1}^{nrFNFTtransitions} \sum_{tt=1}^t u_{classification} \cdot u_{transition}(i) \quad [\text{EQ107}]$$

$$\cdot \left(\begin{array}{l} +\Delta area_{projectAreaEAH,projectScenario}(t,i) \\ -\Delta area_{projectAreaEAH,baselineScenario}(t,i) \end{array} \right)$$

$$\cdot (EF_{AGL}(i) + EF_{AGD}(i, t - tt) + EF_{BG}(i, t - tt) + EF_{SOM}(i, t - tt))$$

ΔGHG from deforestation due to leakage:

$$\text{②} = \sum_{i=1}^{nrFNFTtransitions} \sum_{tt=1}^t u_{classification} \cdot u_{transition}(i) \quad [\text{EQ108}]$$

$$\cdot \left(\begin{array}{l} +\Delta area_{leakageArea,projectScenario}(t,i) \\ -\Delta area_{leakageArea,baselineScenario}(t,i) \end{array} \right)$$

$$\cdot (EF_{AGL}(i) + EF_{AGD}(i, t - tt) + EF_{BG}(i, t - tt) + EF_{SOM}(i, t - tt))$$

ΔGHG from avoided degradation:

$$\text{③} = \sum_{i=1}^{nrStrataTransitions} \sum_{tt=1}^t u_{stratification} \cdot u_{transition}(i) \quad [\text{EQ109}]$$

$$\cdot \left(\begin{array}{l} +\Delta area_{projectAreaEAH,projectScenario}(t,i) \\ -\Delta area_{projectAreaEAH,baselineScenario}(t,i) \end{array} \right)$$

$$\cdot (EF_{AGL}(i) + EF_{AGD}(i, t - tt) + EF_{BG}(i, t - tt) + EF_{SOM}(i, t - tt))$$

ΔGHG from degradation due to leakage:

$$\text{④} = \sum_{i=1}^{nrStrataTransitions} \sum_{tt=1}^t u_{stratification} \cdot u_{transition}(i) \quad [\text{EQ110}]$$

$$\cdot \left(\begin{array}{l} +\Delta area_{leakageArea,projectScenario}(t,i) \\ -\Delta area_{leakageArea,baselineScenario}(t,i) \end{array} \right)$$

$$\cdot (EF_{AGL}(i) + EF_{AGD}(i, t - tt) + EF_{BG}(i, t - tt) + EF_{SOM}(i, t - tt))$$

The results of these equations are listed annually in Table 24 below.
Table 24. NERs generated during this monitoring period.

Year	ΔGHG from avoided deforestation (EQ107) (tCO ₂ e)	ΔGHG from deforestation due to leakage (EQ108) (tCO ₂ e)	ΔGHG from avoided degradation (EQ109) (tCO ₂ e)	ΔGHG from degradation due to leakage (EQ110) (tCO ₂ e)	ΔGHG due to market effects leakage (EQ111) (tCO ₂ e)	ΔGHG due to wood products (EQ113) (tCO ₂ e)	ΔGHG due to other sources (EQ115)	Net Emission Reductions (EQ106) (tCO ₂ e)
2013	-80,887		4,659		15,246	1,836		59,146
2014	-180,055		10,676		33,876	4,030		131,473
2015	-186,695		11,108		35,117	4,033		136,437
2016	-196,887		11,544		37,069	4,058		144,217
2017	-206,169		11,970		38,840	4,084		151,275
2018	-268,891		1,886		53,401	4,071		209,533
2019	-272,371		1,921		54,090	4,053		212,307
MP Total (2018-2019)	-541,262		3,807		107,491	8,124		421,840
Total Lifetime	-1,391,955	0	53,764	0	267,639	26,165	0	1,044,388

Although not required by the methodology, baseline, project, and leakage emissions have been separated out from each other and included in Table 25 as included in the monitoring report template required by VCS.

Table 25. Baseline, project, and leakage emissions as well as NERs achieved by the project during this monitoring period

Year	Baseline emissions or removals (tCO ₂ e)	Project emissions or removals (tCO ₂ e)	Leakage emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Net GHG emission reductions or removals (tCO ₂ e)
2013	110,433	36,041	15,246	59,146
2014	247,233	81,884	33,876	131,473
2015	256,077	84,522	35,117	136,437
2016	268,479	87,194	37,069	144,217
2017	279,908	89,793	38,840	151,275
2018	284,952	22,018	53,401	209,533
2019	288,761	22,364	54,090	212,307
MP Total (2018-2019)	573,713	44,382	107,491	421,840

Total Lifetime	1,735,843	423,816	267,639	1,044,388
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Finally, after calculating NERs, VCUs are calculated by removing the buffer credits. Per equation 106 of the methodology, applied to this project:

$$VCUs = NERs - buffer$$

$$* (\Delta GHG \text{ from avoided deforestation} + \Delta GHG \text{ from avoided degradation} + \Delta GHG \text{ from changes in long lived wood products})$$

The non-permanence risk rating for this project is 10%. Final annual VCUs for this project during this monitoring period were calculated by removing buffer credits from NERs, as shown in Table 26 below. During this monitoring period, the Concosta project generated **368,907 VCUs**.

Table 26. NERs, buffer credit allocation and VCUs generated by the project.

Year	Net Emissions Reductions (tCO2e)	Buffer credits (tCO2e)	Verified Carbon Units (tCO2e)
2013	59,146	7,439	51,707
2014	131,473	16,535	114,938
2015	136,437	17,155	119,281
2016	144,217	18,129	126,088
2017	151,275	19,012	132,264
2018	209,533	26,293	183,240
2019	212,307	26,640	185,667
Total	1,044,388	131,203	913,185

Table 27. NER's Buffer credit allocation, and VCUs generated during the 2018-2019 monitoring period

Year	Net Emissions Reductions (tCO2e)	Buffer credits (tCO2e)	Verified Carbon Units (tCO2e)
2018	209,533	26,293	183,240
2019	212,307	26,640	185,667
Total	421,840	52,933	368,907

3.3 Optional Criterion: Climate Change Adaptation Benefits

The project is not seeking gold level climate benefits at this time.

4 COMMUNITY

4.1 Net Positive Community Impacts

4.1.1 Community Impacts (CM2.1)

The project team has utilized appropriate methodologies to assess the predicted impacts, including direct and indirect benefits, costs, risks and changes in well-being, on each of the identified Community Groups presented below. The assessment of impacts has been carried out in a participatory manner with community stakeholders and is based on clearly defined and defensible assumptions about changes in well-being of these Community Groups under the with-project scenario, and as presented in the original project design document at time of validation.

An initial socio-economic baseline was conducted with the help of University of Antioquia to develop these socio-economic assessments. The socio-economic assessment for Concosta was conducted using the following methods:

- Initial identification of local and regional stakeholders, which included: the governor of Chocó, territorial governments, municipalities, NGOs, Community Councils, Indian Associations, Corporations, Social and Indigenous Communities of African Descent;
- Through a literature review, secondary information about different social, economic, productive, environmental and other studies were analyzed.
- Tools were designed, along with facilitators of African and indigenous descent, contextually aware of the social, cultural, economic, productive, and environmental realities in the territories;
- The statistical parameter set by the team of professionals corresponded to a sampling unit of 10% of the total population for implementation of the survey, with the family as the sampling parameter;
- Participatory workshops were held with Legal Representatives of Community Councils, Indigenous Governors, and other key stakeholders.

As the project's main implementing partner, Fondo Acción has been systematically engaged with stakeholders in socialization meetings from the start of the project. Through these meetings, community stakeholders have been participating in the identification of deforestation and degradation drivers, specific agents, and the best strategies to address and mitigate them. Project activities have resulted from these participatory meetings, where stakeholders have set priorities with the support of Fondo Acción, including the climate change technical team and outside specialists. Throughout the socialization process, emphasis has been placed on the development of appropriate community-level engagement processes and materials to ensure that complex issues are presented in a way that communities can understand. This included participatory mapping of the project area, identification of risks to the communities, prioritization of project activities, and role-playing to better understand potential financing and implications for the project.

In order to assess and continually monitor the impacts that the project is having on communities; and to allow for the participation of affected groups in the evaluation of such impacts, Participatory Evaluation of Social Impact surveys were conducted as part of the project's monitoring efforts. These have documented equitable training and benefit-sharing to date through the high marks received on social well-being and stakeholder satisfaction with regard to project outcomes. Adjustment to the benefits-sharing mechanism will also be made with input from the result of these

surveys. Please refer to “Social Impact Evaluations” for documentary evidence of these social impact evaluations, carried out by project proponents at the end of the second monitoring period.

The tables below describe all impacts on each community group resulting from project activities under the with-project scenario. Please see “MTC_IndSociales CONCOSTA_V2” for supporting reference and documentation.

Community Group	Local team REDD+ and government boards
Impact	1 zoning map for the application of sustainable forest management and land-use planning: 1 Concosta zoning map
Type of Benefit/Cost/Risk	Predicted/Indirect/Benefit
Change in Well-being	Increased governance capacity, Increased territorial appropriation

Community Group	Community member and local team REDD+
Impact	22 People training in zoning of territory. Active participation in project planning and prioritization of investment opportunities, implementation of land use plans, design of benefit distribution systems, and modifications/adjustements to project documentation.
Type of Benefit/Cost/Risk	Predicted/Direct/Benefit
Change in Well-being	Increased governance capacity, Increased sustainable forest and land use

Community Group	Beneficiaries & REDD+ technical team, community families and Government Boards
Impact	474 people with strengthened capacities in the following activities: 2 General Assembly: Assembly to approve the proposal for zoning of the territory), Assembly to build annual operating plan POA. . 11 governance spaces with the participation of the 151 people. 8 Sessions board directives with the participation of de 77. 45 people who have improved skills and/or knowledge resulting from training. 1 Socialization of productive action plan-Organizational strengthening (10 people) 1 Socialization of the activity to be carried out (territorial governance)-Guineal (18 people) 1 Administrative and financial manual of CONCOSTA 2019. 1 Contracted team for control and surveillance comprised of 5 promoters and 1 REDD+ liaison.

	1 REDD+ team with equipment. 4 equipment delivered: 1 Garmin 64s GPS 1 laptop computer 2 Blackview equipment for the use of the SMART tool in the collection of information in the field. 179 people participating in community monitoring routes, field and biodiversity monitoring
Type of Benefit/Cost/Risk	Actual/Direct/Benefit
Change in Well-being	Increased governance capacity, Increased administration and management capacity

Community Group	Loggers (corteros)
Impact	103 Loggers participating in regeneration and/or maintenance of areas of carbon reserves and/or biodiversity conservation and territorial governance trips.
Type of Benefit/Cost/Risk	Predicted/Indirect/Benefit; Actual/Direct/Benefit
Change in Well-being	Increased territorial appropriation; Alternative livelihoods

Community Group	Local team REDD+
Impact	2018: 1 liaison MRV for the REDD+ project 2019: 1 liaison MRV for the REDD+ Unit, 5 REDD+ promoters, 1 management support and 1 technician REDD+.
Type of Benefit/Cost/Risk	Actual/Direct/Benefit
Change in Well-being	Increased administration & management; Alternative livelihoods

Community Group	Local team REDD+
Impact	Equipment to maintain digital records of monitoring activities of the delimitation, control and surveillance: 1 Garmin 64s GPS 1 Bushnell Binoculars 1 laptop computer 2 Blackview equipment for the use of the SMART tool in the collection of information in the field.
Type of Benefit/Cost/Risk	Predicted/Indirect/Benefit
Change in Well-being	Increased administration & management; Increased governance capacity

Community Group	Beneficiaries of productive activities Interested in Naidi/Acai
Impact	Assistance "Practices and techniques of silvicultural management of naidizales to increase production. Comunidad (31 people).

Type of Benefit/Cost/Risk	Actual/Direct/Benefit
Change in Well-being	Sustainable intensification of agriculture and productive activities; Alternative livelihoods; Increased administration & management

Community Group	Beneficiaries of productive activities Interested in Fishing/Piangua
Impact	Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices fishing.
Type of Benefit/Cost/Risk	Predicted/Direct/Benefit
Change in Well-being	Sustainable intensification of agriculture and productive activities; Alternative livelihoods; Increased administration & management

Community Group	Female community members
Impact	7 women community members who have improved skills and/or knowledge
Type of Benefit/Cost/Risk	Predicted/Direct/Benefit
Change in Well-being	Increased capacity-building

4.1.2 Negative Community Impact Mitigation (CM2.2)

The project has been designed to improve the social and economic well-being of community groups and to enhance and maintain the HCV attributes of the project. To achieve this, the project proponents have ensured the equitable distribution of all types of project benefits and activities to date through capacity building and training process undertaken by Fondo Acción.

Participatory Evaluation of Social Impact surveys have also been conducted as part of the project's monitoring efforts, demonstrating equitable training and benefit-sharing to date through the high marks received in social well-being and stakeholder satisfaction with respect to project outcomes. Adjustment to the benefits-sharing mechanism will be made as necessary, based on the results of these surveys. Please refer to the "Social Impact Evaluations" folder within Community Monitoring and Administration Data for comprehensive details and documentary evidence of the social impact evaluations carried out by the project proponents at the end of the reporting period.

No unanticipated negative impacts to community well-being have been identified during the second monitoring period, nor have any major grievances been presented through the Grievance and Redress Mechanism that was developed by the REDD+ Implementation Unit of the Community Council. In order to continue mitigating any potential negative impacts on community well-being, the project will continue to follow safeguards drafted by the World Bank and other donor agencies, as well as the SBIA guidelines. Further, it will continue to promote the use of the Grievance and Redress Mechanism for any negative impacts that should arise in the future

Project activities have been focused at the family or household level and decisions have all been made at a local level, by "veredales" and zonal boards, which has guaranteed that marginalized and vulnerable groups – such as women, children, and elderly – have benefited and have been involved in decision-making and benefits distribution decisions

To ensure that benefits (including employment opportunities) reach women and the most vulnerable and/or marginalized people in the community, Fondo Acción continues consulting with the project communities to enact a benefits distribution scheme that has, as a key component, the selection of beneficiaries based on clearly established criteria (i.e. to support those with the greatest need and who request to be included in the project activities). There are also a number of other activities in place to ensure that vulnerable and/or marginalized people are able to participate in project design and development activities such as participatory risk assessments and community meetings. Specifically:

- Provision of transportation and other stipends needed to attend project meetings, particularly for those who set aside basic daily subsistence activities to attend meetings;
- “Veredales,” or Committees/Zonal Boards, have had clear information about project activities and full participation in any decision-making, including individual cases that require special attention;
- Ensuring that the most vulnerable groups have access to training that will enhance their capacity to participate in productive value chains;
- In cases where families do not have clear usufruct rights, advancement of procedures for assignment of such rights by the Community Council;
- Personnel selection has been based on clear procedures that ensure equal employment opportunities for vulnerable and marginalized groups;
- Households are considered as the basic unit of intervention and the separate roles of men and women in productive processes have been analyzed to effectively address their differential needs and improve living conditions.

Participatory Evaluation of Social Impact surveys have also been conducted as part of the project’s monitoring efforts, and these have shown equitable training and benefit sharing to date through the high marks received on the social well-being and stakeholder satisfaction of project outcomes. Adjustment to the benefits distribution mechanism will be made as necessary, according to the result of these surveys. Please refer to “Social Impact Evaluations” for details and documentary evidence of the social impact evaluations carried out by the project proponents at the end of the reporting period.

In addition, no unanticipated negative community well-being impacts have been identified during the monitoring period and no major grievances have been presented through the established Grievance and Redress Mechanism, implemented by the REDD+ Implementation Unit of the Community Council. In order to continue mitigating against any potential negative well-being impacts on Community Groups, the project will continue to follow the World Bank and other donor agency drafted safeguards, as well as the SBIA guidelines, and will continue to promote the use of the Grievance and Redress Mechanism should any negative impacts arise in the future.

4.1.3 Net Positive Community Well-Being (CM2.3, GL1.4)

To demonstrate that the net well-being impacts of the project have been positive for all identified community groups as compared with their well-being conditions under the without-project land use scenario, the project proponents have carried out Participatory Evaluation of Social Impact surveys which show that the activities of the project carried out to date have resulted in net positive community well-being results. These evaluations were carried out in different workshops with the community in July 2018.

The Concosta Project carried out its Participatory Evaluation of Social Impacts through surveys held in the territory, in which 119 people participated, 43 of them women. The attendees considered 4 different social issues which have presented improvements within their territory because of the project.

The participants considered 4 social aspects have presented improvements in the territory. 61% of the participants consider that income, technical capacities and the appropriation of the territory have improved, and 29% of the participants consider that the conservation of the forests has improved. These proportions are maintained when the information is broken down by gender. The changes have been felt in the same way by men and women.

Of the total activities identified by the participants as generating positive changes in social benefits, 29% were identified as activities implemented by the REDD+ project.

The activities valued by the community as generators of positive changes in income, work and productivity that were implemented by the REDD+ project, the community attributes 19% relevance in the generation of said impact. That same assessment presents these activities when they are evaluated taking into account only the score given by women 16%.

Regarding the generation of technical capacities, the participants, men and women, attribute to the project activities a contribution of 17% and 11%, respectively, in relation to the improvement of said social benefit.

Project activities related to the appropriation of rights and use of the territory, are attributed a contribution of 38% in the generation of benefits. Women consider the contribution to be 20%.

The activities implemented by the project, aimed at the conservation of forests, the workshop participants attributed 27% men and 32% women the benefits generated in the territory since the beginning of the project.

4.1.4 Protection of High Conservation Values (CM2.4)

Forests in various locations throughout the project zone were identified as having High Conservation Value (HCV) using the methodologies outlined by the HCV Resource Network. Three specific types of HCVs relating to community well-being were identified in forests in the project area at time of validation: areas that provide Critical Ecosystem Services (HCV-4), areas that meet fundamental needs (HCV-5), and areas that are vital for the preservation of cultural identity (HCV-6).

Given that forest conservation, including the protection and maintenance of HCV areas, is one of the key objectives of the project, and multiple project activities are dedicated specifically to maintaining or enhancing forest ecosystems, impacts on HCVs have been positive as compared to the without project scenario. Project activities such as training and capacity building for improved governance, demarcation of degraded “reserve” and conservation areas, and strengthening of land tenure for communities, have all served to protect community HCVs.

Monitoring activities have been carried out for all forested areas critical to ecosystem services (HCV-4) within the project area, and no threats to these areas have been detected during the monitoring period. Specifically, critical conservation areas have been protected through boundary demarcation and patrolling, to ensure the maintenance or improvement of such areas. Other important ecosystem services identified as important for communities were the protection of water resources and prevention against soil erosion. In most cases, communities consume rainwater from aqueducts; however, when rainwater is limited, creeks and rivers serve as an important source of water for drinking, transport, and washing.

By reducing degradation and deforestation during this monitoring period, the project has reduced the threat posed by soil erosion while also ensuring the protection of water resources, as well non-timber forest resources such as medicinal plants, seeds and sources of protein (sustainable hunting and gathering activities), construction materials, and materials for handicrafts.

For the validation period, three specific types of HCVs related to community well-being were identified in the forests of the project area:

HCV 04- Critical Ecosystem Services.
HCV 05-Satisfying fundamental needs.
HCV 06-Preservation of cultural identity

The documentation that supports the identification of the mentioned HCVs is the project description [PROJ_DESC_1400_10APR2015_1.3.8](#) of the document describes the methodology used for the identification and justifies the choice of these particular HCVs.

[HCV Resource Network guidance](#) (e.g. Brown, Dudley, Lindhe, Muhtaman, Stewart & Synnott (eds.) 2013. For HCV assessment was consulted for the identification of project HCVs. This guidance recommends that the intensity of HCV assessment reflect the nature of the project. For projects presenting a lower risk of negative impacts to HCVs, i.e. conservation oriented projects such as REDD+, a lower intensity of assessment is appropriate versus that for resource extraction-oriented projects. With a focus on reducing threats to the degradation of natural forest structural attributes and landscape connectivity, this project presents a low risk to biodiversity HCVs. A stepped approach was used which first considers reference scale information available at the national level for Colombia, the Colombian Pacific Region and the Chocó - Darién Bioregion. At these levels as noted previously, there is ample documentation available with respect to the very high significance of the region in a global context with respect to species richness as well as threatened and endemic species. At the project level, field identification of species presence is significant but nowhere near complete. Information from territorial and forest management plans has been utilized to help with determining species related HCVs, and Humboldt biodiversity plots established for the BioREDD program in four locations along the Pacific Region will serve to further expand HCV information relevant to the project and the coastal region. This information will be supplemented over time through monitoring plan activities and continued consultation with local communities. Given the incomplete nature of information available, HCV identification has been undertaken with consideration of the precautionary principle. That is, where there is a lack of complete information, but reference scale data suggests a strong probability of the existence of high conservation value, HCV is assumed to occur.

4.2 Other Stakeholder Impacts

4.2.1 Mitigation of Negative Impacts on Other Stakeholders (CM3.2)

At the time of validation, the project proponents conducted an analysis of potential negative impacts on external stakeholders and identified potential negative impacts and mitigation measures.

The potential negative impacts detailed in the REDD+ project PD are as follows:

- Decreased access to areas of high conservation value for offsite communities as a result of an increase in unregulated logging, including a resulting decrease in access to non-timber forest products, and in a deterioration of watershed health
- Increased cost of living for communities surrounding the project area by losing income from illegal logging and higher costs of other goods
- Reduction in income of loggers who live outside the project zone and have traditionally logged within the project area because of increased governance in the project zone

For the current monitoring period, the project proponent implemented activities such as: a) Implementation of productive activities, b) Strengthening of governance, and c) Establishment of

forest patrols. These activities have occurred within the project area and have influenced neighboring areas. These proposed project activities are the mitigation measures for the potential impacts mentioned above and follow the provisions of the leakage plan described in section 5.2 of the PD. Meanwhile the following description substantiates how each potential negative impact to other stakeholders have been mitigated during the current monitoring period using these three categories of project activities.

- a. Mitigation measures for:** Decreased access to offsite communities to areas of high conservation value, including access to non-timber forest products, and in a deterioration of watershed health.

The PD predicted possible declines in accessing the project area and its high conservation values as a result of displaced deforestation and forest degradation pressures into the leakage belt. The project activities that have been described in the following two sections and elsewhere in the MIR have mitigated the effects of these predicted negative impacts. The monitored data in the leakage belt suggests that deforestation and degradation in the leakage belt has not only been held to below baseline predictions but has been decreasing relative to the previous monitoring period. The basis for this assertion is described next.

Aside from the productive and governance activities described in the sections b). and c). That follow, the project activities have included the implementation of forest patrols which may have discouraged illegal logging in the project area, but also in the leakage belt that directly borders the project zone boundaries. For the current monitoring period, 9 forest patrol campaigns were carried out with the participation of 179 people including both men and women. The evidence for these forest patrol campaigns can be found MTC_IndSociales CONOSTA_V2 28032022. And are re-summarized here:

- Territorial Governance Route -quebrada Guapagra (8 people)
- Territorial Governance Route -Docampadó (9 people)
- Territorial Governance Route -Rio Hijuá (14 people)
- Territorial Governance Route - Orpúa (14 people)
- Territorial Governance Route- Route planning (18 people)
- Verification of Conservation Area (Territorial governance Route - Quebrada de Capiro: raising awareness among landowners and benefits of the REDD+ project (11 people) 1
- Concosta Territorial Governance Tour) November 2019: Verification of borders adjoining aforesaid and indigenous-Bajo Grande.
- Territorial Governance Tour: characterization of loggers and people who are economically dependent on wood. November 2019 (93 males)
- Territorial governance tour: Guapadra-barranquita-Pital-I Comba (12 people)

From a monitoring perspective, the monitored land cover transitions that were quantified within the leakage belt during this monitoring period, and which are presented in Table 23 and Figure 4 (sections 3.2.3, and 3.1.3.2 respectively) suggest that monitored deforestation and forest degradation in the leakage belt is far less than the predicted baseline, which is likely the effect of the combination of project activities that have occurred. The negative impacts that were dependent on predicted land cover change are extremely low (~41 ha) and therefore are not creating meaningful negative impacts during this monitoring period. Observed changes in forest carbon stocks in the leakage belt are the quantitative indicator used to infer whether there have been negative impacts created on communities in the leakage belt as a result of land cover change, since without illegal deforestation/degradation, the related impacts to communities associated with uncontrolled deforestation/degradation cannot logically occur. The amount of monitored deforestation and forest degradation was nearly 1,200 ha less than was estimated for this monitoring period in the baseline scenario according to Table 23 in section 3.2.3. This table shows the monitored land cover changes in the leakage belt in the project scenario versus the estimated baseline scenario in the same area, and indicates monitored leakage related cover transitions were less than the predicted baseline. Further, there is no observable pattern suggesting

deforestation/degradation are higher within the leakage belt, therefore any unmitigated negative impacts that have occurred result are minor and diffuse. Figure 4 in section 3.1.3.2 shows the location of land cover changes in the leakage belt and shows these areas to be sporadic and relatively low in size and concentration, which according to Table 23 totals approximately 41 ha of affected forest distributed throughout the leakage belt.

Additionally, the monitored annual deforestation and degradation emissions are lower than was observed in the previous monitoring period (Table 22 in Section 3.2.3). Specifically, the results of monitored emissions in the leakage belt in Table 22 indicate that the total emissions in the leakage belt from activity –displaced leakage during this monitoring period are approximately 10,275 tCO₂e, while monitored emissions during the previous monitoring period were nearly three-times greater at approximately 30,360 tCO₂e. This implies that project activities have not resulted in a significant displacement of illegal logging activities from the project zone into the leakage belt, and that the identified potential negative impacts on offsite communities from offsite illegal logging have therefore not materialized to a significant degree. Instead, these results suggest that project activities may be having a positive impact on conservation of forests in the leakage belt and are instead decreasing the threat and consequences from activity-displaced leakage.

- b. **Mitigation measures for:** Increased cost of living for communities surrounding the project area by losing income from illegal logging and higher costs of other goods

Traditionally, the transportation that took illegal timber from the project area also brought products for daily consumption into the project zone, since communities within the project zone took advantage of this available transport space to bring in goods from outside the project zone. Thus, it was reasoned that reducing illegal logging could lead to an increase in the cost of living for communities in the project zone by increasing transport costs of other goods that had previously been brought within the project zone via this method. To mitigate this potential impact, the project intended to replace the income from illegal timber transported out of the project area and to partially substitute the dependency on goods external to the project zone, with agricultural products and related value chains within the project zone. For the current monitoring period, productive activities were focused on the supporting and developing and improving local production of Naidí (a.k.a. Acai) and s Fishing, as summarized in section 4.3.1

- c. **Mitigation measures for:** Reduction in income of loggers who live outside the project zone and have traditionally logged within the project area because of increased governance in the project zone

Loggers and others within the value chain located outside the project zone and who traditionally have logged within the project areas, may have potentially seen a reduction in household income due to increased governance in the project zone. In addition, illegally harvesting trees in the leakage belt was postulated to potentially have intensified as a result of project activities. However, the project has mitigated this potential negative impact by trying to engage those currently involved in wood cutting in alternative livelihood activities, reducing the likelihood that they will move into other adjacent areas. Numerous households that have historically relied on illegal logging income have been specifically prioritized during the current monitoring to receive capacity building and other support in order to participate in alternative productive activities as a means for substituting income from illegal logging. This progress is described in section 5.2.1 of this document.

Moreover, there have been activities to improve the ability of community councils to manage local participation project activities, such as board sessions, assemblies and decision-making spaces (See section 1.1), that can generate alternative income in the future (not from illegal logging), and to effectively distribute those economic benefits, thereby mitigating the incentive for illegal logging over time. More specifically, the

community councils have participated in, and continue to build and expand their active management of the implementation of project activities through i). Actively engaging fellow community members to participate and contribute to decision-making making processes (see Section 4.3.1); ii) Overseeing and coordinating community monitoring plans and their dissemination (see Sections 4.3.1, 4.3.2); iii) actively participating in updating benefit sharing agreements (see Section 4.4.4), iv). Supporting women's participation and project benefits (see Section 4.4.3); and overseeing and coordinating efforts to build capacity within beneficiary communities (see section 4.4.6).

Specifically, during this monitoring period, the involvement of communities in developing appropriate regulations and regional environmental authorities in control measures (e.g. land use planning) has also served to mitigate this impact.

https://fondoaccion-my.sharepoint.com/:x/r/personal/asierra_fondoaccion_org/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc={C4E9EFAF-8EDE-48AE-B423-5E1D726C8EB8}&file=MTC_IndSocociales28032022.xlsx&action=default&mobileredirect=true CONCOSTA_V2

Furthermore, there have been project activities aimed at developing economic alternatives and implementing other actions within the project area to prevent illegal logging in the surrounding areas, which have likely discouraged illegal logging in the leakage zone that directly borders the project area boundaries. This has been highlighted in Mitigation Measures (a), already explained previously in this section.

The relationship between the potential impacts identified and the mitigation plan as a method for monitoring these potential negative impacts on external stakeholders for the current monitoring period, can be seen in the [Negative impacts monitoring Matrix REDD+ Project CONCOSTA](#).

4.2.2 Net Impacts on Other Stakeholders (CM3.3)

As part of the social impact evaluation assessments ("Social Impact Evaluations"), the project's communities identified some negative situations, or situations that have not improved, since the project began. These situations were related to specific activities that the impact evaluation database can verify were deemed not to be part of the planned project activities, or as a direct consequence of any project related activities. None of the project related activities were identified as having negative impacts on any local and/or outside stakeholders, and no further net negative impacts to other stakeholders have been identified for the project during this reporting period.

To demonstrate that the net welfare impacts of the project have been positive for all identified community groups and that no negative impacts have been generated on them with the implementation of project activities, the social impact assessment was carried out. There are social aspects that were assessed in the social impact assessment, which under the perception of the respondents have remained or remain the same.

For the participatory impact assessment, four social aspects were evaluated in the communities:

- i. Family income-work-productivity;
- ii. Technical capacities;
- iii. Appropriation of land rights and land use; and
- iv. Forest conservation.

The methodology used assessed the respondents' perceptions of the four social aspects mentioned above, on a qualitative scale of Better-Worst-Same.

The results obtained are part of the community's perception of the REDD+ project in a period where implementation activities were in their infancy, in this early stage of the project efforts were focused

on hiring local REDD+ teams, staff training, capacity building, knowledge of REDD+ and its objectives; a situation that is reflected in the percentages obtained from the evaluation where in a range of 60%, Of the aspects evaluated, 31% of those surveyed consider that they have remained the same.

Regarding the aspects that have not been improved, the project proponent has adopted measures such as the implementation of the activities in the governance, productive and social investment components that have been reduced in this monitoring period and those that will be evidenced in future verification periods.

4.3 Community Impact Monitoring

4.3.1 Community Monitoring Plan (CM4.1, CM4.2, GL1.4, GL2.2, GL2.3, GL2.5)

In order to assess and continually monitor impacts that the project is having on communities, and to allow for the effective participation of all affected groups in the evaluation of such impacts, Participatory Evaluation of Social Impact surveys were conducted. These have shown equitable training and benefit-sharing to date through the high marks received in social well-being and stakeholder satisfaction with respect to project outcomes. Adjustment to the benefits-sharing mechanism will also be made as required based on the result of these surveys. Please refer to "Social Impact Evaluations" for comprehensive details and documentary evidence of the social impact evaluations carried out by project proponents at the end of this monitoring period.

In accordance with the criteria established in the PDD for exceptional values for the community, the CONCOSTA REDD+ project in the period 2018-2019, developed activities related to the management of the territory:

- Community monitoring and territorial control as a forest governance mechanism: The local REDD+ team and community companions, information to the community on their patrol tours, the importance of carrying out a process of conservation and sustainable management of natural resources. During the monitoring tours, verbal information and recommendations for the protection of the forests were provided, points of deforestation were identified and areas of high importance for conservation.
- Quarterly Participatory Zoning Workshops and activities: held in the third of 2019, they aimed to determine and prioritize the areas of participation in the REDD+ Project in which agreements were built and the Governance, Productive, Training activities that lead to the reduction of deforestation and degradation, and to the increase of carbon credits.
- Recruitment, training and equipment of the local REDD+ team: they allowed to exercise control in the territory, increase governance and achieve greater empowerment of the territory through the conservation and sustainability of the REDD+ project,
- Monitor the impacts that the project is having on communities; as well as allowing affected groups within the community to also have effective participation in the evaluation of such impacts, in previous verification process and actual process (second verification), the project has conducted Participatory Evaluation of Social Impact surveys as part of the project's monitoring efforts, and these have shown equitable training and benefit sharing to date through the high marks received on the social well-being and stakeholder satisfaction of project outcomes. Benefits distribution mechanism will also be made as necessary, and according to the result of these surveys.

Under the context indicated in section 6.3 of the PDD CONCOSTA Project, on general poverty rates in the communities, households and individuals that compose it and the criteria of the CCB standard related to human development, the REDD+ Acaba Rio pepe project carried out the following activities for the period 2018-2019:

- Improvement and establishment of productive hectares.
- Technical assistance visits and field schools for farmers-ECAs.

- Recruitment of specialized personnel.

The aforementioned activities have allowed the construction and strengthening of capacities in value chains other than forestry. Additional data and supports to the data reported in section 4.3.1 can be found in the findings round folders

Presented in the tables below are the results of the community impact monitoring, which includes all communities and stakeholders, monitoring information, and results (see "MTC_IndSociales Concosta_V2" for supporting documentation/reference).

Data/parameter (Gold level):	Involvement of the community in the surveillance and patrolling of forests
Data unit:	8 people employed to form part of surveillance patrols: 5 local REDD+ promoters, 1 MRV liaison. 1 management support and 1 technician REDD+.
Description:	There will be a record of the people hired for the REDD+ Units.
Sources of data:	Registration form of people engaged in the REDD+ Units
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	There will be a form for each registered person in the REDD+ Units. There will be an update of the information of the people in the REDD+ Units, every month. Each person must fill in a data base with basic information, such as identification number, gender, age, location, and number of people in beneficiary household.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Monthly
Value applied:	Cost included in the tasks of the community leader and / or rangers
Monitoring equipment:	Engagement/register form. Spreadsheet or database project.
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Predefined form for the collection of basic data will be used. Identification number is used to avoid double counting of a person. There will be analog and digital records. FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring and supervising the staff responsible for carrying out QA/QC.
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter (Gold level):	Involvement of Corteros in the regeneration and maintenance of the conservation areas
Data unit:	103 corteros
Description:	People recognized as 'corteros' (or 'piangueras') linked through the Community Council in regeneration tasks and / or maintenance of forest. A "cortero" is a person whose income depends mainly on logging.
Sources of data:	Registration form of people engaged in the regeneration and maintenance of forests, and households benefited
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	There will be a form for each related person and household, which includes basic information such as identification number, gender, age, location and number of people in beneficiary household (discriminated by gender and age). Data should be recorded on the form, once the person is engaged to regeneration activities and / or maintenance of the forest. The information recorded on the form will be typed into a spreadsheet or a database designed for the project.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Monthly
Value applied:	Cost included in the tasks of the community leader and / or rangers
Monitoring equipment:	Engagement form and recipient household. Spreadsheet or database project.
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Predefined form for the collection of basic data will be used. Identification number is used to avoid double counting of a person. There will be analog and digital records. FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring and supervising the staff responsible for carrying out QA/QC.
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter (Gold level):	Trained and equipped people
Data unit:	45 people
Description:	A qualified person is one who participates in training activities which can be formal, informal, or virtual. These activities are supported by the project and may include training modules such as short courses, workshops, job training or exchanges of experiences, within others. A person who completes this training course is considered a qualified or trained person. A training course will allow a person to appropriate of a specific subject. It has a leader or instructor, and its' objectives, methodology and activities are designed to achieve and ensure learning.
Sources of data:	Records of training follow-ups
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	At the start of the training course there will be a registration of the participants. At the end the trainer will send the attendance list of the trainees to the Project Coordinator, in order record it in a spreadsheet or database.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Quarterly
Value applied:	Cost included in the tasks of the community leader and / or rangers
Monitoring equipment:	Registration form, digital and spreadsheet data base
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Predefined form for the registration data. Identification number is used to avoid double counting of a person. There will be analog and digital records. FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring and supervising the staff responsible for carrying out QA/QC.
Calculation method:	N/A
Any comment:	

Data/parameter (Gold level):	Households receiving technical assistance
Data unit:	31 households
Description:	A household with technical assistance has access to advisory activities, technical training and education about establishing, maintaining, harvesting and post-harvesting agricultural products.
Sources of data:	Track records of households training
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	The Technical Assistant will carry a record of counseling and training activities offered to the households visited.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Monthly
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Register form, assistance list, digital database generated by the Technical Assistant.
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCIÓN will be in charge of contracting and supervising the staff needed to carry out the QA/QC.
Calculation method:	N/A
Any comment:	

Data/parameter:	Establishment of new productive agricultural activities
Data unit:	None reported for this reporting period.
Description:	The new established hectares for each agricultural product will be counted, as an indicator of project implementation and new activities adoption.
Sources of data:	Track record of household's properties
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Technical register format (digital and physical) of the new established hectares per family engaged to REDD+ Project. This register will be recorded by the Technical Assistant of the REDD+ Project. Each Assistant must have a register form per each household visited.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Biannual
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring the personnel needed for QA/QC
Calculation method:	N/A
Any comment:	

Data/parameter:	Employed people in the value chains
Data unit:	None reported for this reporting period.
Description:	There will be a record of the people hired in the in the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) companies, as well as in the different steps in the value chain, such as crop setting, transport and logistics, stockpiling, transformation and packaging.
Sources of data:	Records of families involved in the REDD + Project and contracts of people hired in the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) companies
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Keep a digital record of the people who are working in the in the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) companies
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Semestral
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Register form and copy of contracts
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring the personnel needed for QA/QC
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter:	Sales volume of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) companies
Data unit:	None reported for this reporting period.
Description:	There will be a daily record of sales of transformed products, in digital format, specifying national and international sales. This will contribute to the indicator of business growth.
Sources of data:	Sales formats; bills; sales tracking sheets

Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Daily records of sales, in digital format, identifying the market in which the product is sold. In addition, a bi-monthly sales report, including information of buyers, market trends, sales and customer feedback will be presented to the Community Council
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Daily
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Sales formats
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	The Manager of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) companies Company will be responsible for creating a Quality Control department. FONDO ACCIÓN will supervise.
Calculation method:	N/A
Any comment:	

Data/parameter:	Net income of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) companies
Data unit:	None reported for this reporting period.
Description:	There will be a daily record of sales of transformed products, in digital format, specifying national and international sales. This information will be gathered and analyzed bi-monthly, in order to keep track of business growth and income to be able to control an equitably benefit distribution amongst the habitants of the communities of the REDD+ Projects.
Sources of data:	Sales formats; bills; sales tracking sheets
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Daily records of sales, in digital format, identifying the market in which the product is sold. In addition, a bi-monthly sales report, including information of buyers, market trends, sales and customer feedback will be presented to the Community Council
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Daily recording of sales. Bi-monthly reports
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Sales formats
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	The Manager of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) companies Company will be responsible for creating a Quality Control department. FONDO ACCIÓN will supervise.
Calculation method:	N/A
Any comment:	

Data/parameter:	Sales volume of cash crops established by the REDD+ Project
Data unit:	COP \$34.028.900=
Description:	There will be a record of fish sales made by the families involved in the REDD+ Projects to the SPV companies. This will contribute to monitoring the implementation of the project, as well as the successful participation of the families in the alternative activities established by the REDD+ Projects.
Sources of data:	Sales formats; bills; sales tracking sheets.

Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Families will keep a daily record of sales. In addition, a bi-monthly sales report, including information of buyers, market trends, sales and customer feedback will be presented to the Community Council. The REDD+ Project Coordinator must collect the physical formats that families fill in, and make a digital spreadsheet with the information.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Daily record of sales. Bi-monthly report.
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Sales formats; spreadsheets.
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring the personnel needed for QA/QC
Calculation method:	N/A
Any comment:	

Data/parameter:	Families benefited from the Social investments of the REDD+ Projects
Data unit:	None reported for this monitoring period
Description:	This indicator keeps track of the number of families/households that benefit from the Social Investments of the REDD+ Projects.
Sources of data:	Annual household surveys executed; PRAs
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Conducting annual household surveys to determine access to the benefits generated by the REDD+ Project social investments. The sample chosen for the survey will be statistically significant.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Annual
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Survey format
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for contracting the personnel needed for QA/QC
Calculation method:	Statistical analysis of the results
Any comment:	All the areas that have been positively affected by the social investments will be considered for the implementation of surveys

Data/parameter (Gold level):	Strengthened governance
Data unit:	32 initiatives strengthened governance
Description:	Each Community Council must keep a monthly register of activities carried out (such as assemblies, meetings, socialization, etc), that are required to approve governance tools such as Management Plans and Internal By-laws. There will also be a record of the plans and laws approved and implemented. If needed the case, each plan must develop implementation monitoring indicators. This will contribute to the monitoring of the strengthening of the board governance capacity in the territory, and thereby strengthens the development of REDD + Project.

Sources of data:	Meeting minutes, attendance lists and resolutions adopted by the Board regarding governance issues, such as Management Plans, Bylaws, among others.
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Carry a physical and digital record of attendance lists, meeting minutes and resolutions implemented.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Monthly
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Physical and digital formats record.
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	N/A
Any comment:	

Data/parameter:	Operation of the Grievances Redress Mechanism
Data unit:	None reported for this monitoring period
Description:	The Coordinator of each REDD + project will be responsible for keeping a monthly record of complaints, requests and claims that are registered/filed in the Administrative REDD+ Project Office. This will allow to control if the Mechanism is operating and if the community is getting involved in the REDD+ Project.
Sources of data:	Requests, complaints or claims that are registered/filed
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	There will be a monthly record (physical and digital) of the number of requests, complaints and claims filled out.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Monthly
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Grievances register format
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	N/A
Any comment:	

Data/parameter:	Effectiveness of the Grievances Redress Mechanism
Data unit:	None reported for this monitoring period
Description:	The Coordinator of each REDD + Project will be responsible for keeping a monthly record of complaints, requests and complaints that are resolved, in order to track the effectiveness of the management of conflict resolution in the REDD + Project.
Sources of data:	Requests, complaints or claims that are registered/filed
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	There will be a monthly record (physical and digital) of the number of requests, complaints and claims that are solved
Frequency	Monthly

of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Grievances register format
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	N/A
Any comment:	

Data/parameter:	Women benefited from the Social investments of the REDD+ Projects
Data unit:	None reported for this monitoring period
Description:	This indicator keeps track of the number of women that benefit from the Social Investments of the REDD+ Projects.
Sources of data:	Annual surveys executed; PRAs
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Conducting annual surveys targeted to women to determine access to the benefits generated by the REDD+ Project social investments. The sample chosen for the survey will be statistically significant.
Frequency	Annual
of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Survey format
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	Statistical analysis of the results
Any comment:	All the areas that have been positively affected by the social investments will be considered for the implementation of surveys

Data/parameter:	Employed women in the value chains
Data unit:	No data available.
Description:	There will be a record of the women hired in the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) companies, as well as in the different steps in the value chain, such as logistics, transformation and packaging.
Sources of data:	Records of women involved in the REDD + Project and contracts of women hired in the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) companies
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Keep a digital record of women who are working in the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) companies
Frequency	Semestral
of monitoring/recording:	
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Register form and copy of contracts
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter:	Involvement of women in the surveillance and patrolling of forests
Data unit:	No data available for this reporting period.
Description:	There will be a record of women hired for the REDD+ Units.
Sources of data:	Registration form of women engaged in the REDD+ Units
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	There will be a form for each registered women in the REDD+ Units. There will be an update of the information in the REDD+ Units, every month. Each woman must fill in a data base with basic information, such as identification number, age, location, and number of people in beneficiary household.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Monthly
Value applied:	Cost included in the tasks of the community leader and / or rangers
Monitoring equipment:	Engagement/register form. Spreadsheet or database project.
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Predefined form for the collection of basic data will be used. Identification number is used to avoid double counting of a person. There will be analog and digital records. FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring and supervising the staff responsible for carrying out QA/QC.
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter (Gold level):	Women participation in decision-making processes
Data unit:	9 women in sessions board directives
Description:	Each Community Council must keep track of the number of women that participate in representative bodies and decision-making processes such as assemblies.
Sources of data:	Records of women participation in meeting minutes, women attendance to meetings and assemblies and number of women per representative body.
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Carry a physical and digital record of attendance lists, meeting minutes and resolutions which name women as part of representative bodies such as the Governing Board and Zonal Board.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Monthly
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Physical and digital formats record.
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCIÓN will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	N/A
Any comment:	

4.3.2 Monitoring Plan Dissemination (CM4.3)

The project proponent recognizes the importance in ensuring that both the monitoring plan and the results of monitoring be communicated to communities. The monitoring activities were divided between organizations in support of the proponents for social (community), carbon (climate), and biodiversity. The plan for completing the monitoring report was discussed in community meetings in virtual meeting in May 12 – 13 from 2021.

Information related to the objectives and progress of the community REDD+ projects can be consulted by other stakeholders at <https://portafoliorreddmascomunitario.org/> and <https://fondoaccion.org/2020/10/16/paisajes-conectados-pacifico/>

The platforms will be adjusted to make the documents available to the public.

The means currently used to socialize results have always been the general assemblies and zonal meetings. In these spaces the most information is disseminated and results are shown, copies of the year-end reports are passed on to the participating leaders so that they can replicate the information in their communities.

The project's MRV liaisons conducted workshops in the project area communities to report on the results and evaluations of the project activities to date, as well as provide descriptions and a timeline for the verification audit activities that are to follow (preparation of final monitoring reports, public comment period, auditor visits and possible interviews, verification report and results).

Per the CCBA rules, this monitoring report will also be made available online one month before the start of the verification site visit for a period of public comments.

CONCOSTA has taken some of the elements described in the Information Dissemination SOP, a procedure that is part of the monitoring plan described in section 8.1 of the REDD+ project PD, to disseminate and make available to the general public the results of follow-up, monitoring summaries and information related to project progress. See SOP in folder.

The elements adopted by the project proponent, according to available resources and cultural traditions, are:

- a. Community Council participation spaces (meetings, assemblies, board sessions, dialogues, governance spaces, etc.).
- b. Community radio station
- c. Printed material

Information related to the objectives, monitoring results and progress of the REDD+ projects can be consulted by other stakeholders at:

<https://portafoliorreddmascomunitario.org/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EcXVxw8bn4>

4.4 Optional Criterion: Exceptional Community Benefits

4.4.1 Short-term and Long-term Community Benefits (GL2.2)

The project continues to expect to generate long-term net positive well-being benefits for community members at the individual and/or family level, based on the Theory of Change Matrix that was developed at the time of validation and put into use during the monitoring period. Examples include strengthening of local governance over natural resources, improvements in land-use planning and implementation, support for the development of alternative livelihoods through training and technical assistance, improved social well-being, enhanced administrative and leadership capacity, and strengthening of local institutions

The indicators of community well-being are included in both the Theory of Change Matrix and the Monitoring Plan. For this monitoring period, the assessment of project impacts also included Participatory Evaluation of Social Impact surveys. At the family level, multiple achievements currently indicate that the project is on track to generate well-being benefits for communities as planned, specifically including:

- 1 Zoning workshop. Belén de Docampadó (22 people).
- 1 Training workshop for coordinators of REDD+ units: experiences in the implementation of REDD+ projects (Acandí) (1person)
- 1 Workshop SMART monitoring tools and gender guidelines (1 person)
- 1 Workshop-Quantification of carbon emissions REDD+ coordinators team. (1person)
- 1 Training workshop REDD+ CONCOSTA team: Formats and management of equipment (8 peoples)
- 1 Training and technical meeting REDD+ Coordinators. Socialization of progress and challenges in implementation. Bogotá (1 person)
- 1 Training in strengthening, productive alliance and marketing of naidí products (xxx people).
- Organizational strengthening workshop for productive activities. Product handling, sizes and good storage practices Fisheries.
- Workshop in the community of GUINEAL community council (CONCOSTA) and fishing associations (ASPAHIJUA - ASOPOMEÑO)- ICO Methodology, strength and weaknesses of associations (10 people).

It is expected that the short-term net positive benefits generated by these investments in productive activities will manifest at a broad scale in the near future, as market-driven income streams begin to gain momentum. This is especially true in the case of coconut and naidi, due to the number of participants. At present, employment as part of the REDD+ unit and patrolling squads is a definitive short-term positive benefit that the project has generated.

At the community level, progress made since project validation in strengthening the capacity of both the Community Council and the local agro-organizations, also contributing to the probability of long-term net positive well-being benefits.

4.4.1.1 Smallholder/Community member risk (GL 2.3)

Does not apply to this monitoring report

4.4.2 Marginalized and/or Vulnerable Community Groups (GL2.4)

Tables 28 and 29 below identifies the marginalized and/or vulnerable community groups that the project is engaging with and how the communities have or are on track to gain net positive benefits. Refer to "MTC_Indsociales_ConcostaV2_2018 2019.xlsx" for supporting documentation/reference.

Table 28. Net Positive Impacts on Women

Community Group	Women
Net positive impacts	7 women community members trained, 2 women in sessions board directives.
Benefit access	Procedures were instated to guarantee equal opportunities for all community members, including vulnerable and/or

	marginalized people. For these marginalized sectors of the population to attend trainings and fill all available hiring positions including management, specific socialization and hiring processes were carried out by the implementing partner. These process follows a joint construction of the terms of reference with community leaders, in which the technical requirements for the activity to be carried out or position to be filled are included and the eligibility criteria in which the preference for persons is manifested and detailed, mainly that they be members of the community or residents of the territory, and, whenever possible, that these include women and other vulnerable and/or marginalized people. Once the terms of reference are built, they are then disseminated through different channels, including through government boards. Applicants can then apply and present documentation to participate in activities through community offices or through the local MRV project links. The net positive impacts on women, as capacity building, hiring and women in decision-making spaces, are generated as a result of the REDD+ activities carried out in the current monitoring period and comply with the objectives of the REDD+ project to work under internal regulations and comply with what is established therein regarding gender inclusion.
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Negative impacts	Throughout the monitoring period, a number of activities and processes were put in place to ensure that the well-being of vulnerable and/or marginalized groups, such as women, was not negatively impacted by the project. The following specific mitigation actions were taken to avoid such impacts, thereby enabling their participation in project design and development activities. • The project provided transportation needed to attend project meetings, and other stipends, particularly for those who set aside basic daily subsistence activities to attend meetings; • The township committees “veredales” and Zonal Boards received clear information about the project activities and have had full participation in any decision- making, including individual cases that require special attention; • The project has ensured that the most vulnerable groups have access to training that enhances their capacity to participate in productive chains, including women; • In cases where families do not have clear usufruct rights, the Community Council has tried to advance procedures for the assignment of such rights, including for women; • The selection of project personnel has been based on clear procedures that ensure equal opportunities for employment for vulnerable and marginalized groups; and • The project has considered the household as the basic unit of intervention, and has analyzed the different roles of men and women within the productive processes in order to address the needs of men and women differently, to try and improve conditions within households.
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Table 29. Net Positive Impact on Corteros

Community Group	Corteros (loggers)
Net positive impacts	103 corteros involved in the regeneration and maintenance of conservation areas as an alternative livelihood option.

Benefit access	Procedures were instated to guarantee equal opportunities for all community members, including vulnerable and/or marginalized people. For these marginalized sectors of the population to attend trainings and fill all available hiring positions including management, specific socialization and hiring processes were carried out by the implementing partner. These process follows a joint construction of the terms of reference with community leaders, in which the technical requirements for the activity to be carried out or position to be filled are included and the eligibility criteria in which the preference for persons is manifested and detailed, mainly that they be members of the community or residents of the territory, and, whenever possible, that these include women and other vulnerable and/or marginalized people. Once the terms of reference are built, they are then disseminated through different channels, including through government boards. Applicants can then apply and present documentation to participate in activities through community offices or through the local MRV project links.
Negative impacts	Throughout the monitoring period, a number of activities and processes were put in place to ensure that the well-being of vulnerable and/or marginalized groups, such as women, was not negatively impacted by the project. The following specific mitigation actions were taken to avoid such impacts, thereby enabling their participation in project design and development activities. • The project provided transportation needed to attend project meetings, and other stipends, particularly for those who set aside basic daily subsistence activities to attend meetings; • The township committees “veredales” and Zonal Boards received clear information about the project activities and have had full participation in any decision- making, including individual cases that require special attention; • The project has ensured that the most vulnerable groups have access to training that enhances their capacity to participate in productive chains, including women; • In cases where families do not have clear usufruct rights, the Community Council has tried to advance procedures for the assignment of such rights, including for women; • The selection of project personnel has been based on clear procedures that ensure equal opportunities for employment for vulnerable and marginalized groups; and • The project has considered the household as the basic unit of intervention, and has analyzed the different roles of men and women within the productive processes in order to address the needs of men and women differently, to try improving conditions within households.

4.4.3 Net Impacts on Women (GL2.5)

As evidenced in the community benefits and stakeholder engagement portions of this report, as well as the Concosta Social Impact Evaluation report, the project has generated net positive impacts on the welfare of women and has also ensured that women have participated in key decision-making as it relates to the project. The project continues to work with the organizational structures that are already in place, rather than imposing external conditions on project activities. Traditionally, women are already involved in agricultural activities because they have access to land. Unlike many other cultures, there is no inherent barrier to Afro-Colombian women being able to inherit land; this is significant as the principal source of wealth transfer in rural areas. Both women and men have full rights to property inheritance: "direct blood relatives have full rights; hence, women and men have the same right to claim their part [of their inheritance]" (Camacho 1999). Since women have access to land, they are involved in productive activities. Further, due to the roles that women have been developing, they participate in and have control over resources; women are not excluded from decision-making processes. In terms of women participating in or influencing decision making, during this monitoring period, 2 women are now active participants in representative bodies, such as is in the Governing Board and Zonal Board of the territory (please refer to corresponding community monitoring plan indicator).

4.4.4 Benefit Sharing Mechanisms (GL2.6)

As of this monitoring period, the original benefit sharing mechanism provided at validation has been implemented for the project. However, the communities are currently working in collaboration with Fondo Acción on the development of an Integrated Development Plan that will include an updated benefit sharing mechanism. As of the close of this monitoring period, the new benefit sharing mechanism is in early stages of development and has not yet been officially approved or adopted by the communities.

The design and implementation of a benefits sharing mechanism will be developed in a participatory manner with community members, based on existing Development Plans. If a legitimate Development Plan does not exist, Fondo Acción will invest in a broader planning exercise with community participation, to design the plan to reflect current needs of the community.

If an Integrated Development Plan does exist and is complete, the benefits sharing mechanism will need to be consistent with it. If the plan does not exist or does not reflect community priorities, Fondo Acción will work closely with community members to adjust the Integrated Development Plan.

The Integrated Development Plan will serve as a framework for all community development activities, including those funded by the REDD+ project. Within this framework, Fondo Acción will develop with the communities a REDD+ Investment Plan, which will serve as a starting point for benefits distribution and reflect communities' priorities on how REDD+ revenues will be distributed. Throughout this process, Fondo Acción will ensure that any policies protect and benefit the most marginalized and vulnerable members of the community, including women, children, and elderly.

With this plan in place, Fondo Acción will establish new and independent accounts within Fondo Acción's non-profit organizational structure, and governed by Fondo Acción's existing investment policies, for each project. Each account will have a committee that decides on investments and approves budgets on an annual basis, and receives reports from outside technical experts and Fondo Acción for administrative matters. Fondo Acción will establish an in-house team of REDD+

experts that will undertake the technical management of the project; advise the committee on expenditures based on spatially-explicit monitoring information and project needs; and ensure that the community and biodiversity objectives of the project are being met. The committee will be comprised of a Fondo Acción board member and representatives of the community.

4.4.5 Governance and Implementation Structures (GL2.8)

The project governance and implementation structure is guided by the existing self-governance structures in the Afro-Colombian communities. By definition, a Community Council is an Afro-Colombian community that decides to constitute legally; specifically, that it is formally associated to the State to acquire "the maximum authority of Administration within the territory of the Afro-Colombian Community." The State then acknowledges by a Resolution of the Ministry of Interior, that this Council and every Community Council has right to its defined territory.

The Community Council follows both the laws stated by the Government and the internal laws that are assigned by each community, as long as they are not contrary to the Constitution. Internal laws (*derecho propio*) is the set of customs, traditions, norms and duties commonly accepted by all members that share an identity and serve to auto-regulate. These internal laws are only valid between members of the community within the territory.

The Community Council is constituted by the General Assembly and the Governing Board of the Community Council. The General Assembly consists of all members of the Council and is the highest authority of the Community Council. The Governing Board of the Community Council is the authority that provides direction, coordination, implementation and internal administration of the community and performs the duties of Act 70 of 1993 and Decree 1995 1745 (see below).

The law also creates the position of Legal Representative of the Community Council (Article 12) whose role is to legally represent the community in the efforts and actions before institutions or businesses. The legal representative is elected by the General Assembly but operates under the direction of the Governing Board of the Council.

The General Assembly normally meets once a year at which time it selects the Community Council Board, evaluates their performance and discusses issues of general interest. Special meetings are held when needed, as established in the bylaws and/or internal regulations of the Community Council. Decisions of the General Assembly are generally made by consensus or by most attendees. The Governing Board is elected for a period of three years from among the Community Council members.

With a large population spread over very large areas communities form sub-level local community-based organizations called Minor Councils (*Consejos Menores*), which in some cases are called Veredal Committees (local level), whose structures are established in the internal rules. In some cases, the General Assembly corresponds to an Assembly of Delegates of the Minor Councils, which solves the problem of making numerous Assemblies, which are impossible to fund and manage.

There are some general statutory minimum functions (See Articles 6, 11 Decree 1745/95) and limits on the authority of the Governing Board of the Community Council. Specifically, the law states that the scope of municipal authority is limited to administrative acts. The Governing Board then administers "based on the rules and regulations in force and the use and conservation of natural resources in the territories of afro-Colombian Communities" (Article 11, paragraph 10)16.

The Community Council is required by law to make "the rules of territorial administration and management of natural resources, and ensure their compliance," which are only valid with the approval of the Assembly. The contents of the regulations depend on the system of each

community's customary law and include, for example: the management of family and communal lands, zoning of the territory, including permitted and prohibited activities; conflict resolution; norms for use and exploitation of natural resources, regulation of commercial activities, management plans and internal authorizations; establishing companies based on the use of common goods; and creating regulations for implementing programs and budgets for community welfare.

Thus, most aspects of the REDD+ project have been written into law, and approved by the General Assembly. The law includes the economic governance of land and resources within the territory, including management plans and economic development projects.

In the case of a REDD+ project, it should be noted that the law does not exclude the possibility that the Councils are constituted in business development instruments or ventures which seek to produce, distribute and consume jointly and efficiently, goods and services to meet the needs economic conditions of its members. Additionally, under Colombian law non-profits can have surpluses so long as they are distributed amongst community members. Thus, the productive activities of the project have and will be differentiated between the actions of individuals or families and those of the community, which have collective benefits, administered by the Community Council.

4.4.6 Smallholders/Community Members Capacity Development (GL2.9)

Over the course of the monitoring period, Fondo Acción has facilitated and provided a number of training and capacity building activities for both people working directly under the REDD+ project as well as for community members and stakeholders. As mentioned earlier in this report, these trainings have specifically focused on the following areas. Please refer to "MTC_IndSociales Concosta_V2" and for additional information and evidence regarding these trainings:

- Improving the administrative capacity of community members: courses and/or workshops offered in i) accounting, ii) financial analysis and evaluation of projects; iii) environmental and social project management; iv) marketing; v) administration and management; and vi) leadership
- Training in MRV: REDD+ concepts, GPS data management, social and biodiversity monitoring, verification processes
- Forest patrolling and community environmental promoters (promoters that help publicize the activities and objectives of the REDD + project, and who collect community comments to prioritize social investment).
- Agriculture: trainings in pest control, sexual and asexual reproduction of crops, fertilization and crop overview.

When working with community members, the community itself has selected the people participating in the proposed activities. Contents and tools for capacity building activities have all been designed to be culturally appropriate. In particular, the HARMOS scheme (an organizational coaching strategy designed by Fondo Acción) includes a module for "Practice in Context" oriented to develop particular skills necessary for specific community enterprises and activities carried out in the previous verification process, it continued to be implemented in the 2018-2019 period. In the case of staff turnover, training has been passed on to new workers so that local capacity is not lost. In addition, all training and capacity building activities enacted during this monitoring period have been conducted with the vision of allowing community members to one day to take over the complete management of resources and implementation of the REDD+ project. This will ensure long-term ownership and sustainability of the project long after the crediting period. As a result of this, Fondo Acción has developed a series of agreements in which the community has been the direct executor

of the resources, as preparatory processes for them to assume the management of future resources from the sales of VCUs in the future.

The project will also continue to support on-going workshops and awareness campaigns to increase awareness about the project, as well as its scope and benefits. Included in such workshops will be community input to prioritize social investments based on community needs at the time.

Increased capacity from these activities has and will continue to lead to net positive community impacts by increasing community leadership and participation in the project. Fundamental business and management training and education are paramount in encouraging women and families to fully contribute to the project and economic development of the area as a whole. Without the project, there would be no resources to implement these programs. These skills have and will continue to lead to more resilient and self-sufficient communities within the project area.

5 BIODIVERSITY

5.1 Net Positive Biodiversity Impacts

5.1.1 Biodiversity Changes (B2.1)

Monitoring of biodiversity changes, which is necessary to determine or attribute to the REDD+ project the net-positive biodiversity impacts, was based upon the use of a causal model and theory of change designed by the project and explicitly stated in the PDD. A data parameter was chosen because of the assumption that status indicators would evidence change in biodiversity due to project implementation. The parameter was the amount of intact forest area as a measure of forest habitat cover. This data parameter was measured and analyzed utilizing remotely sensed data representing the land use classification and land use change during the monitoring period.

The principal technique to monitor biodiversity changes during the monitoring period could be summarized as observing remotely the “changes in measurable forest vegetation cover conditions.” In following the PDD, the biodiversity changes were subject to monitoring primarily at the ecosystem level. This approach has been justified in Richards and Panfil (2011) in that biodiversity change correlates strongly to changes in vegetation cover and Pitman (2011) that size and connectedness of forest ecosystems correlate with levels of natural ecological function..

Table 30. Intact Forest Area

Change in Biodiversity	Intact forest area
Monitored Change	Deforestation in Project Area under Project Scenario: 176.7 ha Deforestation in Project Area under Baseline Scenario: 4,015.6 ha Net avoided Deforestation: 3,838.9 ha As shown by the net avoided deforestation of 1,221 ha, the project has had a net positive effect on intact forest area and thus, a net

	positive impact on biodiversity. It is notable that degraded forests harbor extensive species and ecosystem diversity. Positive changes in relation to biodiversity present in intact forest area will be corroborated with in-field monitoring and community-based observations in future monitoring periods.
Justification of Change	The presence of the project and corresponding project activities are factors that have contributed to the positive change in intact forest cover in the project area in comparison to intact forest cover that would be expected in the baseline. Rationale provided in the PDD stated that reduced deforestation and forest degradation will result in the improved maintenance of, and in many cases the recuperation (through natural regeneration) of forest biodiversity attributes as compared to conditions in the without-project scenario. Improvements to the amount (measured in hectares) of intact or semi-intact forest vegetation cover result in forest species composition and structural attributes including crown closure, height, diameter and density which better reflect natural conditions and CONCOSTAort natural habitat for native fauna. Details about methods and assumptions used to calculate and document changes can be found in the table below.

As explained in the following data/parameter and monitoring table 31:

Table 31. Intact Forest Area Data/Parameter

Data/parameter:	Intact Forest Area
Data unit:	Hectares of intact forest area
Description:	Forest conservation was monitored through the area of intact forest.
Sources of data:	Data was obtained from the stratification map and land use map measured through ALOS PALSAR, as reported in Land Use and Land Cover Classification & Accuracy Assessment Report prepared by EP Carbon, October 2018 and the 2018 Degradation Analysis Report for BioREDD+ Projects prepared by EP Carbon.
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	The vegetation mosaic of the area was measured by ALOS PALSAR radar, at a resolution of 50 m. From the information collected and the map of stratification, the information is processed to identify intact forest area.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Annual
Monitoring equipment:	Sentinel 2 and ALOS-PALASAR
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCION will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	According to VM006 methodology

5.1.2 Mitigation Actions (B2.3)

The mitigation of negative impacts on forest habitat is the predominant strategy of REDD+ conservation projects, which are therefore low risk for negative impacts.

Important efforts were carried out during the verification period to maintain and enhance HCV attributes. The main approach to do this, as stated in the project PD, was to conserve and maintain the forest cover and HCV habitat condition and quality. By guaranteeing the latter, HCV attributes were protected and maintained, always procuring umbrella strategies stirred by the precautionary principle.

Forest cover and habitat were maintained through a fourfold strategy: 1. Spaces for socialization, dialogue and strengthening of governance were held with communities to establish conservation agreements, 2. conducted governance surveillance trips to prevent forest clearing, 3. Zoning efforts were conducted to properly manage land use and 4. Sustainable agriculture will be strengthened to keep people away from logging.

Mitigation activities during the implementation period primarily rested upon the efforts of Project community leadership, REDD+ teams and field promoters, with technical and financial support from P&F and FCS. The principal mitigation actions were to 1) strengthen the sense of ownership, self-determination and governance of the project stakeholders so that they could promote and to some extent enforce improved uses of their territories; 2) increase technical capacities across a wide-range of REDD+ project management and implementation skills, which enable increased participation in community-led monitoring and governance, and in turn, greater commitment to the conservation objectives and help to change behavior; and, 3) promote productive activities that can generate employment and income through economic development that serves as a viable alternative to logging or forest clearing.

The development, planning, and implementation of mitigation activities entailed various meetings with community leaders, FA, and P&F, as well as training workshops, consultation, and decision-making.

There were mitigation actions that emphasized territorial governance, which included, but are not limited to, more regular surveillance patrols of the territory, more frequent reporting of activities that represent a threat to the objectives of forest conservation, facilitation of processes to improve pro-REDD land-use zoning, and the training members of the REDD+ team and field promoters in patrolling techniques

Specifically, for 2019, 8 governance surveillance patrols were carried out for community monitoring in conservation areas, with the aim of reducing and mitigating deforestation, loss of forest biodiversity, increasing governance and empowering the territory. These were led by the REDD+ Unit and members of the governing boards or community leaders. In addition, the trips identified and reported upon the logging activities that were occurring in the territory, to inform community authorities and thus contribute to the reduction of deforestation and forest degradation.

During the patrols, logging companies were identified, talks were held to sensitize loggers and other actors, and some actions were established to keep forests standing in the territory. One practical action was to develop spaces or moments of dialogue in the communities to establish conservation agreements. The trips were carried out in the territories of the following communities:

1. Quebrada La Comba - 8/17/2019
2. Quebrada Pital (Capiro) - 8/19/2019
3. Quebrada Guapagara - 8/16/2019
4. Quebrada Barranca - 8/18/2019
5. Zone 1 Orpua - 9/16/2019
6. Zone 2 Hijua- Guineal - 9/17/2019
7. Zona 3 Rio Docampado upper part - 11/1/2019
8. Quebrada Capiro - 11/2/2019

Mitigation actions have, by necessity, needed to focus upon those families or individual community members who have historically depended upon logging or clearing of forest, including for illicit crops, for most or much of their income. During the implementation period, two interrelated approaches to facilitate the adoption of economic alternatives for forest-dependent communities took place: 1) the construction of small-grant initiatives to provide for extensive hands-on training in sustainable cultivation techniques, agro-ecological development of alternative productive systems, and the baseline, infrastructure, or marketing studies necessary to expand sustainable practices and supply chains. 2) promoting as a conditionality for participation in grant funded activities the acceptance of community members to family level agreements to not cut forest beyond subsistence levels.

Support provided and objectives of activities to promote alternative economies in the project area during the monitoring period were:

- Strengthening the provision of fishing infrastructure for the three (3) existing associations in the territory (December 12, 2019), including implementation of solar power systems, freezers, weights, fishing gear, baskets, etc. This was supported by FCS.
- Strengthening of capacities for the handling and manipulation of shellfish in cold supply chains (December 2, 2019). This was to diversify the sources of income and identify products derived from fishing and create a commercial platform developing market niches. This was supported by FCS.
- Support for strengthening the productive chain of non-timber forest products such as acai (naidi) throughout 2019. This was supported by P4F. The participants were: ASPAHJUA, ASOPAOR, ASPOMAN and 73 families within the Concota territory.

Preliminary meetings with members of the P&F productive economy team were held with council leadership to assess needs and complementary actions to existing supply chain development of other partners as well as additional productive lines that could be supported by the USAID small-grant program.

Planned mitigation actions for potential negative impacts on biodiversity were created with recognition of the precautionary principle. No mitigation actions were offered that could create additional adverse effects. The main mitigation for negative impacts on biodiversity was to provide alternative livelihood for community members whose primary source of income came from logging or clearing of forest. Alternative livelihood opportunities included training, workshops, and in many cases, supplies. This ensured that participants had a proper foundation to pursue their alternative livelihood and that such livelihoods would be reliable sources of income moving into the future. Alternative livelihoods that were created (see earlier in this section) were locally based and did not create new and separate issues in relation to biodiversity.

5.1.3 Net Positive Biodiversity Impacts (B2.2, GL1.4)

Due to the demonstrated reductions in relation to deforestation and degradation in the project area between 2018-2019, owing to the above project activities and outcomes, the net impacts on biodiversity were positive. As shown in the data parameter tables in 5.1.1, the intact forest area would be significantly lower in the without-project scenario..

5.1.4 High Conservation Values Protected (B2.4)

The HCVs identified in the PD for the protection of biodiversity, HCV1, HCV2, and HCV3 were primarily to be maintained by habitat condition and habitat quality, including connectivity. The project provided lists of RTE species in the PDs and the Biodiversity Monitoring Protocol identified the selection of indicator species that communities can observe and methods for their monitoring.

For HCV1 related to species the suggested approach is the remote sensing data analysis of intactness and habitat condition that will be corroborated over time through field-based measurements for RTEs and endemics, particularly plants, birds, and mammals. This approach has been justified in Richards and Panfil (2011) in that biodiversity change correlates strongly to changes in vegetation cover and Pitman (2011) that size and connectedness of forest ecosystems correlate with levels of natural ecological function.

As the results from the remote sensing analysis show, the project has maintained intact habitat for species, presumably including those potentially threatened and endemic species. Thus, there have been no negative impacts on HCV1 due to the project. As mentioned, field-based measurements

and observations will corroborate results of remote sensing analyses in future monitoring periods. Field-based monitoring of species, and potential HCV species, carried out during the performance period, is described in section 5.3.1

For HCV2 and HCV3 the suggested approach is through remote sensing data analysis. The primary means of demonstrating net positive impact through the REDD+ project protection of HCVs was through habitat protection, intact and semi-intact forest cover and connectivity.

As the results from the remote sensing analysis show, the project has protected intact and semi-intact forest cover thus there have been no negative impacts on HCV2 and HCV3 due to the project. In subsequent monitoring periods this will be corroborated by additional field-based fauna- and flora-specific monitoring data based on indicators derived from the theory of change analysis.

Important efforts were carried out during the verification period to maintain and enhance HCV attributes. The main approach to do this, as stated in the project PD, was to conserve and maintain the forest cover and HCV habitat condition and quality. By guaranteeing the latter, HCV attributes were protected and maintained, always procuring umbrella strategies stirred by the precautionary principle.

As described in section 5.1.2, HCV forest cover and habitat were maintained through a fourfold strategy: 1. Spaces for socialization, dialogue and strengthening of governance were held with communities to establish conservation agreements, 2. conducted governance surveillance trips to prevent forest clearing, 3. Zoning efforts were conducted to properly manage land use and 4. Sustainable agriculture will be strengthened to keep people away from logging.

5.1.5 Invasive Species (B2.5)

There were no known invasive species introduced to the project during the monitoring period. This condition remains as per the validated PDD, thus there has been nothing new to report. At project start, the species designated for use within project activities were cocoa and achiote. Recently, interest in banana and sugar cane has been part of the project. These species are native or naturalized, commonly occurring in the project area, and none are considered invasive. No other project activities involved the introduction of invasive species into the project area.

5.1.6 Impacts of Non-native Species (B2.6)

There were no new non-native species introduced to the project during the monitoring period. Cacao and acai are native to the region. Coconut is a naturalized species that has existed in Colombia for hundreds of years. There are no impacts to report during the monitoring period involving non-native species.

5.1.7 GMO Exclusion (B2.7)

The exclusion of GMOs issued at the time of project validation remains in effect. No GMOs were used during the monitoring period nor will they be used by the project in the future.

5.1.8 Inputs Justification (B2.8)

Name	Organic fertilization/pest control
Justification of Use	These are the methods which have been effectively used in the project region long into the past, without any negative

	consequences. Furthermore, community members are accustomed to using these methods.
Adverse Effect	There are no potential or realized adverse effects on biodiversity in the region or on communities. As all methods are organic and natural, there is no threat to species in the area or to community members. In fact, these methods have had a net positive impact on communities, hence why they have been used throughout the past and continue to be used.

5.2 Offsite Biodiversity Impacts

5.2.1 Negative Offsite Biodiversity Impacts (B3.1) and Mitigation Actions (B3.2)

Were evaluated through remote sensing of the leakage belt. The analyses examined the displacement of deforestation or forest degradation outside the project zone to characterize negative impacts related to decline in available forest habitat for species in the project region. The activities potentially related to such negative impacts were identified as mining, logging, animal husbandry, and agricultural conversion that may have been displaced to locations outside the project zone.

There was not any evidence of activity-shifting leakage in the leakage area during the monitoring period as such, it was concluded that there were not negative impacts on offsite biodiversity.

The project worked on ways to mitigate negative offsite actions through engagement with neighboring communities, socializing the goals of their REDD project, , or seeking to avoid potential land disputes. Progress achieved during the monitoring period is as follows:

- Dialogue with indigenous neighbors -- This was held in Pizarro, Bajo Baudo on 2/20/2020, with the participation of directors and leaders of Concosta, and the representatives of the indigenous associations of AISBA and ASAIBA.
- Dialogue on Governance – Discussion space to define boundaries with the indigenous community of Puerto Gálvez. This was held in Guineal on 9/16/2019, where the Concosta REDD+ team and indigenous authorities participated.
- Dialogues with the neighboring indigenous communities of (Puerto Mango and Bajo Grande): it was agreed to form a commission with the participation of the Belén de Docampado and Puerto Mango communities and with the mediation of the REDD+ unit to study border cases and conduct governance tours with the REDD+ CONCOSTA unit and members of the Bajo Grande indigenous reservation to verify timber extraction in the Valeriana Creek border zone.

5.2.2 Net Offsite Biodiversity Benefits (B3.3)

During the period of implementation there were positive biodiversity benefits observed outside the project zone. In 2018, Concosta deployed efforts to both strengthen and widen geographically the positive biodiversity impacts of the REDD+ Project. To do so, during the carbon monitoring exercises undertaken by local project members, an open dialogue and negotiation was put forward with neighboring Bajo Grande and Puerto Mango Indigenous Reserve. The dialogue aimed at creating common actions to allow for a monitoring strategy enabling to track positive biodiversity impacts within the limits and /or boundaries of both territories. Concosta managed to engaged indigenous community member as guides for the monitoring exercises enlarging the capacity building impacts.

By early 2019, Concosta expanded dialogues with neighboring communities to consolidate REDD+ Project impact, among which biodiversity conservation was a highlight. Dialogue with neighbors was held with ethnic authorities that included several indigenous reserves under the authority of ASAIBA (Association of Indigenous Authorities of Baudó) with the purpose of generating common efforts to regulate the adequate use of natural resources (fauna and flora) and the conservation of

biodiversity in the project leakage areas. Based on these dialogues, monitoring and surveillance agreements were made, upon which surveillance and forest control routes were designed and followed.

5.3 Biodiversity Impact Monitoring

5.3.1 Biodiversity Monitoring Plan (B4.1, B4.2, GL1.4, GL3.4)

Monitoring Planning and Data Collection

The donor support for biodiversity monitoring in the eight REDD+ projects of the Pacific, including Concosta, was a joint effort between the communities, the Paramos and Forests Program of USAID (P&F), and Fondo Acción (FA) supported by Fondo Colombia Sostenible. In 2018, during the months of May, June, and July, a series of meetings between P&F, FA, and local community representatives were held to coordinate a unified approach to MRV. Sessions were conducted to develop protocols, set milestones and timelines for biodiversity data collection, identify capacity building and logistical needs to support community monitoring teams, and then deliver field-based training, field data collection and the supervision, data quality assurance and data analysis. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between P&F and FA, and similarly an MOU between Wildlife Works and FA, solidified the collaboration on MRV for the Pacific REDD+ projects. The construction of these organizational foundations would be significant for future biodiversity monitoring activities.

The monitoring activities that were supported financially and in-kind by P&F or FA, were identified and discussed with the communities, including Concosta, and can be summarized as:

1. Evaluation of the technical and economic proposals submitted by the community for provision of the local biodiversity monitoring field crews and the transportation, fuel, food, lodging, and equipment expenses for carbon and biodiversity monitoring.
2. Preparation of agreements with the community for the carbon and biodiversity monitoring in the REDD+ Project.
3. Selection of community-based field crews to collect data from biodiversity transects, under the guidance of the Wildlife Works technicians working with the REDD+ Project.
4. Contracting selected community members for field crews for 30 to 60 days to conduct biodiversity transects and verifying that these personnel complied the obligations of the Social Security System in Colombia.
5. Transfer of resources associated with the execution of biodiversity monitoring.
6. Acquiring the materials, tools, food, fuel, and local services necessary for the field data collection, including the provision of basic equipment (i.e., binoculars, compass, GPS, work boots, raingear, tents, lanterns, machetes, etc.).
7. Conducting workshops, field training, and meetings with community members for the adequate understanding of the biodiversity monitoring.
8. Supervision of fieldwork, quality control procedures, and revision of data registries.
9. Submission of digitized and revised data as inputs to monitoring reports.

The execution of the above steps took place as follows. P&F engaged with communities during site visits in July 2018 to socialize the scope and type of inventory protocols and data collection methods that would be utilized to conduct community-based monitoring of carbon and biodiversity. Those meetings laid the groundwork for the project to prepare their technical and economic proposal of partnership in the carbon and biodiversity fieldwork. 10 Colombian professionals with experience in forestry and biology were trained by P&F forestry experts between August 13-16, 2018, in methods of carbon and biodiversity data monitoring. Most of these technicians were hired by Wildlife Works to serve as monitoring crew leaders and trainers. In September and October 2018, discussions took place to negotiate the budget, scope of work, and a disbursement schedule. The

agreement on P&F support of the carbon and biodiversity monitoring in the Concosta Project was signed on November 9, 2018.

- The detailed time frame and accomplishments of the carbon and biodiversity monitoring in the Concosta Project was:
- 8 Afro Colombian men hired as members of the community monitoring team.
- Training workshop conducted: November 13 – 15, 2018
- Training to 8 community members on monitoring protocols; use and care of measuring equipment, such as: GPS, compass, clinometer, dimensional tape, binoculars; in-field plot and transect establishment; data collection and recording.
- Start of Monitoring: November 16, 2018
- End of Monitoring: December 22, 2018
- 45 of 54 forest plots were established
- Two faunal transects were established

Please refer to MTC_Ind Sociales Concosta_V2 for supporting evidence/documentation. The data and supports related can be found in the spreadsheet MTC_PortafolioConcosta_V2.

Wildlife Monitoring Results

These monitoring activities and biodiversity status updates were used to initiate processes that will be used to confirm the state of species diversity in the project area and to revisit the status of biodiversity as it was reported during project validation. Monitoring activities were executed following the monitoring protocol developed by the project implementation team of Fondo Accion.

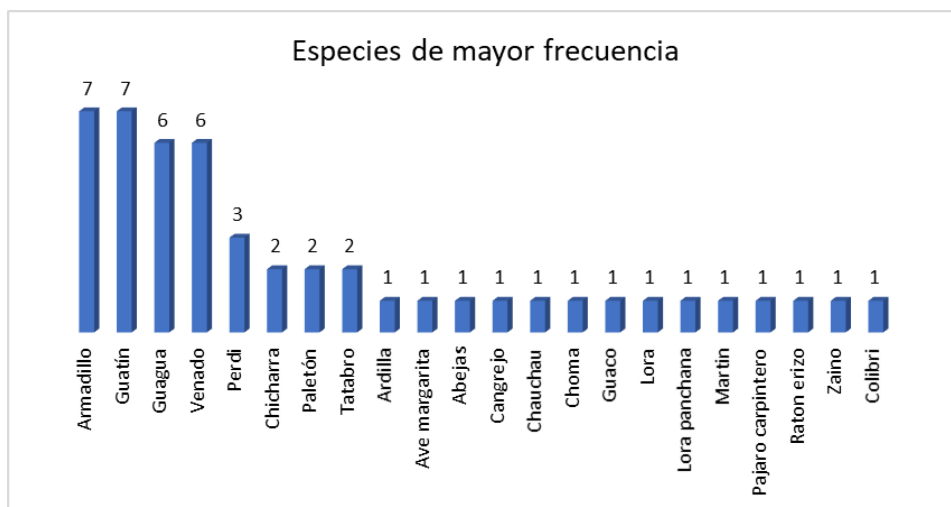
To review results of biodiversity monitoring activities and status updates for this monitoring period, please see “Concosta Biodiversity Analysis V1.” The species observed through a limited number of transects and during opportunistic sightings of the MRV promoters conducting carbon plots are summarized as follows.

The Concosta monitoring team recorded 49 fauna sightings, which were dominated by mammals with 31 sightings. (See Figures A and B).

Figure a. total number of species observed and registered in transects supported by P&F in 2018.



Figure b. Frequency of the most common species of fauna recorded



Monitoring supported by WCS:

In 2019, by virtue of the leadership of the Wildlife Conservation Society, detailed fauna and flora surveys were undertaken in representative ecological zones for the project area. Community members participated with WCS ecologists, biologists, and botanists within the framework of a project to characterize the conservation values and species of the DRMI known as "Enchantment of the mangrove swamps of Bajo Baudo". Measurements across multiple taxa (herpetofauna, mammals, birds, fish, and plant species) were conducted within the territories of the community council of Concosta to complement baseline biodiversity understanding and support management for biodiversity values. This work was done under a cooperative agreement (001-2019), between Concosta and WCS.

In relation to Herpetofauna, by means of the Visual Encounter Survey (VRE) method, a total of 250 individuals were recorded. Of amphibians, 180 individuals were recorded belonging to 23 species, 3 orders and 10 families. For reptiles, a total of 31 individuals were recorded, 14 species, belonging to 9 families. (See Figure C.) The family with the highest representation of species was Colubridae with 4 species, and the species with the highest representation was *Anolis maculiventris* with 7 individuals recorded, 22.6% of the total. *Diploglossus monotropis* was next most common, with a representation of 16.1% of the total. Then 12.9% of the total was *Basiliscus galeritus*. (See figure D.) Four VOC species were recorded, including: *Oophaga solanensis*, *Silverstoneia dalyi*, *Caiman crocodilus*, and *Boa constrictor*.

Figure c. Number of individuals and species of amphibians and reptiles registered

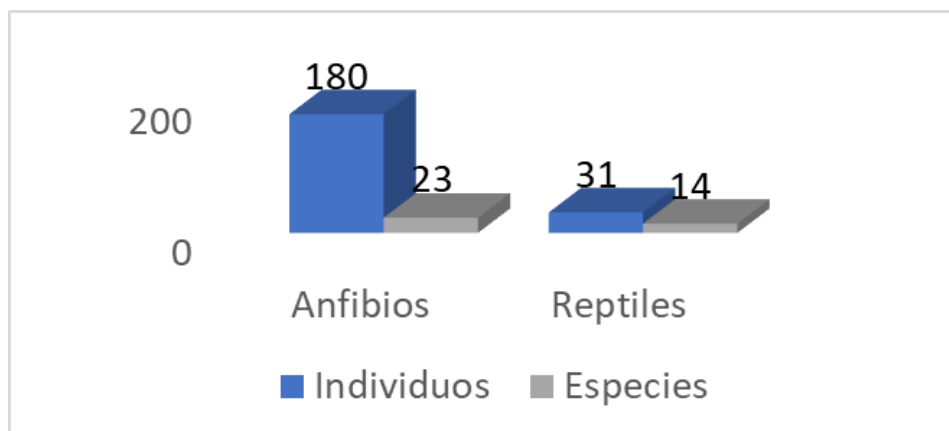
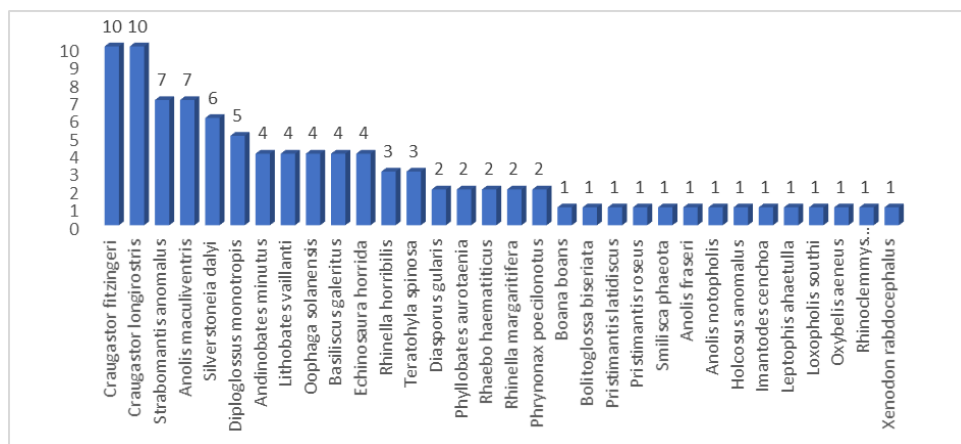
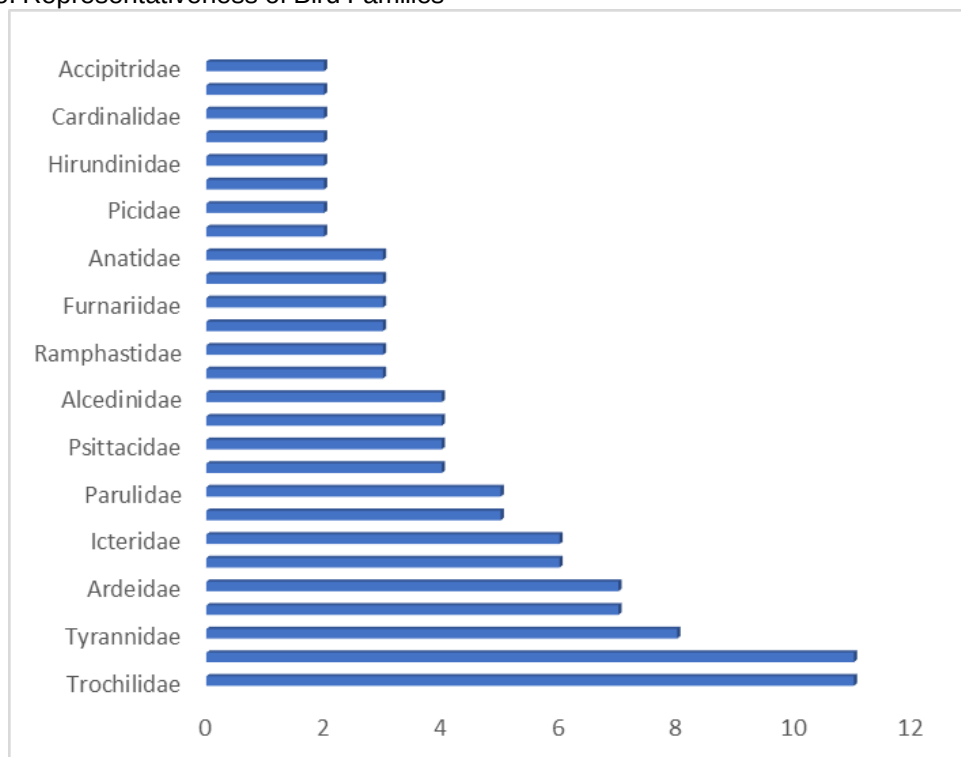


Figure d. Frequency of registered amphibians and reptiles



For bird surveys, various approaches were employed. These included bird count points, mist netting, opportunistic observations, community interviews, and camera traps. For avian fauna, 164 species belonging to 24 orders, 44 families and 128 genera were recorded. This is equivalent to 8% of the species registered for Colombia and 24% of the probable known bird species for the department of Chocó. The families Thraupidae and Trochilidae, each with 11 species, were the best represented (See Figure E). Of the total of the bird species recorded, 32 VOC species were registered, of which 20 are migratory species, one an endemic species (*Psarocolius cassini*), and 11 globally threatened species and 7 nationally threatened species.

Figure e. Representativeness of Bird Families



For mammal surveys, 49 cameras were utilized over 45 days, as were 106 Sherman and Tomahawk traps and 12 mist nets. A total of 42 species of mammals were recorded, representing 6 orders and 21 families. 2 VOC species were recorded, *Lontra longicaudis* (Neotropical otter) and *Panthera onca* (Jaguar).

Regarding vegetation, in upland and guandal forests, 0.2 ha areas were sampled as divided into 20 transects of 2x50m each and individuals with DBH ≥ 1 cm were counted. For the mangrove forest, the methodology known as "square centered on a point" was used. 1,540 individuals were recorded. These were distributed in 35 botanical families, 82 genera and 210 species. In upland forest, 473 individuals, 28 families, 57 genera and 144 species were found. In the guandal forest, 435 individuals, 26 families, 51 genera and 78 species were observed. In the mangrove forest, 632 individuals, three families, three genera and five species were recorded. In the upland forest, the highest species richness was grouped in the families *Rubiaceae*, *Arecaceae*, *Burseraceae*, *Fabaceae* and *Chrysobalanaceae*, while in the guandal forest it was in *Arecaceae*, *Fabaceae*, *Myristicaceae* and *Malvaceae*. *Rhizophoraceae* was the family with the greatest number of species in the mangrove forest.

Of the 144 species registered in the upland forest, 14 are VOCs, as they are included in a category according to IUCN Red List criteria. One critically endangered (CR) species, 3 as Vulnerable (VU), one Near Threatened (NT) and 9 species of the Least Concern (LC) category. The species in the Near Threatened (NT) and Critically Endangered (CR) categories correspond to *Aspidosperma megalocarpon* (Costillo) and *Humirastrum procerum* (Chanucillo), respectively. The latter is also reported in the same category in Resolution 0192 of 2017 of MADS and in the Red Book of plants of Colombia (Cardenas and Salinas 2007), as well as *Huberodendron patinoi* (Carra) that is cataloged as Vulnerable (VU).

In the guandal forest, 17 species were registered in five categories of risk or threat according to the IUCN Red List criteria, the Red Book of Colombia and MADS Resolution 0192 of 2017. A single Critically Endangered (CR) species was found corresponding to *Humirastrum procera* (Chanul), two in Vulnerable status (VU) whose representatives are *Otoba lehmannii* (Cuangare) and *Huberodendron patinoi* (Carracillo), a Near Threatened (NT) *Camptosperma panamense* (Sajo), and the rest of the species were in the Least Concern (LC) category.

Monitoring Protocols Developed

Fondo Accion created an overarching biodiversity monitoring protocol in December 2017 with the goal of being easy to use for community members, while drawing upon scientific methods, provided there would be adequate expert accompaniment to enable community-based monitoring. The monitoring protocol addresses variables that will be measured and monitored by the project over time. These biodiversity indicators were defined in the PDD and based upon the theory of change; they are: 1) changes in forest cover; 2) changes in forest biomass; 3) tree species dynamics; 4) populations of rare, endemic, and endangered species; 5) health of mangrove swamps; and 6) hunting pressure.

In design of the monitoring protocol, the methods proposed for indicators 3 and 4 identified the indicator species that would be the most evident, conspicuous, and possible to identify by community members, while still being important indicators of faunal and floral diversity. In this monitoring period, the project monitored indicators 1 and 2, laying the grounds for future monitoring incorporating more field wildlife surveys. The field biodiversity data collection by communities was designed to be based upon opportunistic sightings and observations or systematic line transects through the project area and will be complemented by both remotely-sensed monitoring and periodic in-depth scientific surveys.

The methods laid out in the biodiversity monitoring protocol for surveys of mammals, birds, and flora incorporate both transects and sample plots and these require professional supervision and leadership from trained professionals to be executed properly. In 2018, Ecopartners and Wildlife Works developed a field protocol for faunal transects, "Protocolo censos fauna v1.4" that was used for monitoring of selected indicator species, especially rare, threatened, and endangered species. Transects were laid out across representative ecosystems. The methods for identification of species' presence, especially using indirect evidence such as scat, footprints, eggs, burrows, caves, fur, or markings on trees were relatively simple but required supervision and guidance by

those with professional and specialized experience. The transect length, number per project realized, as well as ecosystem representativeness and timing was planned out prior to execution.

The biodiversity monitoring protocol and the Protocolo censos fauna were the first tangible planning documents supporting regular biodiversity monitoring. An important consideration for planning monitoring actions by the project in accord with this and other complementary biodiversity monitoring protocols is to achieve a balance between remotely sensed data, community-led data, and scientific researcher data with the management of costs, completeness, and quality of data obtained. The methods that have been adopted depend upon the decisions of the project that weigh and ultimately balance these elements.

Monitoring Expected for 2020 and Onwards

It is planned that the subsequent monitoring periods, from 2020 onwards, will reflect the advances to come from the introduction and increased support to capacity building in biodiversity conservation with local communities. Cooperative efforts between biodiversity specialists and the ConcostaREDD+ project will aim to build participatively the 2020 and 2021 monitoring plans for community-led monitoring of biodiversity. The support of Fondo Accion and P&F will emphasize training on biodiversity monitoring techniques and methods, collaborative planning with community members, and introduction of camera trapping. In summary, these objectives will entail the following activities:

1. Development, socialization, and approval of a new community-based biodiversity monitoring plan.
2. Training in the basic aspects of biodiversity.
3. Community monitoring methodologies and techniques, including platforms with mobile devices.
4. Definition of the HCVs (Valores Objetos de Conservación) (VOC)
5. Improved understanding of common and scientific names of fauna of interest to the communities in each project.
6. Definition of the zones for the establishment of monitoring transects.
7. Procurement of equipment necessary for use of cameras in monitoring.
8. Installation, maintenance, and data collection and analysis from camera traps
9. Preparation of inputs for monitoring reports.

Biodiversity Parameters

Data/parameter 1:	<i>Intact Forest Area</i>
Data unit:	1,707 ha Hectares of intact forest area
Description:	Forest conservation was monitored through the area of intact forest. Deforestation in Project Area under Project Scenario: 88 ha Deforestation in Project Area under Baseline Scenario: 1,795ha Net avoided Deforestation: 1,707 ha As shown by the net avoided deforestation of 1,707 ha, the project has had a net positive effect on intact forest area and thus, a net positive impact on biodiversity.
Sources of data:	2018 Degradation Analysis Report for BioREDD+ Projects prepared by EP_Carbon
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	The vegetation mosaic of the area was measured by ALOS PALSAR radar, at a resolution of 50 m. From the information collected and the map of stratification, the information is processed to identify intact forest area.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Annual

Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Annual
Monitoring equipment:	Sentinel 2 and ALOS-PALSAR
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	EP Carbon was responsible for QA/QC
Calculation method:	According to VM006 methodology

Data/parameter 2:	<i>Above-ground tree biomass</i>
Data unit:	Ton/ha
Description:	Change in aboveground biomass will be calculated to monitor the state of the forest and the impact of REDD + Project in forest regeneration
Sources of data:	Data will be obtained from the stratification map, land use map measured through ALOS PALSAR, and forest growth calculated from LIDAR information
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	The vegetation covers mosaics of the area will be measured by ALOS PALSAR radar, at a resolution of 50 m. A more accurate measurement of plant cover will be obtained by the LIDAR at a spatial resolution of 1 m to allow calculation of topography and vegetation height. From the information collected and the map of stratification, the information is processed to estimate forest biomass in raster and vector formats to a spatial resolution of 1 and 4 ha. Likewise, the uncertainty is estimated
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Before the first verification and before every subsequent baseline update.
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	LIDAR
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Fondo Acción will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	According to VM006 methodology
Any comment:	

Data/parameter 3:	<i>Inventory of tree species</i>
Data unit:	Number of individuals of each identified specie
Description:	Identification and registration of tree species and their conservation status
Sources of data:	Field trips to the plots
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	The diameter of the trees located on the plots will be measured at a 1.3m POM. These will be plated and then each individual species will be identified. 80-100 samples randomly selected must be taken within the permanent plot, in order to be identified in and herbarium

<u>Frequency of monitoring/recording:</u>	Annual
<u>Value applied:</u>	N/A
<u>Monitoring equipment:</u>	Competent equipped team of 4 people (diametric tape, plastic ruler, tape, chalk, etc). It can be done by CONIF or other qualified entity to conduct such monitoring.
<u>QA/QC procedures to be applied:</u>	Fondo Acción will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
<u>Calculation method:</u>	N/A
<u>Any comment:</u>	

Data/parameter 4:	<i>Rare, endemic or endangered species</i>
Data unit:	3 endangered species
Description:	In the CITES and IUCN categories, threatened species in BCBM and all Buenaventura area are: <i>Crax Rubra</i> : VU <i>Penelope orton</i> : EN <i>Aramides wolff</i> : VU
Sources of data:	Direct counting
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Straightforward methodology for counting animals during the same season of the year. There will be an assessment and identification of endemic and endangered species that should be monitored. Representative ecosystems must be chosen within the project area, where 1 km transects long will be randomly established.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Annual
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Competent equipped team of 4 people (diametric tape, plastic ruler, tape, chalk, etc). This should be done by the REDD+ Units (rangers) with the support of qualified entities such as IIAP, IAvH or local universities.
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCION will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	N/A
Any comment:	

Data/parameter 5:	<i>Bioindicators of mammals, birds and reptiles</i>
Data unit:	930 Number of individuals
Description:	Monitoring based on direct observations in certain representative areas in BCBM: 930 fauna records were registered, of which: 81(9%) were mammals, 839 birds (90%), 10 records were reptiles (1%).
Sources of data:	Direct counting
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	Direct methodology for counting animals during the same season of the year. Firstly, the species that serve as indicators of ecosystem state must be chosen (bioindicators). Secondly, the representative ecosystems within the project area must be chosen. In these areas, transects of 1 km long will be established randomly to monitor endemic or endangered species.
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Annual
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Competent equipped team of 4 people (diametric tape, plastic ruler, tape, chalk, etc). This should be done by the REDD+ Units (rangers) with the support of qualified entities such as IIAP, IAvH or local universities.
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCION will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

Data/parameter 6:	<i>Identified mangrove biomass</i>
Data unit:	Ton/ha
Description:	Change in mangrove biomass will be calculated to monitor the state of the HCV and the impact of REDD + Project in forest regeneration.
Sources of data:	Data will be obtained from the stratification map, land use map measured through ALOS PALSAR, forest growth calculated from LIDAR information and carbon stocks calibrated with Lidar data.
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	The vegetation covers mosaics of the area will be measured by ALOS PALSAR radar, at a resolution of 50 m. A more accurate measurement of plant cover will be obtained by the LIDAR at a spatial resolution of 1 m to allow calculation of topography and vegetation height. From the information collected and the map of stratification, the information is processed to estimate mangrove biomass in raster and vector formats to a spatial resolution of 1 and 4 ha. Likewise, the uncertainty is estimated

Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Before the first verification and before every subsequent baseline update.
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	LIDAR
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	Fondo Acción will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	According to VM006 methodology
Any comment:	

Data/parameter 7:	<i>Logging in mangrove area</i>
Data unit:	Number of reports logging in mangrove areas
Description:	Mangroves will be monitored to ensure the maintenance or improvement of the HVC
Sources of data:	Data obtained from field trips of REDD+ Units
Description of measurement methods and procedures to be applied:	The Rangers must record and report any logging event observed during their field trips. The REDD+ Units will receive training to species identification, data collection, use of protocols, methods of use of equipment report, etc (computers, GPS)
Frequency of monitoring/recording:	Monthly
Value applied:	N/A
Monitoring equipment:	Rangers, GPS, register format
QA/QC procedures to be applied:	FONDO ACCION will be responsible for hiring/contracting the qualified staff needed to perform QA/QC
Calculation method:	
Any comment:	

5.3.2 Biodiversity Monitoring Plan Dissemination (B4.3)

The project proponent recognizes the importance in ensuring that both the monitoring plan and the results of monitoring be communicated to communities. The plan for implementing monitoring as related to biodiversity was discussed in community meetings as mentioned above in section 5.3.1. The timeline for completion of carbon and biodiversity monitoring was agreed upon with the community council of Concosta in September 2018 and updated in October 2018 when the fieldwork commenced. The summary of the monitoring results was shared with the community members of the Concosta REDD+ project in December 2018 during an in-person visit and meeting. The community members were provided with a simplified version and the public summary of the complete monitoring report, both in Spanish. Fondo Accion and P&F presented the findings and discussed these publicly.

5.4 Optional Criterion: Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits

Biodiversity gold is not being sought by the project at this time.

5.4.1 Trigger species population Trends (GL3.3)

Not applicable

6 ADDITIONAL PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

All relevant project implementation information has been discussed in previous report sections.

7 ADDITIONAL PROJECT IMPACT INFORMATION

All relevant project implementation information has been discussed in previous report section